

NWQMC Steering Committee Minutes for April 7, 2017

Meeting Attendees: Wendy Norton, Dan Sullivan, Gary Rowe, Mike McHale, Julie Vastine, Martha Clark Mettler, Candice Hopkins, Alice Mayo, Mary Skopec

1. Membership Updates (Gary and Susan)

- Current vacancies include the Gulf of Mexico representative, Region 7 Representative, and the empty agency position. Jon Marshack is retiring soon so the Region 9 Representative will soon be vacant.
- Susan has started inquiring about a Region 7 replacement

2. Monday's Meeting (all)

- It was suggested that we start working on trying to acquire project work plans from subgroups to encourage progress
- The project work plan template is attached. This will be mentioned on Monday's meeting.

3. 2018 National Monitoring Conference

- Jeff, via email, indicated that he is close to securing Kansas City as our venue. He should know for sure about the venue by next week.
- USGS has decided not to join their Water Quality Workshop with the Conference. They also have a spending limit for conferences of \$100,000, which may limit USGS's participation.
- There is no CPC call scheduled yet. It will be scheduled once the conference venue is finalized.

4. WIS Update (Mary)

- Mary is working to get all of the fact sheets uploaded to the website and advertised on the homepage
- Fact sheets should be uploaded by Friday, 4/14

5. Volunteer Monitoring (Julie)

- VM submitted a proposal to NSF and it was rejected; however, Julie had a good conversation with the coordinator at NSF
- The next step in this NSF proposal is to come up with a master proposal and strategic plan. NSF also encouraged VM to hold a workshop at the 2018 NMC, which could make their proposal more competitive.
- VM is holding a webinar on April 13th and is trying to schedule additional webinars.

6. NNRW (Mike)

- Mike got discouraged trying to schedule a call but will try to find a new way to make progress
- Mike is planning to attend the NADP meeting on April 24th and present the NNRW to that group
- The EPA RMN sites will be uploaded in May. Mike will have more time to dedicate to the NNRW in May, June, and July.

7. Sensors and Methods Board (Dan)

- The BioComparability Subgroup is having productive calls.
- Dan is processing results from the Sensor Survey. It's a lot of information to chew through, so he is categorizing and organizing answers.
- The Aquatic Invasives group is looking at going in a different direction and may end up waiting on USGS guidance, or moving ahead on their own.
- NEMI has some new biological protocols.

8. Collaboration and Outreach (Candice)

- We've had several successful webinars and have three more planned.
- The Newsletter is in layout and should be sent out in the next week or two.
- One of Julie's students has been helping Candice to compile information on State and Regional Monitoring Councils. We plan to update the website with this new information.