

## California Environmental Education Interagency Network Meeting Minutes



**Date:** September 20, 2012, 9:30-11:30 AM  
**Location:** Room 2410 Cal/EPA, 1001 I Street, Sacramento  
**Call-in Phone Line:** (866) 249-5279; Passcode 170238  
**Meeting Leader:** Bobbie Winn  
**Note Taker:** Anne Stephens

### Participants:

**Call in:** Laurie Monserrat OEHHA  
Susan Knadle Retired OEHHA  
Bryan Ehlers- CalEPA  
Sharon Jang- US EPA Region 9  
Bobbi Winn-Department of Fish and Game  
Ed Wong- Air Resources Board  
David Thompsavic- Guest US EPA Region 9  
Michelle Robinson-Department of Water Resources  
Annie Kohut Frankel- Coastal Commission  
Lana McAllister-Energy  
Sandra Salazar Thompson- State Water Board  
Phil Lafontaine- California Department of Education  
Judy Nottoli- Air Resources Board

## AGENDA

<u>Item</u>	<u>Time</u>
<b>1. <u>Check – in and Catch –up</u></b>	<b>9:30 – 9:45</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Welcome and Introductions</li><li>• Review Agenda</li><li>• Approve Minutes from July<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Annie’s name not hyphenated (Kohut Frankel)</li><li>○ Michelle is working with the California Urban Conservation Council instead of Urban Water Group</li><li>○ (mistake) Jacquelin not Jacqueline (Ed’s student assistants)</li></ul>Annie moved to approve the minutes after the above corrections. Bryan Ehlers seconded.</li><li>• Update Outstanding Action Items<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Anne needs to change CEEIN Roster to reflect change from CalEPA to CalRecycle</li><li>○ Take Kay Antunez off of committees-Bobbi will email her to see if she has an updated committee list.</li><li>○ Michelle ordered 2000 additional CEEIN brochures-will be picked</li></ul></li></ul>	

- up by Anne for delivery.
- Annie submitted reminder to people to submit material for Benefits of CEEIN
- Anne invited Christiane Maertens from NAAEE to join CEEIN as a partner and she accepted, although probably won't be able to participate until after the NAAEE conference, and will be calling in.

2. **What's New In Your World**

**9:45 – 10:00**

Bobbi Winn: has three new posters on trout-they are accompanied by a CD with a powerpoint presentation. The materials are correlated to Project WILD curriculum. E-mail Bobbi if we'd like copies. Targeted to 5<sup>th</sup> grade. CD narration is for teacher content knowledge, not students.

Lana McAllister: this is the last year for energy calendar, but there has been a lot of positive feedback from students and teachers about the project.

Annie Kohut Frankel: has Coastal Clean-up Posters for everyone. Clean up day was on September 15, 2012. 60,000 volunteers participated, which is the largest volunteer effort in the state.

Annie attending a NOAA workshop on Ocean Acidification Educator workshop this month. Coastal Commission has lots of fall workshops scheduled, with 3 planned for CSTA, one in Sebastopol, and 3 more in So Cal.

Bryan Ehlers-CalEPA seeking legislation allowing them to partner with private businesses (avoid sending money directly to the state). Want to enter into an agreement with a fiscal agent. Didn't get language into the budget for this year AB440 Brownley Bill for next legislative session.

Michelle Robinson: indoor farm day 3<sup>rd</sup> graders on Weds. Sept. 26. Potential sponsorships with the Powerhouse Science Center to help with new exhibits and facilities.

Anne Stephens: Will be presenting about California Networks (CREEC and CEEIN) at NAAEE. CDE has a NOAA B-WET grant in partnership with the MERITO program to provide watershed education to underserved students in the Ventura/Santa Barbara area. She will be presenting at CSTA re: environmental partnership academies, and CREEC will have a table. Region 2 has a new CREEC Coordinator, Tanya Heaston, who is the advisor for the NSTA student chapter and coordinator of the Hands-on Science Lab at CSU Chico.

Green Ribbon School Awards: Apps posted September

Sharon Jang- US EPA EE program is being cut, so she has been focusing on getting resources out to the field.

US EPA has posted the RFA for EE grant. Only 1 \$216,000 grant will be awarded in the Pacific Region. She suggested that CREEC would be well positioned to apply.. Requires matching funds 25% \$72,000. The match can be in-kind. The President's Environmental Youth Award (PEYA) is open again. This year they are hoping to fund students to go to Washington D.C. for the EE summit. Last year was the first time that formal EE teachers were recognized,

with a \$2000 prize going to the teacher. This program is continuing, and Sharon will send us an email to forward to our listserves.

Ed Wong: Air Resources will have a table at the Green Schools Summit. In mid-October he will be presenting to DeAnza College students on air pollution and green house gasses.

Susan Knadle: Will attend the US EPA meeting to discuss the issues of conveying the risk of transferring contaminants during breast feeding to infants while not discouraging breast feeding.

Lori Monserat: will be attending NAAEE

GUEST SPEAKER David Thompsavic-US EPA Region 9. L  
Presentation on lead and children's health. David brought lots of different materials related to environmentally healthy schools; preventing lead poisoning, reducing toxics in the classroom, mercury hazards. There is also a cumulative Impacts Tool on the OEHHA website organized by regulatory and information resources (reducing asthma triggers).

