

## **NWQMC Steering Committee Minutes for May 5, 2017**

**Meeting Attendees:** Wendy Norton, Dan Sullivan, Gary Rowe, Mike McHale, Julie Vastine, Candice Hopkins, Alice Mayo, Mary Skopec, Aaron Borisenko, Susan Holdsworth, Jim Kreft

### **1. Update on DOI Guidance (Wendy and Gary)**

- DOI decided to review all FACA activities and gave guidance that was unclear
- Don Cline (USGS) requested further guidance and requested an exemption from any meeting cancellations
- No further guidance has been provided at this time, so for now, we are to carry on business as usual

### **2. Membership Updates (Gary and Susan)**

- No Membership Updates at this time

### **3. 2018 National Monitoring Conference (all)**

- Wendy instructed that we move forward with Conference planning for now and carry on until we receive guidance otherwise
- Susan suggested we continue planning the Conference with an estimate of attendees in the 300-500 range
- Jeff has been unsuccessful with getting details about hosting at Shenandoah University, so we are starting to look into other free and low-cost venue options

ACTION: Candice will reach out to academic reps and connections about hosting the Conference at universities

ACTION: Conference Planning Committee meeting set up for May 17th, 2017 at 12 pm ET

### **4. WIS Updates (Mary)**

- WIS released their fact sheets to the web and promoted them with C&O

### **5. Volunteer Monitoring (Julie)**

- The group had a call last week with about 8 people and focused on work plans, updating the website, and directory
- The group also discussed webinar ideas and talked about highlighting success stories
- The Citizen Science Association Conference is happening in two weeks so there are many activities surrounding that meeting

### **6. Sensors (Dan)**

- Dan participated in an awards call for the final five arsenic sensor challenge proposals
- The BioComp Group postponed their meeting until a later time

### **7. NNRW (Mike)**

- Mike attended the NADP meeting on April 24th and presented on the NNRW; the presentation was well received
- The Forest Service and may integrate their data into NNRW
- Mike met with several people including Brian Pellerin and Gretchen Olsner and is going to look into integrating water-quality data from the trends mapper into NNRW

### **8. Collaboration and Outreach (Candice)**

- Our newsletter is in draft form and should be sent soon
- C&O now has a powerpoint ready for any council members who want to present on the NWQMC

- Our webinars continue to be well-attended and keep receiving new participants