

Meeting Minutes
Subcommittee on Ground Water Meeting/Teleconference
Monday, December 21, 2015
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston VA 20192.

Participants: Bill Cunningham, Bob Schreiber, Lauren Schapker, Brandon Kernen, Dave Langseth, Cary Betz, Mary Musick, Dave Wunsch, Jeff Davis, Jessica Lucido, Greg Oberley, Daryll Pope, John Yellich, John LaFave, Jill Dean, Adrienne Bartlewitz, Bill Bates

Agenda: Agenda was approved without revision.

Previous Minutes: Lauren discussed two changes submitted by Jessica, and the minutes from the September 21 meeting, as amended, were approved.

Announcements: Suzette Kimball was confirmed as Director of USGS.

Update: ACWI Annual Meeting: Bill gave an overview of the ACWI Annual meeting, where SOGW representatives gave an update on the activities of the subcommittee. The update was well-received from the members and the ACWI asked questions about implementation of the Network nationally. Dave Wunsch suggested we make a more concerted effort to align our efforts with those of the NWQMC, who also gave a presentation at the ACWI.

The presentation made at the ACWI meeting will be made available on the SharePoint site.

Update: ACWI SOGW Face to Face Meeting: Because most attendees on the call were present at the Face to Face meeting, a recap of the meeting was kept fairly short.

Presentations at the ACWI Face to Face included: Daryll provided a summary of network and did a rehearsal of the webinar he'll be giving to those applying for funding; current data providers and new data providers gave updates on the implementation of their networks. Gary Rowe presented on NAWQA program. Greg gave a summary of EPA lab programs, Bill discussed a USGS tape calibration study, and Jessica discussed the portal.

Breakout discussions were held on the topics of public supply wells, communicating with the data providers, formation of the program board, and use of the portal.

Mary asked that volunteers be reminded of what they signed up for. Lauren mentioned she'll get that, and the minutes out to folks in January. Presentations will be made available on the SharePoint site.

Status Report NGWMN Cooperative Agreement: Daryll reported that efforts are moving along on non-competitive projects. Daryll is arranging calls with the six projects using FY2015 funds, an additional 5 for FY2016. Daryll hopes to have status updates

from each in time for January's call. Oklahoma's project has been awarded, the rest are under way with start dates in January.

Program announcement for competitive funding is in place, and closes January 19th. Daryll thanked those who made efforts to widely circulate the program announcement. In addition to circulating the announcement via email, it was added to the portal splash page and there is now a new cooperative agreements page in portal. Daryll will add additional information on items like FAQs on the new cooperative agreements page.

Daryll discussed the two webinars that were held with potential applicants, held on December 1st and December 8th. 70-80 attended with 48 participants from different state and local agencies. 25 different states and 39 different agencies were represented. 15 attendees joined from federal agencies, 5 from private entities, and 3 from universities.

Status Report: Program Board: Invitations were sent out to several potential program board members, following a breakout session at the ACWI SOGW Face to Face meeting, which discussed how the Program Board should be formed. All 10 invitations were accepted, so the Program Board is complete and comprised of:

Role	Individual
Western Region Data Provider	Tom Patton
Western Region Data Provider	Karl Wozniak
Central Region Data Provider	Janie Hopkins
Central Region Data Provider	George Roadcap
Eastern Region Data Provider	Dave Wunsch
Eastern Region Data Provider	Scott Harder
USGS Representative	Daryll Pope
EPA Representative	Jill Dean
SOGW Representative	Mary Musick
Board Member	Mike Wireman

The Program Board will meet in February to review the proposals. Dave Wunsch and Daryll Pope will serve as co-chairs of the Program Board.

Status Report NGWMN Portal: Jessica noted work has been completed to add a new cooperative agreements page and updated content of the website. The process for adding logos has been streamlined for data providers and there is now an improved display for sites without lithology and construction information, so that basic information is still displaying.

She also highlighted work to improve consistency of displaying well depth and altitude information and removed restrictions on downloads from site information. Now users can download from as many sites as they need.

Jessica highlighted work that is completed, but not yet released including: preserved significant figures of water level values and data provider information in the portal's water level service so that users of the portal can also get information on who provided data..

Next her team will be focusing on calculating and displaying monthly statistics, and following the lead of Groundwater Watch, in terms of display. Daryll and Bill are working with Jessica on getting these calculations to work.

She will also be working to improve web statistics and to learn about which features users are taking advantage of the most, including new fields like accuracy and method.

Status Report: FY2016 Appropriations: Adrienne reported that the NGWMN will receive \$3.6 million in appropriations for FY2016.

Outreach Report:

NGWA Expo: Bill gave an overview of participation at the Expo, noting several SOGW members were in attendance. The NGWMN was highlighted at a plenary session during the Expo. Lauren also highlighted that the NGWMN was the subject of several meetings and presentations given at the Expo.

NGWA Summit: A series of abstracts have been submitted for the 2016 Summit, but a program has yet to be released.

NGWA Groundwater Fly-In: Taking place in Washington, D.C. on February 22-23, the NGWMN will be highlighted as one of four key issues for the 2016 NGWA Fly-In.

NWQMC 2016 Meeting: Bill informed the SOGW that Gary let him know the session on NGWMN has been accepted for the 2016 meeting, along with four other groundwater sessions.

Other News: Jessica mentioned that George Roadcap had asked that the SOGW consider a press release relating to several new wells being installed in Illinois. Bill asked for more details on timeline.

Jessica highlighted [an article](#) she co-authored in the current edition of the Journal of Hydroinformatics. Lauren will circulate the link to the SOGW.

Adjournment: The SOGW adjourned with the next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 19, in light of the federal holiday on January 18.