Contacts provided for the EPA Region 9  
Sensible Steps to Healthier School Environments  
David will be present at Green Schools Summit

### **3. Committee Reports and Discussion**

**10:00 – 10:30**

- Administration and Organization  
Review and approve draft CEEIN Benefits & Justifications Document  
David asked about how law are communicated to the Indian Schools and schools that have their own drinking water systems  
Private School Council  
Posted on CDE web site  
Phil said that CDE is hesitant to put on additional  
Kathleen Moore (School Facilities Division) does the outreach and compliance checks.  
Ron Reynolds CAPSO California Private Schools Organization

CEEIN benefits statement

Bryan feels there should be more examples of how CEEIN helps avoid redundancy and helps leverage resources, as well as what each of our organizations do in EE. There is already legislative precedence for interagency collaboration and effort toward EE. An MOU would be an extra layer, perhaps a statement that we are fulfilling the legislative requirements. The Benefits Statement is helpful for informing new managers and directors. Michelle suggest that we tie together OEE and CEEIN. Sandra gave the example of the Biodiversity Council- not questioned. EE is not as widely accepted as necessary-perceived as an extra when so many ed programs are being cut.

- Communications and Outreach
- Legislation and Diversity
  - Kay and Susan have retired and Carolyn can't come downtown very frequently, so Anne and Donna make up the committee and would appreciate more members. We are following the Lara Bill about charging fees for student programs.
- Phil Lafontaine: Professional Learning Support Division Director CDE
 

Phil has concerns about MOU. He not sure that it is necessary for CEEIN to continue to meet.

CEEIN members are concerned that new agency directors aren't replacing people on CEEIN because they aren't aware of the value of the network. If not an MOU, then what? What would the push be to get administrators to allow attendance. Participation numbers have decreased because new managers don't allow attendance. The MOU provides more credibility. Lana concurred that it helps her attend to have an MOU. Ed noted that former members have not been replaced when they retire or switch agencies. Ed was formerly 100% education, but has been reduced to 50% under new management.

Ed Wong: CEEIN is very unique in its integrated approach in the country. Michelle Robinson has been empowered to find pocket of money and in kind support for projects by attending CEEIN.

Bryan Ehlers: CalEPA

The law empowers OEE to coordinate environmental education activities and find the most efficient source of resources. He feels that there needs to be more output data in the CEEIN statement that would convince the Secretaries of the importance of CEEIN.

Phil feels there should be more detail in the MOU along the same lines.

#### 4. New Business

**10:30– 11:00**

Cal EPA Education Assist. Secretary Bryan Ehlers

“Update and current status of the Education and Environment Initiative”

With the start of the new school year, embarking on “deep implementation” rather than a scattered approach. Are now going back and targeting those districts that showed interest, with the goal of implementing multiple units articulated throughout the grade levels and within each grade (up to 5 units per year).

Have been 43,000 students 1,342 teachers targeted for deep implementation.

EEL will be supported by a more robust professional development program.

OEE recruited 15 teacher ambassadors who were trained at Asilomar through a “train the trainer model” so that they can speak knowledgeably about EEL.

OEE is providing curriculum. They have secured \$500,000 for this year to supply materials. Culver City, LAUSD, Elk Grove, Pasadena, Manteca, Santa Cruz all have multi-level administrative support and will be targeted for deep implementation

Extending outreach / enrichment. OEE is targeting non formal providers and is working with CREEC to give the resource directory a face lift to aid in this effort. Four Environmental Literacy Guides created by National Geographic and funded by Amgen. These are geared for teachers in grades 3-8 to increase their content knowledge. Netgeo education- beta site. Go through Google to find guides that include: One Ocean, Changing Climate, Energy Potential, Earth's Fresh Water

[http://education.nationalgeographic.com/education/program/environmental-literacy-guides/?ar\\_a=1](http://education.nationalgeographic.com/education/program/environmental-literacy-guides/?ar_a=1)

Facebook Page outreach- spending a lot of resources finding which teachers are most interested who will approach OEE and to build public partners. Brian is encouraging people to post on the EEI facebook page to share other resources.

OEE is looking into using Ed Moto- (education version of Facebook) sharing experiences and best practices. Must be a teacher to use it.

Powerhouse Science Museum (formerly the Discovery Center) has hired a consultant on the exhibits. Entire gallery will be "Liquid Gold" and based on the EEI unit. Anne, Carolyn Kolstad, and Brian Brown met with Powerhouse staff two years ago to share our programs with them.

Bryan was asked if any effort has been made to translate the EEI units into other languages. The Redding School of the Arts is looking at translating several units into Mandarin for their immersion classes. OEE is considering translations into Tagalog and Spanish although they aren't actively pursuing this right now. Sandra suggests we meet with the environmental justice groups in our agencies to discuss access issues to the curriculum.

## **6. Meeting Wrap-Up**

**11:50 – 12:00**

### Clarify Action Items

- Send out CEEIN Benefits document: ask members to write up hard numbers (outputs) of each organization, impacts of unified voice and collaboration.
- Anne will discuss US EPA suggestions about getting the word out about school health and safety

- Revisit MOU and strengthen it. Anne will look for most recent draft.
- Request that Bryan send an OEE rep if he can't make it to the meetings, such as Christy Porter Humpert with CalRecycle
- Anne will formerly invite Brian Brown (Project WET) to join CEEIN as a partner.
- Anne will find a guest speaker to present about Common Core and Next Generation science Standards correlations to EE
- Locate tools for assessing schools indoor air quality