

## Subcommittee on Ground Water

Tuesday, February 19, 2019

Meeting Minutes

Conference Call

USGS Headquarters, Reston, VA

Attachment 1 – Draft Agenda for Tuesday, February 19, 2019

Attachment 2 – Draft SOGW Minutes –December 17, 2018

Time	Topic	Discussion Leader
Noon	<p>Welcome and Attendance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Bill Cunningham, federal co-chair, USGS representative*</b></li> <li>• <b>Bob Schreiber, non-federal co-chair, ASCE representative*</b></li> <li>• <b>Lauren Schapker, executive secretary, NGWA</b></li> <li>• Stephen Roy, ASDWA representative, Darrel Osterhoudt, alternate*</li> <li>• <b>Cary Betz, State Representative*</b></li> <li>• Chris Carlson, Forest Service*</li> <li>• Dave Langseth, NGWA representative*</li> <li>• Kara Goodwin, EPA representative*</li> <li>• <b>Mary Musick, GWPC representative*</b></li> <li>• <b>Dave Wunsch, AASG representative*</b></li> <li>• Jeffrey Davis, Barr</li> <li>• Adam Hobson, In-Situ</li> <li>• Treasure Bailey, EPA Region 8</li> <li>• Tim Parker, Parker Groundwater</li> <li>• <b>Daryll Pope, USGS</b></li> <li>• <b>Dave Larson, Retired, IL St. Geo Survey</b></li> <li>• <b>Joe Fillingham, WellIntel</b></li> <li>• Marian Singer, WellIntel</li> <li>• Kathleen Fultz, Water Quality Association</li> <li>• Chuck Job, NGWA</li> <li>• Rick Copeland, FL DEP</li> <li>• Mike Woodside, USGS</li> <li>• Johanna Kovarik, Forest Service</li> <li>• <b>Candice Hopkins, USGS</b></li> <li>• Lori Huntoon, ASTM</li> <li>• <b>Tom Nicholson, NRC</b></li> <li>• <b>Joe Gurrieri, USFS</b></li> <li>• <b>Adrienne Bartlewitz, USGS</b></li> <li>• Lily Barkau, WY DEQ</li> <li>• <b>Luke Buckley, MT Bureau of Mines and Geology</b></li> <li>• <b>Chuck Schalk, USGS</b></li> <li>• Chad Wagner, USGS</li> <li>• <b>Joe Williams, US EPA ORD</b></li> <li>• <b>John LaFave, MT Bureau of Mines and Geology</b></li> <li>• <b>Dan Sullivan, USGS</b></li> <li>• <b>Alan Kolok, University of Idaho</b></li> </ul>	Bob

\* Voting organization representative/alternate per Terms of Reference

12:05	<p>Call Purpose</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Status Report: Cooperative Agreements</li> <li>2. Status Report: Program Board Meeting</li> <li>3. Status Report: NGWMN Portal</li> <li>4. Status Report: ACWI Update</li> <li>5. Presentation: NEMI Presentation</li> <li>6. SOGW Workgroups</li> <li>7. Outreach Report</li> </ol>	Bob
	<b>Business Portion</b>	
12:07 P	<p>Approval of agenda – additions/deletions (Attachment 1) Opportunity to add to the agenda</p> <p>Agenda approved.</p> <p><b>Expected Outcome: Approve agenda</b></p>	Bob
12:09 P	<p>Approval of previous minutes (Attachment 2)</p> <p>Minutes approved.</p> <p><b>Expected Outcome: Approve minutes</b></p>	Bob
	<b>SOGW Work Items</b>	
12:10 P	<p>Status Report:</p> <p>Cooperative Agreements: 2016 and 2017 projects are wrapping up and Daryll is working with data providers to gather final reports and close the projects.</p> <p>2019 cooperative agreements: 20 proposals received and are in the process of being reviewed.</p> <p>Daryll also reported on a waiver the program announcement received that will remove the requirement that each cooperative agreement be approved by the Secretary of Interior. Instead, Daryll will submit a report with what each award was. This waiver will help make up time that was lost during the shutdown.</p> <p><b>Expected Outcome: Information Exchange</b></p>	Daryll
12:12 P	<p>Status Report: Program Board Meeting</p> <p>Program Board meeting was postponed in January due to federal government shutdown. A face-to-face meeting of the Program Board is scheduled for March in Tucson. All 10 members of the Program Board will be able to attend.</p> <p><b>Expected Outcome: Information Exchange</b></p>	Daryll
12:15 P	<p>Status Report: NGWMN Portal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Status of ongoing work: Candice reported on progress that was made prior to the shutdown.</li> </ul> <p>Site pages are now live on the portal. This will help maximize searchability for the sites. Candice worked to incorporate changes and feedback from Las Vegas meeting:</p>	Candice

