

Magruder Committee Minutes
July 29, 2021 – Virtual Meeting

Meeting called to order at 12:30 pm EST by Frank Sikora

Attendance – ~163

Welcome, Introductions, Agenda Review and Approval – Frank Sikora

Agenda - Motion to approve agenda Sharon Webb, seconded by James Bartos - motion approved

Approval of Last Meetings Minutes – Frank/Patty

Minutes – Motion to approve by Sharon Webb, seconded by James Bartos – motion approved

Treasurer’s report – Jamey Johnson

Statement is through June 2021. Total assets are \$148,614.73. Income was \$70,722.69. Expenses were \$59,157.59 and net income was \$11,565.10.

Discussion: Discussion regarding tracking new scheme income. The invoices will be broken down into specific schemes/programs (for income received). Sharon asked if we are going to move money around to pay for and track new expenses for all four programs. Expense will be kept as is. James asked if we covered the costs of the forum or went negative. Expenses were all covered and the balance remaining was \$5,184.37.

Motion to approve Treasurer’s report – Sharon Webb, seconded by Sally Flowers – Motion approved

Administration Update – Frank Sikora

See Powerpoint

Frank shared the number of labs reporting graph from 2014 to 2021 as well as the number of active labs from 2017 to 2021. There are currently 151 participating labs with 23 unpaid (all international labs).

We are planning to receive payment prior to shipping samples for 2022. There are 43 US public (regulatory), 37 US private (23 service and 10 manufacturer) and 71 international labs in the program.

Changes happening in 2022 – Frank Sikora/Job

See Powerpoints

There will be a lot of changes in the program for 2022. Offering different schemes; Frank presented the proposal at the winter meeting. Some additional changes were made and the schemes of NPK were proposed. Home page on Magruder website contains an explanation of the schemes (regular, N, P, K) with applicable costs. Website also contains links for laboratories to fill out the survey with which schemes they would like to participate in. Frank gave a walk-through demonstration of the survey.

Frank shared a graph of labs who have signed up so far. Current total is 75 with 63 for regular scheme, 12 N, 18 P and 11 K. The number of labs indicating they would sign up were 33 N, 37 P, 25 K. We are collaborating with AFPC on who will be preparing the P samples.

Number of Magruder Labs is 70 with 5 non-Magruder labs.

- a. New N, P₂O₅ and K₂O samples schemes
- b. Early billing
- c. Name change from “Check Sample” to “Proficiency Testing”
- d. Advertising (brochure, one-pager, etc.)
- e. Scheduled samples

Will there be a minimum number of labs that need to be signed up before beginning? Frank said he is optimistic that we will come close to the projected amounts. Bill Hall said we can call some of the labs that indicated they may participate to discuss with them. He also said there will be additional labs (especially on the manufacturer side) when the word gets out.

James asked when the first scheme sample would go out. Frank said February 2022. Andy Crawford indicated that these things need to start to grow and each year you get more people as they start to know about them.

See Powerpoint “Proposal for Providing Options for Sample Schemes”

Frank shared a chart of the sample schemes with the timeline for the changes as well as a chart of the various sample schemes by month. Andy Crawford prepared new logo icons for the various schemes (to use for the lab reports). He asked if anyone had any changes to let him know soon. Michael Hojjatie will send a picture of a liquid to Frank.

The name change of the program from “Check Sample” to “Proficiency Testing” will be put on the websites. Sharon said the websites looked nice.

Scheduled samples –

Frank said that Job Fugice is doing a good job of scheduling and tracking samples. Discussed upcoming samples. Asked for ideas for program samples coming up. Bill said that at some point in time, need to have a second sample sent for a high level micro mix to fill in gaps Sharon is missing. In the 10, 20, 30 % range. Frank asked if it would be better to make up two and Bill indicated he would. James Bartos said that Dave Benefield may be able to come up with a targeted micro-nutrient blend. Bill was also thinking about contaminants rather than nutrients. Has worked with him before. James has a long term P suggestion for WEP in some organic fertilizers but it would be nice to see how many labs would be interested. Bill asked if there is a copy of that method. James said we may be able to put something on the Magruder website about how these should be prepped and tested. Bill said that a lot of the methods have not been tested on organics, need to look at whether the colorimetric methods may have a bias. These new products were never in the original studies. Another possible P sample is volcanic ash (with definition accepted).

Chat from session:

Rebecca Moseley– Will there be a follow up reminder email sent to labs who haven’t responded to the survey who normally participate? Frank said yes.

Regarding logos:

Michael Hojjatie – They need to show liquids as well!

Sally Flowers – Yes, they look professional, thanks.

Magruder Newsletter – Frank Sikora

Frank shared an overview of the draft and said the Summer 2021 Edition is coming out a little later than he wanted. Thanked Sally and others for putting the information together so nicely. Showed the upcoming meetings information section. Frank asked if there are any other meetings for this fall, to send to Frank for inclusion.

Andy Crawford asked if the 2022 Winter meeting would be in Mobile, AL or virtual. Frank said it depends. Eddie said the intent is that it will be in person in Mobile.

Chat:

Ed Thomas – For all of those interested in the ISO Business Plan, TFI has taken the lead in making major revisions to the document. The comment summaries will be available in the next two weeks. You can let me know if you are interested in reviewing the revisions. ethomas@tfi.org

QRM samples for sale – Frank Sikora/Sharon Webb

See Powerpoint

Frank said we’ve updated the flow for requesting the QRM. Sharon is keeping track of all the samples at the KY department and processes requests. Frank shared the Quality Reference Material Request form and Invoice form. Jamey said this is a good improvement over the previous form. Income from QRM samples is up from previous years. Sharon wrote an article in the newsletter to explain the use of them. An excel file was also shared to show the amount available for each (label/SOA/COA are also available).

Bill asked if we will include the N, P, K sample reserves with these samples? Frank said yes but they may do an excel file for each. There was additional discussion regarding quantities available and needed.

Update on ICP P/K and microwave nutrient/non-nutrient methods in AOAC and ISO

See Powerpoint

James – We did have the method submitted to ISO (used Magruder data). Passed by P members but failed by O members; EU wanted more than US extraction; data variability was very high; Magruder data – not as biased (members not selected); more work to do there; plan to go the AOAC route in the next few months

Sharon – Been doing data mining and looking at Horwitz; getting info from Magruder; there are some gaps for one or two elements (nutritives) and a few non-nutritives that are not as high as they could be. Bill is working on this too.

See James's Powerpoint – Process

Shared one Good Example – Magruder Cu Data vs. IA (Reg Labs – AAS)- input info

Shared one Bad Example – Magruder Zn Data vs. IA (Reg Labs – ICP)- input info

Investigational Allowance, Measurement Uncertainty, and Recognizing Bad Apples

See Powerpoint Measurement Uncertainty – Frank

How MU may relate to IA

Shared USDA Final Rule for the Domestic Production of Hemp regarding MU and example of how it is applied (eg. $0.36 \pm 0.08\%$ Total THC is 0.28% to 0.44%)

Frank wanted to share this for information. Said it will be good to discuss at some point. Labs who get ISO accredited have to do this.

Provided helpful reference “Handbook for Calculation of MU in Environmental Labs” (easy to use)

Frank thanked James for his presentation and said there is a lot of work to be done for IAs at the higher concentration.

Bill asked if this would be a good forum topic where there would be ample time. Frank said yes, that would be great for the MF agenda.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by James Bartos with second by Maryam Khosravifard. Motion approved.

Magruder committee meeting adjourned at 2:03 pm EST