

# NSC 12-3-24 Meeting Minutes

Chris Lynch called the meeting to order and called on group to approve the November 2024 meeting minutes. Sarah Johnson made a motion to approve, Lucy Cross made a second motion. Minutes were approved.

1. SBEAP Support Grant – grant closed on December 2, 2024.
  - a. Applicants: KS, TN, (few more unnamed)
2. Meeting with RASBLs
  - a. Regions 4, 5, 10, and 6 attended
  - b. Quarterly meetings coming soon?
  - c. Interest from RASBLs to be invited to regional calls, monthly
  - d. Considering invited RASBLs to monthly NSC meetings
  - e. **ACTION ITEM: Set future meeting date sooner than later (February meeting date?)**
3. Annual Training
  - a. No update from EPA on award for P2 grant
  - b. Proposal for virtual trainings in March or April, one for technical and one for onboarding/new SBEAPs
4. Upcoming NSC meeting: January 7, 2024
5. Confidentiality and Multi-media
  - a. Multi-media eligible for 507 funding?
  - b. Need for “in-writing” approval for states to practice
  - c. **ACTION ITEM: Ask Paula for some form of written approval**
6. Subcommittee Updates:
  - a. **ACTION ITEM: submit awards nominations**
  - b. Technical:
    - i. no meeting this month
  - c. Website:
    - i. reviewed needed website changes
    - ii. Donovan to be co-chair with Leena
    - iii. Begin adding regional attendance on meeting notes
  - d. Planning:
    - i. **ACTION ITEM: listserv needs updating**
  - e. Education:
    - i. Annual survey collection reviewed and edited
  - f. Promotional: none present
  - g. EJ

Methods for tracking EJ to be updated soon

# November 2024 SBO/SBEAP NSC Call

**October 1, 2024**

**11:00 – 12:00 PT; 12:00 – 1:00 MT;  
1:00-2:00 CDT; 2:00-3:00 pm EST**

**Zoom Meeting:**

<https://ksu.zoom.us/j/98427111646>

(669) 444-9171 or [Find your local number:](#)

<https://ksu.zoom.us/u/ay1zekckJ>

Meeting ID: 984 2711 1646

## NSC MISSION

*To serve, support, and strengthen the Small Business Environmental Assistance Programs through representation and collaboration*

## Minutes taken by Region 5

### **Attendees:**

- **Approve October minutes**
- **ASBO/OAQPS updates**
  - Notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) for next SBEAP national support grant has been published and OSBDU held a webinar last week. Elnora is the grant project manager. Any new thoughts or last minute questions to submit?
  - Paula's office - new small business sustainability guide is live online now.
  - Paula's office is working on an internal Best Practices regarding enforcement questions that come through her office.
  - Deputy Administrator meeting with small business trade associations; probably unlikely to happen in calendar year 2024 with the elections.
  - RASBL meeting was held October 16, 2024.
    - \*Related Discussion: Nancy Larson has worked through the Region 7 RASBL to schedule a 30 minute call between NSC Leadership and the RASBLs on Nov 21. As the NSC, what do we want to accomplish with this call. What are our desired outcomes from that meeting? Chris, Lucy and Nancy are open to suggestions. Attached are RASBL documents for consideration.
- **NSC Updates**
  - We will be continuing dialogue with the National Pollution Prevention Roundtable based on the NSC positive vote for exploring a joint conference on the June NSC call. Nevada and PPRC regional conference US EPA P2 grant proposal. EPA not financially supporting a national training in 2025. Chris to provide update
- **Open Floor Discussions**
  - **NSC Guidelines**

