

## Microbiology Expert Committee (MEC) Meeting Summary

December 9, 2025

### I Welcome and Roll Call:

Cody Danielson called the meeting to order at 1:32pm Eastern on December 9, 2025, by teleconference. Attendance is recorded in Attachment A – there were 11 members present. Associates present: Lindsey Arnaud, Debbie Bond, Thekkekalathil Chandrasekhar, Anagha Chitre, Stacey Chmura, Kai Chung, Bryan Disch, Megan Fisher, Joe Guzman, Sviatlana Haubner, KeShawne Ingram, Carl Kircher, Tammy Kreutzer, Morgan Lawrence, and Joshua Snyder. Paul Junio attended as Program Administrator.

### II Approval of Agenda

Following a question from Robin regarding the Members only portion of the Agenda (for discussion of member rotation/renewal), and a request from Cody to discuss (briefly) the conference in Boston, the agenda was approved by consent.

### III Approval of Meeting minutes

Cody hadn't sent the meeting minutes out with the announcement of this meeting, so approval will be done via email. *[EDITOR'S NOTE – Minutes were emailed on 11/18/25. Following a motion by Nigel and a second by Brian, the minutes were approved on votes by Robin Cook, Cody Danielson, Maria Friedman, Silky Labie, Liz Lesold, Patsy Root, Tina Shidel, and Elisa Snyder.]*

### IV. Forum on Environmental Accreditation

Cody asked who would be attending the conference. Elisa, Cody, Paul, Tina and Liz indicated that they would be in attendance. Cody is still holding out hope that we will have a Draft Standard ready.

### V. Discuss Comments related to revised DS

- a) 8.2.1.4 – Silky asked if b ii was redundant. There was general agreement that it was, but Robin pointed out that it is easier to cite if this language exists. Tina suggested that the section be consolidated. Those present arrived at a good proposal, and it was pasted into the Draft Module 5. This will address many comments previously submitted.
- b) 8.2.1.1 was submitted with the meeting announcement and was accepted by the Committee. It was pasted into the Module.
- c) non-selective media – Robin stated that she understands the request for checking a known rather than an unknown, and that consensus may not be possible. Paul disagreed, and asked what would stop someone from requiring a specific unknown, or how many knowns might be required? Chandra and Tina agreed. Cody will poll the members to see where we are. Potentially we could require inoculation from a culture, not necessarily something pure/traceable, but culturable.

## Response to Comments Document

Lines 59-60 – covered by the discussion on 8.2.1.1

62 – covered by the discussion on 8.2.1.2

63 – persuasive

64 – non-persuasive

65 – suggested change of ‘recognized collection’, rewording to mirror Standard Methods

66 – non-persuasive

67 – persuasive – global change from ‘target organism’ to ‘target organism(s) / analyte(s) of interest’

68– non-persuasive – it’s difficult to remove, but we need to clarify ‘verify’. Robin pointed out that we want to have items made in-house checked to ensure that they are adequate. Pre-made items are different. It may be that prepared requires verification of a COA, while items made in-house would require verification by testing.

## VI. Voting Members Only

At 2:44 Eastern, the Committee moved into closed session. Maria Fayard and Silky Labie were motioned for a second term by Patsy Root with a second by Robin Cook. The motion passed on votes by Tina Shidel, Robin Cook, Maria Friedman, Cody Danielson, Hunter Adams, Patsy Root, Nigel Allison, Liz Lesold, Brian Mercer and Elisa Snyder. Tina Shidel made a motion for Cody to serve as Chair. Following a second by Robin, the same members voted to approve. Cody requested that those interested in serving as Vice Chair contact her.

Having reached the end of the scheduled time, the meeting adjourned at 2:59 PM Eastern. A summary of action items and backburner/reminder items can be found in Attachment B. A request for available times for a meeting prior to the conference will be sent out.

**Attachment A - Participants****Microbiology Expert Committee (MEC)**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Term Expires</b>	<b>Present</b>
Hunter Adams	City of Wichita Falls	Lab	hunter.adams@wichitafallstx.gov	2026	X
Nigel Allison	Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts	Lab	nallison@lacsds.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*	X
Maria Friedman	California ELAP	AB	qamfriedman@gmail.com	2028	X
Matt Graves	ERA	Other	matt_graves@waters.com	2028	
Silky Labie	ELCAT	Other	elcatllc@centurylink.net	2026*	
Elizabeth Lesold	NYSDOH ELAP	AB	elizabeth.lesold@health.ny.gov	2027*	X
Brian Mercer	Brian Mercer	Lab	bmercer@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*	X
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**

	<b>Action Item</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>Expected Completion</b>	<b>Actual Completion</b>
104	Implementation Guidance for Temperature Distribution and Equilibrium.	Committee	DONE	Submitted to LASEC for their review
113	Complete Response to Draft Comments Process	All	DONE	Preparing a new Draft Standard – goal of early 2026
114	Work on Questions for the Credentialing Exam	Cody	DONE	First exam offered 8/25
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

	<b>Item</b>	<b>Meeting Reference</b>	<b>Comments</b>
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.
4	Review Committee members for renewal / balance	n/a	Annually