***TAMS Steering Committee Call Notes***

**April 16, 2020 @ 10AM PDT**

Attending: Andy Bessler, Pat Childers, Ann Marie Chischilly, Vallen Cook, Tennille Denetdeel, Farshid Farsi, Ben Giwojna, Lori Howell, Carma Huseby, Mehrdad Khatibi, Chris Lee, Nashelly Meneses, Mike Natchees, James Payne, Camille QuickBear, Melinda Ronca-Battista, Darlene Santos

**Opening Business**

 Roll Call was completed, and there was a quorum of voting members.

The agendawas approved.

The January and February call notes were approved by consensus.

**What’s Happening at the TAMS Center** – TAMS Co-Directors

Past and Future Trainings/Courses:

* Due to the national pandemic and travel restrictions, the Meteorological Monitoring (MET) and Air Pollution Modeling courses have been postponed
* AIAQTP managers developed a questionnaire and sent to tribes requesting feedback and suggestions for the planning of webinar and online learning opportunities
* AIAQTP managers discussed how to deliver courses and meet training needs
* Majority of people requested level 1 indoor air quality training; other requests were ambient air; permits; control and pollution technology for staff; monitoring software and equipment; basic training; introduction to air quality and computations
* Pat Childers mentioned the COVID-19 tribal webinar giving kudos to TAMS, ITEP and OAR; other offices had no form of training and communication to spread out important information concerning broad audience; capable and unique; kudos to all; this communication chain made it happen
* Webinar highlights tools and mechanism that we have to share and continue communication with tribes
* What is the plan for ITEP moving forward
* How do we rank and categorize courses to be developed; still planning
* Analysis of data is priority
* Provide a review of quick analysis summary on bottom of spreadsheet
* Develop online courses and webinars that can be utilized during the pandemic and can work from home
* Good for long term for tribal professionals to utilize
* Build tribal capacity moving forward
* Continue internal discussions; short term response webinars, 1-2 hrs; discuss certain subject matters; online course takes more time
* Questionnaire included list of courses; courses can be broken down into categories
* Focus on foundation of air quality can be helpful
* Webinars can be specialized to various subject matters; basics of clean air act; fundamentals of air monitoring; good to refer back to; available for new staff learning air quality
* What can we do to assist with your needs; tasks that need to be accomplish in your workplan and deliverables; how can we get that done
* Any info would be helpful; what topics can we focus on
* Availability to internet has been a problem in Navajo Nation; participation can be difficult due to access to the internet; everyone working from home; give ample time to tribes to prepare and attend
* Lori is having problems downloading data to AQS; will send email to Martin Husk to push back deadline due to ongoing situation; will provide update to all
* Focus moving forward should be related to COVID-19 since topic is hot; people need basic information regarding proper PPE to have and how to DIY in your home, etc. hard to get cleaning supplies; tribes would be interested; COVID-19 tribal webinar was helpful
* Can add additional webinar for tribes who want immediate COVID-19 information; Mehrdad will share video with all
* Andy mentions that the ITEP COVID-19 Resources Page is now posted on the ITEP and NTAA homepage
* How can tribes better prepare themselves for future, indoor air specific, etc.
* Next steps: close questionnaire; when will we report out information back to group; depends on feedback from tribes; wait until end of this week for more responses; response has slowed; maybe early next week we can evaluate; categorize and come up with plan on how best to respond per Mehrdad

Professional Assistance:

* Mike King is unable to travel; he provided remote assistance to Washoe tribe to assist with setting up their BAM 1022 air monitor
* Go-to-meetings and zoom apps were utilized to be able to see their equipment and for ongoing continued communication
* Provided training on the operation and setup of the air monitoring equipment as well as extensive fundamentals information
* Assisted with reporting their data; Melinda and Angelique also assisted

QREST Network Update:

* Node-to-node transfer is working
* Can be used to import data and format for AQS; can send to AQS to QREST
* Working on a lot of data for a lot of tribes
* Ute Mountain Ute: working with radiological data; is now in one file; long term project; working with Janice and Mike
* Helping people with data and getting data to AQS
* Deciphering and assisting with R
* Angelique is assisting Eastern Band of Cherokee; updated tribal data tool box
* Most assistance is already remote; receiving lots of requests for data management assistance
* Lori asked if there is an AQS online training for new employees; yes, online training is available; there are also videos that teach how to register your site; Melinda can work with Lori to get data ready using QREST and submit to AQS; need to setup correct parameter codes; Melinda will setup call with Lori
* TAMS Staff already working remotely with tribes; questions asked if there are standard problems accessing or common problems; or issues reported that can be addressed and troubleshooted beforehand for effective communication to help better prepare tribes
* Capabilities that the tribes have; can they access tools
* Signal strength is big issue; call in by phone helps with screen sharing
* Access to data another issue; most people don’t have their work laptop, etc.
* Navajo nation issues with internet; not having files, etc. downloading data and information at home is big issue
* Not prepared; happened abruptly; patience working with tribes is important
* Emergency funding for tribes available; good information and need to share; can handle air quality; weekly white house call; address tribal issues; put together and good opportunity for SC members to address issues; Pat is glad to assist; develop bullets points of working from home issues, etc. questions about resources available to help tribes in the future; Chris can work with Tennille; include Lori
* QREST update; setup now; working with Big Pine Pauite getting Cindy Duriscoe connected; data review feature
* 2 QREST websites; the real site and QREST-test to use as training
* Testing AQS submittal using MET data; Melinda has set-up MET station and is submitting data
* AQS node to node feature took a month to set up; QREST can upload AQS data
* Videos are now available; working on more short videos; need feedback/comments
* 2 QC features; Universal QC forms; gaseous routine; annual form; pm form for flow rate
* Reporting function is to export data to excel; can graph; send to printer or ping
* Added logging; change limits to windspeed, ozone concentration, etc.
* Useful to log everything; logging and tracking
* On track to finish July 1; developer Doug Timms continues to work with us

**Approval of TAMS Code of Conduct –**

* SC members approved by consensus; need SC members to sign document; Chris to send out

**Flag Program for Tribal Schools –**

* Promote flag program at schools in Indian country
* Promote poster; have schools involved and students make poster for contest; raise interest and add flag program
* Run through AIAQTP grant
* Last issue of Native Voices included article highlighting work and implementation of flag program in tribal communities; good way to promote flag program
* Discuss with James how to move forward; develop workgroup and send out for future discussion; add Mansel
* SC members are interested; how to develop curriculum around flag program in Indian country

**APTI Final Course Objectives –**

* Moving forward; how to adapt training and keep current
* Present how new product will look
* Will share more information and update with progress
* Revamping online courses

**TAMS 20 Yr Anniversary Progress Report** –

* Review of draft agenda
* Mike King to assist with his drum group
* Mike Natchees will reach out to tribal elder for prayer
* Bill Thompson indicated that he did not want to travel; not able to attend for VM award recognition; provide recognition at 2021 NTFAQ
* For 50th year Clean Air Act (CAA); include tribal, ITEP and EPA speakers (Tennille; Laura, Farshid)
* Add Virgil Masayesva: reopening learning center; ribbon cutting ceremony to be added during introduction of guests; Chris will add to agenda
* Extend invite to Virgil’s family members; niece, Juliette Jeanne is board member; link to family; add to agenda as speaker
* Utilize open space in Bldg E for lunch; or setup tent by learning center; Ed could not provide definite answer due to move; security issues; will provide update
* Contingency plan; what point should we say event will not occur based on facility not available and current covid situation causing travel restrictions
* Consider hotel contract; payments, deadlines etc. (contact Valerie)
* Panel for 50 year; discuss further at next meeting; consider travel restrictions, etc.
* Work on invite list
* Chris will send email invite for next call

Submitted by:

Darlene Santos