○ **Subcommittee Updates**

- **Annual Training Planning** – Update from Chris on US EPA P2 Grant; see above NSC Updates. Discussion of partnering and timing.
- **Awards – Donovan Grimwood**
- **Technical – Mark Stoddard/Lee Ann Briggs** *discussion of upcoming topics and speakers*
  - November 19: Demonstrating the Michigan MiEnviro Portal & Oregon's Your DEQ Online platforms, Kaitlyn DeVries, EGLE and Hillarie Sales, OR DEQ
  - December 17: Open forum discussion possibly relating to 2025 Annual Training
  - February 18: Printing topic, Gary Jones, Vice President, Environmental, Health & Safety Affairs, PRINTING United Alliance
- **Website – Nancy Larson**
  - Open request for Co-chair
- **Education / Annual Report – Sara Johnson/Gina Gambacorto**
- **Promotional – Crystal Warren**
- **EJ workgroup – Lisa Ashenbrenner-Hunt**
- **Metrics workgroup – Donovan Grimwood**
- **National Advocacy workgroup – Donovan Grimwood**

○ **Allied Updates**

- **CAAAC** – (Jeremy Hancher)
- **NAACA** - (Nancy Herb)
- **ECOS** - (Donovan)
- **AAPCA** - (Tony) –
- **Others?**

**Next NSC call – December 3, 2024**

**11:00 – 12:00 PT; 12:00 – 1:00 MT; 1:00-2:00 CDT; 2:00-3:00 pm EST**

*Abi or Nancy from K state will be handling the security for the NSC call.*

Attendance:

# October 2024 SBO/SBEAP NSC Call

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## NSC MISSION

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## Minutes taken by Region 4

### Attendees:

Sara Johnson – NH  
Tony Pendola – NC  
Leena Divaker – KS  
Nancy Larson – KS  
Jeremy Hancher – PA  
Bob Randolph – MO  
Gina Gambacorto – NJ  
Lisa Ashenbrenn-Hunt – WI  
Nancy Herb – PA  
Lloyd Kirk – OK  
Mark Stoddard – IN  
Lucy Cross – AR  
Donovan Grimwood -TN  
Troy Johnson – MN  
Belinda Breidenbach - ID

- **Approve August minutes**
  - Jeremy mentioned to approve. Minutes approved.
- **ASBO/OAQPS updates**
  - Publication of the notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) for next SBEAP national support grant has likely slipped into the next fiscal year; US EPA has a new process for grants packages. Elnora is grant project manager and grant is currently at grant office for review. Paula is hoping the NOFO will be published in October 2024. What is a reasonable turnaround deadline for proposals? Once published, Paula intends to offer a webinar to walk interested parties through the NOFO and application process, possibly end of October to mid-November (Target of early November)
    - **At the start of the meeting, no updates to share. During meeting, Paula sent out an email that the grant proposal has been posted.**
    - Please review the full solicitation opportunity and apply on the Grants.gov website, here: [EPA-OA-OSDBU-25-01 - Management of the 507 Program's Collaboration and Communication Activities](#)

- Paula’s office is continuing to work on their new small business sustainability guide. She will send announcement once live on website.
  - Lloyd asked about the guidance. It is an update of a previous guidance. Potential to link to State programs for additional P2. The NSC has provided some input on the guidance already.
- No update on the OAQPS-OECA guidance. Rhonda is now on assignment with HQ. Our primary contacts while Rhonda is on assignment will now be Susan Paret, Sarah Baker, and Ricardo Shojgreen.
- OECA produces the Small Business Resources sheet passed out during inspections: <https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2017-06/documents/smallbusinessinfo.pdf>. If we see needed corrections, send to Paula and she will share with OECA.
- Paula’s office is working on an internal Best Practices regarding enforcement questions that come through her office.
- Deputy Administrator meeting with small business trade associations; not sure if this will happen in calendar year 2024. NSC will continue to request participation/representation at the meeting. Donovan – is there a trade association that could ask EPA to include NSC to attend the meeting?
- Next RASBL meeting will be held October 16, 2024.
  - Contact provided by Paula for EPA Smart Sectors was asked about. Contact has been passed to Lisa as the contact is primarily an EJ contact so it was felt that EJ Subcommittee should be initial point of contact. After that, we may have a wider contact and collaboration.
  - Let RASBL’s know of issues in states during Regional calls or even directly. If the RASBL doesn’t know about something, not much they could do about it.
  - Nancy noted that the website group is working through the R7 RASBL for more interaction and potentially sharing an overview of the SBEAP website either through the RASBL meeting or a separate meeting.

