

**Microbiology Expert Committee (MEC)
Meeting Summary**

September 9, 2025

I Welcome and Roll Call:

Cody, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:34pm Eastern on September 9, 2025, by teleconference. Attendance is recorded in Attachment A – there were 10 members present. Associates present: Lindsey Arnaud, Debbie Bond, Antoine Chamsi, Thekkekalathil Chandrasekhar, Anagha Chitre, Stacey Chmura, Kai Chung, Joe Guzman, Amy Hackman, Sviatlana Haubner, Bina Kapoor, Deanna Kiska, Tammy Kreutzer, Morgan Lawrence, Christabel Monteiro, Katie Strothman. Paul Junio indicated that a review of TNI Staff duties following the passing of Lynn Bradley resulted in some changes in the PA duties for at least the next 6 months.

II Approval of Agenda

Cody asked for approval of the Agenda. Hearing no objections, she declared the agenda approved.

III Approval of NEMC St. Louis Meeting minutes

The Meeting minutes from the Committee's session at NEMC on August 5, 2025 were emailed to all members along with the announcement for this meeting. Cody asked if there were any comments or corrections needed for the minutes. Hearing none, she accepted a motion from Patsy Root and a second from Liz Lesold to approve the minutes. Voting to approve were: Nigel Allison, Robin Cook, Cody Danielson, Maria Friedman, Matt Graves, Silky Labie, Elizabeth Lesold, Brian Mercer, Patsy Root, and Elisa Snyder.

IV Credentials Exam – Missed Micro Questions

12 individuals took the QMS exam in St. Louis earlier this month and selected microbiology as their specialty. The exam of 150 questions included 15 questions specific to microbiology.

Of these 15 questions, 5 were missed by >50% of the attendees. The Committee was asked to review these questions to determine if any changes were needed to them:

The questions are not reproduced here, as they may be used in a future exam. 2 of the 5 questions didn't require any changes. Three of the questions were slightly re-worded following Committee discussion.

V. Discuss Comments related to revised DS – email discussion regarding 8.2.1.1 – Sterility Checks

The Committee discussed the revisions to 8.2.1.1 that have been shared via email. There was agreement that 'by the testing laboratory' should be removed since 8.2.1 already says

this. The discussion centered on what was meant by sterility checks, given that some of what is referenced isn't actually sterility. The first sentence in the section 'Media, materials and supplies must be checked to demonstrate the absence of organism(s)/analytes of interest' ISN'T about sterility. This isn't a method blank, except when it is. That statement is necessary, but the committee is unsure where it best fits.

Having reached the end of the scheduled time, the meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM Eastern. A summary of action items and backburner/reminder items can be found in Attachment B.

Attachment A - Participants

Microbiology Expert Committee (MEC)

Name	Organization	Stakeholder	Email	Term Expires	Present
Hunter Adams	City of Wichita Falls	Lab	hunter.adams@wichitafallstx.gov	2026	
Nigel Allison	Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts	Lab	nallison@lacsdsd.org	2028*	X
Robin Cook (Vice Chair)	City of Daytona Beach	Lab	cookr@codb.us	2027	X
Cody Danielson (Chair)		Other	cody.danielson129@gmail.com	2028	X
Maria Fayard	ORELAP	AB	maria.j.fayard@oha.oregon.gov	2026*	
Maria Friedman	California ELAP	AB	qamfriedman@gmail.com	2028	X
Matt Graves	ERA	Other	matt_graves@waters.com	2028	X
Silky Labie	ELCAT	Other	elcatllc@centurylink.net	2026*	X
Ashley Larssen		Lab	aglenn870@gmail.com	2027	
Elizabeth Lesold	NYSDOH ELAP	AB	elizabeth.lesold@health.ny.gov	2027*	X
Brian Mercer	Brian Mercer	Lab	bmercerc@plantation.org	2027*	X
Patsy Root	IDEXX Water	Other	patsy-root@idexx.com	2027*	X
Robert Royce	New Jersey DEP	AB	Robert.Royce@dep.nj.gov	2028	
Tina Shidel	Pace Analytical Services - Ormond Beach	Lab	tina.buttermore@pacelabs.com	2027*	
Elisa Snyder	City of Austin - Austin Water	Lab	elisa.snyder@austintexas.gov	2026	X
Paul Junio	The NELAC Institute	NA	paul.junio@nelac-institute.org		X

* - eligible to serve another term

**Attachment B
Action Items – MEC**

	Action Item	Who	Expected Completion	Actual Completion
104	Implementation Guidance for Temperature Distribution and Equilibrium.	Committee	TBD	See note in 5/11/21 minutes. 4/11/23: Working on Temperature Distribution. 7/11/23: Working on Equilibrium; Anticipated January 2024
113	Complete Response to Draft Comments Process	All	Voting is complete.	5/10/22: Voted on Comments: 2, 3, 7, 8, 9 and 10 6/14/22: Voted on Comments 5 and 6. 2/14/23: Final vote on 1, 4 and 11. 4/11/23: Need to post the document.
114	Work on Questions for the Credentialing Exam	Cody		Get to Jerry as soon as possible.
115	Committee motions, minutes, and votes as needed	Cody	Ongoing	Captured in meeting minutes whether in meeting or via email

Attachment C

Backburner / Reminders – MEC

	Item	Meeting Reference	Comments
1	Update charter (if needed) every 5 years.	n/a	Ongoing
2	Review Method codes and send comments to Robin for Paul Junio.		Moved to back-burner on 6/9/20.
3	Provide an update on what has been done with the method codes and database after Jennifer's review and internal EPA meetings.		This was moved from the Action Items table. Notes: 6/9/20: Ask Jennifer for a follow-up. 11/9/20 – Not available for a follow-up.