

**Sewage Treatment Systems Technical Advisory Committee  
MEETING MINUTES**

Date: Tuesday, March 12, 2019  
Time: 10:00 a.m.  
Place: BWC/OSOSH  
13430 Yarmouth Drive  
Pickerington, Ohio

**TAC Members in Attendance:**

Manufacturer Representative & Committee Chair: Chris Mandich  
OEHA Registered Sanitarian & Vice Chair: Dan Lark, Lake County General Health District  
Manufacture Representative: Zak Sherman  
ODH Director of Health Representative & TAC Secretary: Rachel Townsend  
Designer: David Chronister  
AOHC Health Commissioner: Julianne Nesbit, Clermont County Health Commissioner  
Ohio EPA DSW Engineer: Brian Hall  
Professional Engineer: Walt Sandefur  
Ohio Townships Association Representative: Gary Salmon  
Public Representative: Christopher Schraff

**Absent:**

ODA Soil Scientist: Matt Lane  
Installer/Service Provider: Chas Kaiser  
Academic: Karen Mancl

**Vacant:**

AOHC Health Commissioner

**Guests:**

Jesse Shamp: Frost Brown Todd  
James Conley: Hydro-Action  
James Dye: Wastewater Solutions

**Other ODH participants:**

Dusten Gurney  
Kyle Bianco

**Welcome and Introduction:**

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Chairman Chris Mandich. Meeting attendees were introduced.

**TAC Appointments Update**

No updates regarding the AOHC vacancy at this time. Zak Sherman's appointment will expire April 12, 2019. He has been working with his appointing body to ensure that they have all of the materials they need to consider his reappointment. He can continue to serve as an active committee member for up to sixty days after his term limit if he is not formally reappointed before the expiration of his term.

### **Approval/modification to the agenda**

Chris Mandich asked if any modifications to the agenda needed to be made. No changes were requested. Gary Salmon motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Julianne Nesbit, all in favor, motion approved.

### **Approval of February 12, 2019 Minutes**

Chris asked for any comments regarding the draft minutes from the February meeting. No comments or changes were requested. Julianne motioned to approve the minutes. Zak Sherman seconded the motion. All were in favor.

### **Draft Calculating Spreadsheet for Product Data**

Walt Sandefur has continued to make minor modifications and edits since discussion with TAC members at the February meeting and trial run conducted by ODH. Of note, the date column has been hidden until a time where it can be utilized without disrupting the functions of the spreadsheet, test values for e coli/fecal less than 1 will be entered as 1, and additional minor editorial changes have been incorporated. One item that is still being sorted out is the function selected for the confidence interval analysis. Multiple functions are available in excel to calculate the confidence interval. The standards and guidelines reference a tail area probability chart commonly referenced in standard statistical text. From trial runs using the spreadsheet versus using the T values given in the standards and guidelines a slight variation is observed, typically after 3 significant digits. Although it is a very minor difference the spreadsheet and standards and guidelines should align to the extent possible. Walt is also adding a glossary which will identify the abbreviations used in the spreadsheet column headings with the corresponding terms used in the standards and guidelines.

Conversation then revolved around data used to test run the spreadsheet and how variability and potential outliers in data results can dramatically affect the calculated standard deviation and subsequent analysis. Compliance with the standards for soil depth credits, spray irrigation, and NPDES requires that the effluent consistently meet a mean or geometric mean plus two standard deviations, or in other words the data should demonstrate the standard can be achieved 98% of the time. Questions were posed on whether or not the standards are too stringent. The standards are written in rule, not in the standards and guidelines. Questions regarding the stringency of the standards are different than whether or not the spreadsheet is working correctly. The most contemporary version of the spreadsheet was going to be forwarded to Ohio EPA for verification that changes to the titles, column headings, and other incorporated editorial suggestions from TAC have not impacted the functions in the spreadsheet.

The spreadsheet will serve as a tool for product submission and should help eliminate variations on how the submitted data is analyzed. Once the spreadsheet is finalized the formulas and cells of the document will be locked, instructions drafted, and it will be available for use.

### **Field Data Discussion**

Workgroup members summarized the calls held since the last TAC meeting and discussions ensued. Non-discharging systems approved from 2007-December 31, 2014 may not have the capability to sample. Systems have also been approved as the standards and guidelines have evolved, with the standards becoming more stringent with the contemporary guidelines. Discussion ensued regarding enforcement of the NPDES General household permit. It was noted that in the third issuance of the general household permit that Ohio EPA has deemphasized the permit limits; with the intent to not penalize the property owner who is fulfilling all of the terms and conditions of the permit.

Dan Lark discussed results that Lake County General Health District have compiled for the approximately 300 NPDES installed in their jurisdiction. Variations and obstacles in local health department resources and funding, personnel, enforcement policies, accessibility/inaccessibility to wastewater labs and service providers, and the current state of Operation and Maintenance programs were also discussed. Conversation ensued regarding what a service contract should entail and varying expectations from the different point of views from stakeholder's present. Chris Mandich noted that many service providers trained by Jet have no interest in collecting samples and ultimately it is the homeowner/permit holder's responsibility to obtain a sample to remain in compliance with OEPA's annual sampling requirement. To compound upon the issue that many service providers are not interested in offering sampling services, many labs who were previously registered as service providers in order to collect samples are no longer registering as it may no longer fit their business model. Brian Hall noted that approximately 1,700 General HSTS NPDES permits were issued in 2018 with approximately 12,000 already approved. A concerted effort from all stakeholders is necessary in order to work towards more effective outcomes. Brian also noted that currently 85% of the waters of the state are impaired for recreation due to exceeding bacteriological standards.

The schedule moving forward would be for all applicants submit data to apply against the current standard(s), (for example: the original test data could be submitted for a renewal application if the current treatment train has the exact same components and specifications as the original approval, but that decision would be left to the applicant) develop a framework for field sampling starting with NPDES and then develop the capacity for non-NPDES and utilize a tiered approach. Additional items to be included in product renewal applications would also include, but not limited to: 1) Updated list of distributors, 2) Updated list of service providers and availability; means to identify those who are manufacturer certified, (e.g. Website that is updated by manufacturer) 3) current design schematics, manuals, checklists, etc., 4) Identification of sampling protocol.

Some final items of discussion centered around how to weight the future field data submissions against testing data, whether provisions should be included in the standards and guidelines in case the standards were to change, and the status of rule 13 of O.A.C. 3701-29.

#### **Additional Updates**

Chris Mandich asked for any additional updates. It was noted that one application has been determined to be complete and will be forwarded to TAC members for review. Other applications are also being reviewed for completeness and will be forwarded to TAC members accordingly.

#### **Next meeting:**

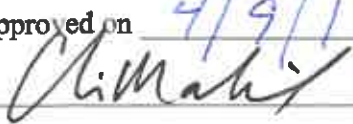
The next TAC meeting is scheduled for April 9, 2019 at BWC/OCOSH.

#### **Adjourn:**

Motion to adjourn was made by Chris Schraff and seconded by Gary Salmon. Motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

Approved on

4/9/19



Chris Mandich, TAC Chairperson  
Dan Lark TAC Vice Chairperson

as signified by:



Rachel Townsend, Secretary