○ **NSC Updates**

- Status update on regional alt reps and subcommittee co-chairs. See Nancy Larson’s spreadsheet.
- We will be continuing dialogue with the National Pollution Prevention Roundtable based on the NSC positive vote for exploring a joint conference on the June NSC call. They surveyed their membership but we don’t know the results. Nevada and PPRC regional training grant proposal. If this is granted, they may open to national p2/sbeaps. EPA not financially supporting a national training in 2025. Waiting on update from Chris.

○ **Open Floor Discussions**

- Discussion towards end of meeting that focused on how state SBEAPs could help business connect with CPGR. MN had received a grant for next gen re Fridgerants. ID had attempted such, but found issue where business wouldn’t switch if no trained repair people and repair side wouldn’t train if businesses weren’t buy next gen re frigerant. Mark noted that Technical had a presenation in 2017 on topic.

○ **Subcommittee Updates**

- **Annual Training Planning** – On hold; waiting to hear on US EPA P2 Grant application; when should we shift to Plan B? Discussion of alternatives. Waiting on Chris for updates.
  - Some positive movement on this front for a potentially combined meeting in 2025.
  - Discussion of regional meetings. R7 is coming up soon as an in-person meeting. Agenda not finalized yet.
  - R5 planning meeting in Chicago in Fall

- In the absence of an Annual Training, Lloyd noted that there had been multi-regional trainings previously. But fairly, confident that there will be an Annual Training.
  - In helping plan regional meetings RASBL has been very helpful in planning venue and arranging for speakers.
- **Awards – Donovan Grimwood**
  - Nothing current, but nominations should open later this month or early November.
- **Technical – Mark Stoddard/Lee Ann Briggs** *discussion of upcoming topics and speakers*
  - October 15: The New PM2.5 National Ambient Air Quality Standard, Michael Liebert, ALL4
  - November 19: Demonstrating the Michigan MiEnviro Portal & Oregon's Your DEQ Online platforms, Kaitlyn DeVries, EGLE and Hillarie Sales, OR DEQ
  - December 17: Open forum discussion possibly relating to 2025 Annual Training
  - February 18: Printing topic, Gary Jones, Vice President, Environmental, Health & Safety Affairs, PRINTING United Alliance
- **Website – Nancy Larson**
  - Open request for Co-chair
  - Website subcommittee report out - subcommittee did not meet in Sept., but will meet in early Dec. From the website group - since Sept NSC completed some general maintenance and updates, links check and upload a few new documents, as well as a plan to try to schedule a meeting with RASBLs.
- **Education / Annual Report – Sara Johnson/Gina Gambacorto**
  - Meeting next week to plan new survey for annual data gathering
  - Meeting in December would be to discuss how to gather data and present data
  - Also planning small videos about SBEAP work to offer insights into what we do. Looking for volunteers
  - Ed Bakos (NJ) will host survey, potentially through MS Forms
- **Promotional – Crystal Warren**
  - Next call is November 12th
- **EJ workgroup – Lisa Ashenbrenner-Hunt**
  - Call next week for all with a topic of CO Small Business Equity Fund.
  - Last month had an open meeting with presentations from MA and NH about working with TURI (Toxic Use Reduction Institute) through some grants
- **Metrics workgroup – Donovan Grimwood**
- **National Advocacy workgroup – Donovan Grimwood**

○ **Allied Updates**

- **CAAAC – (Jeremy Hancher)**
  - EPA provided bullet points on a large series of items in which feedback is being requested.
  - CAAAC meeting had several breakout groups to focus on some topics.
  - EPA also talked a lot about Cumulative Impact Assessments using their whole portfolio
  - CPRG presentation given by EPA
  - Clean Air Excellent nominations open until December. NJ noted they had helped an area business win the award in 2019.
- **NAACA - (Nancy Herb) - Fall annual meeting Oct 8-9 in Alexandria, VA. In person only.**
- **ECOS - (Donovan) –**

- **AAPCA - (Tony) – Morgan Dickie is now Executive Director of AAPCA. Needing to backfill her previous position.**
- **Others?**

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Attendance: