

Model Aquatic Health Code (MAHC)
STEERING COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES
MAY 14, 2008, 2:30–4:00 PM

Members Present: Michael Beach, Joe Hunsaker, John Linn, Amanda Long-Assistant to the Director, David Ludwig, Charles Otto, Douglas Sackett-Director, Lee Tate-MAHC Project Coordinator.

1. General Business: The April 9 conference call minutes were approved with a few clarifications.

Bart Bibler is leaving the Florida Department of Health, and will not be able to continue as a Steering Committee (SC) member. Bob Vincent from the Florida Department of Health has been nominated as his replacement.

2. Fecal/Blood/Vomit Contamination Response: Revisions and clarifications to the Fecal/Blood/Vomit Contamination Response Module were discussed, and a corresponding annex will be developed. The format of the module and annex were also discussed. It would be ideal to finalize the module in time to correspond with RWI Prevention Week.

3. Final MAHC Grading System: The grading system will be simplified to: A: “Practice supported by science/research/data.” B: “Generally accepted practice not supported by science/research/data.” C: “No generally accepted practice. Proposed language not yet supported by science/research/data.” The grading system and its explanation will be included in the MAHC preface.

4. June 19th meeting in Phoenix: Member attendance is being confirmed. There will be an option to participate via conference call. The submission of pertinent agenda items was requested.

5. Other items, wrap-up: The technical committee (TC) guidelines document is ready for use.

A number of emails have been received that inquire about a timeline for the MAHC. The initial expectation was to have a first version indicating generally accepted practices and a grading system for each topic by the Fall. This will likely be delayed based on the current rate of progress. The response to these emails will be that the SC had hoped that the first version would be ready in 2008, but that this seems unlikely in light of how things are progressing. Individual modules will be posted as they are completed.

Mr. Tate has developed a short informational piece for the SC to use in their contact with various organizations to spread the word that the project is calling for volunteers. The MAHC was recently mentioned in the Journal of Environmental Health and the CDC MMWR.

The call ended at 4 PM; there is no June conference call, as the SC will meet in Phoenix on June 19.