

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

**February 10, 2026**

I Welcome and Roll Call:

Cody Danielson called the meeting to order at 1:35pm Eastern on February 10, 2026, by teleconference. Attendance is recorded in Attachment A – there were 10 members present. Associates present: Lindsey Arnaud, Stephanie Atkins, Debbie Bond, Yiping Cao, Tiffany Carey, Antoine Chamsi, Thekkekalathil Chandrasekhar, Anagha Chitre, Kai Chung, Kristy Fournier, Shannon Freedman, Sviatlana Haubner, Rachel Hook, Bina Kapoor, Tammy Kreutzer, David Lo, Kathleen Mitchell, Christabel Monteiro, Joshua Snyder, Katie Strothman, and Elizabeth Turner. Paul Junio attended as Program Administrator.

II Approval of Agenda

Cody noted that the date and call-in information on the agenda were incorrect. With that comment, the agenda was approved by consent.

III Welcome New Members

Katie Strothman and Elizabeth Turner were welcomed to the Committee. Both gave brief introductions.

IV Approval of Meeting Minutes

Meeting minutes from 1/5/26 were not sent out with the meeting announcement. They were subsequently distributed for comment and approved on 2/20/26.

V Discuss Comments related to revised DS

Cody summarized discussions following the conference in an email to the committee as follows:

1. Allowance for the testing lab to use CoAs (if the vendor is "appropriately accredited") in lieu of sterility testing if the testing laboratory runs a MB prior to or in conjunction with first use?
2. Allowance for the testing lab to use a non-reference, non-pure source for non-selective media QC testing because it will still show that the media supports bacterial growth
3. Allowance that when the media/reagents are purchased from a traceable source, the testing lab ensuring the pH documented on the CoA is appropriate for the method meets the requirement to verify pH of that media/reagent

Line 82 – persuasive – change ‘in the accredited method’ to ‘in the test method’.

83-85 – non-persuasive – the language added is to point out that this is more stringent than the requirement of Module 2

86 – persuasive – change ‘language’ to ‘requirement’

87-91 – should be 8.2.1.1 not 8.2.2.1 – comments were previously addressed with line 51

92 – NP – procedural change

93 – persuasive – update as suggested to ‘must have been sterilized’

94-95, 97 –editorial

96, 98 –persuasive. Consideration of a frequency other than monthly; must also clarify ‘for those performing the tests in that month’.

99 – should be 8.2.1.5, not 8.2.5.1 – debate continues regarding expiration of media. Language was drafted and needs to be shared

Comment – do we need a definition of support measurement? Paul referenced Module 7

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.

**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>
Nigel Allison (Vice Chair)	Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts	Lab	nallison@lacsds.org	2028*	X
Robin Cook	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	2029	
Maria Friedman	California ELAP	AB	qamfriedman@gmail.com	2028	
Matt Graves	ERA	Other	matt_graves@waters.com	2028	X
Silky Labie	ELCAT	Other	elcatllc@centurylink.net	2029	
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*	
Robert Royce	New Jersey DEP	AB	Robert.Royce@dep.nj.gov	2028	X
Tina Shidel	Pace Analytical Services - Ormond Beach	Lab	tina.buttermore@pacelabs.com	2027*	X
Katie Strothman	Sanders Lab	Lab	katie@sanderslabs.net	2029	X
Elizabeth Turner	Eurofins	Lab	elizabeth.turner@et.eurofinsus.com	2029	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>
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