	<p><a href="https://cida.usgs.gov/ngwmn/provider/">https://cida.usgs.gov/ngwmn/provider/</a> List of all providers  <a href="https://cida.usgs.gov/ngwmn/provider/MBMG/site/">https://cida.usgs.gov/ngwmn/provider/MBMG/site/</a> List of sites from a provider  <a href="https://cida.usgs.gov/ngwmn/provider/MBMG/site/1862/">https://cida.usgs.gov/ngwmn/provider/MBMG/site/1862/</a>  Example site page</p> <p>The revised site pages will display information and mapping much more logically.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upcoming work: Candice highlighted some of the upcoming projects, including adding y axis to well diagrams, working to standardize construction information; trying to figure out how to visualize unknown construction and fix attribution of data</li> </ul> <p>The SOGW discussed the pages and how additional feedback might be provided to Candice. While Candice noted she is still making modifications to the site pages, additional feedback can be provided directly to her via email or phone. Lauren will send reminders to the group about providing feedback. Bob would like this to be an agenda item for the next call. Mary suggested the data providers should be solicited for feedback.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussion: Dry well information: Currently the NGWMN has no capacity to serve information about dry wells. The SOGW discussed if and how information about dry wells should be included. Chuck Schalk noted the NWIS is also pursuing a conversation on this topic and will loop Candice into the conversation. The group offered a range of options like removing the statistic, just noting the depth of the well, or considering it a censored value. Bill suggested discussing with NWIS and other interested parties and reporting back to the SOGW for additional feedback. The topic will be discussed further on a future agenda.</li> <li>Discussion: Ambiguous/estimated dates and times: Several providers have measurements that are not associated with an exact date or time causing issues with transmitting data. Should the portal serve data that does not have specific dates/time? Due to time constraints, Candice offered to discuss this topic at the next meeting.</li> </ul> <p><b>Expected Outcome: Information Exchange: Recommend approach.</b></p>	
12:25 P	<p>Status Report: ACWI Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ACWI Nominations: Due to shutdown there has not been much progress. Adrienne and Dan are assembling the nominations and determining a process for considering them. Adrienne reinforced there's still time to submit nominations</li> <li>Annual Meeting status? Unknown.</li> <li>Meeting preparations: Postponed.</li> </ul> <p><b>Expected Outcome: Information Exchange</b></p>	Bill/Dan

12:30 P	<p>Presentation: National Environmental Methods Index</p> <p>Dan Sullivan provided an overview of the National environmental Methods Index (NEMI). NEMI contains environmental methods and has been updated to include water, biological, and threat methods. Connection to water quality portal data has also been recently added. Methods can be added to it at any time. With the restructuring there's some uncertainty where NEMI will end up.</p> <p>Bill provided background that this is on the agenda because water quality data has been discussed whether its valued or not because its method is unknown.</p> <p>Mary asked how methods are added to NEMI. Dan said there isn't a formal review process for methods to be added, but they must be documented.</p> <p>Bob and Candice discussed what requirements are data provider to disclose regarding methods and what methods to include when exporting data about methods. Candice noted NEMI is just one possibility for the group to consider.</p> <p>Bob and Bill will discuss next steps offline.</p> <p><b>Expected Outcome: Information Exchange</b></p>	Dan S.
12:40P	<p>SOGW Workgroups: Postponed due to time constraints.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GW Quantity/Use</li> <li>• Groundwater/Surface Water Exchange</li> <li>• Citizen Science Groundwater Levels or Quality</li> <li>• GW Modeling</li> </ul> <p><b>Expected Outcome: Information Exchange</b></p>	WG Leads
12:50 P	<p><b>Outreach Report</b></p>	
	<p>Upcoming Outreach:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GWPC UIC Conference February 24-27, Fort Worth</li> <li>• National Water Quality Monitoring Council Conference March 25-29, Denver Colorado Candice noted several hundred attendees will be present at the conference, which includes field trips and a strong slate of speakers.</li> <li>• US/Mexico Groundwater Summit hosted by the International Boundary and Waters Commission, April 10-12, 2019. Bill will be speaking at the conference on the importance of NGWMN type collaboration, like US has with Canada.</li> <li>• Groundwater Week, December 3-5, 2019 Las Vegas, NV Call for submissions is now open through April.</li> <li>• Tom Nicholson noted May 22 of Federal Remediation Roundtable focused on modeling.</li> </ul> <p>Other past or upcoming events to share?</p>	Bob /Bill
	<p><b>Adjourn</b></p>	
1:00 P	<p>Next Meeting—Monday, March 18, 2019</p>	Bob

<b>Status of New Directions SOGW Workgroups</b>		
<b>Group topic</b>	<b>Group lead</b>	<b>Group status</b>
GW Quantity and Usage	Daryll Pope	Pending; may adjust based on future Subcommittee? The group is not interested in playing a role in citizen science, however it will work to ensure groundwater in a part of the conversation in water use discussions. They will also provide advice on groundwater use data collection.
Citizen Science	Bill Cunningham	Pending; initial stages. While the federal government can play an important role in “intellectual infrastructure” this is predominantly a local topic. The group will keep in touch with the NWQMC’s voluntary monitoring group.
GW/SW Interaction	Tim Parker	Pending; have had initial calls. Discussed educational importance and the importance of mapping or overlays to better demonstrate a connection. Groundwater dependent ecosystems. Terminology was also discussed in determining groundwater’s interest in surface water. Encourage interagency collaboration.
GW Modeling	Bill Cunningham	Pending; still seeking volunteers (Cunningham, Schreiber, Job, Davis, Nicholson, USGS staff....). Strawman charter started. Coordination with NGWA and others is ongoing. WG can influence federal model development and applications, and play a role in enhancing communication between modelers and others