***TAMS Steering Committee Call Notes***

**April 21, 2021 @ 10AM PST**

Attending: Andy Bessler, Christal Black, Larry Brockman, Pat Childers, Ann Marie Chischilly, Ben Giwojna, Hayden Hardie, Lori Howell, Mehrdad Khatibi, Mike King, Chris Lee, Angelique Luedeker, Mike Natchees, John Pavitt, James Payne, Camille QuickBear, Tanda Roberts, Melinda Ronca-Battista, Darlene Santos

**Opening Business**

Roll Call was completed, and there was not a quorum of voting members.

The agendawas approved and an addition was made.

The February call notes were not approved.

**NTFAQ** – Mehrdad Khatibi

* Announcement is now out regarding open registration; free to attend
* Need to register if attending; additional step to create an account
* Review schedule of events
* Encourage people to watch pre-recorded presentations; available for viewing in advance prior to NTFAQ; will get message out to folks when videos are ready
* Recorded presentations are not posted yet, waiting on others to complete and submit
* Review of website portal; need to create account to login and register
* Click on schedule for daily program information; still don’t have all details, hoping to get posted by next week including links to prerecorded presentations
* Deadline end of this week for bios, photos and presentations from moderators
* Review of breakout sessions
* Mehrdad to forward website information to SC members
* Some tribes are having issues with registration; unable to access zoom and other internet not accessible due to IT security within their tribes
* Chris and Darlene to forward NTFAQ information to SC members

**EPA Burn Wise Education Program** – Hayden Hardie, TAMS, Larry Brockman, EPA-OAQPS

* Hayden introduces Larry Brockman
* Request funding support for Burn Wise Program
* Program directly impacts tribal communities
* EPA-TAMS committed $1k in supporting education materials for the Burn Wise and Wood Smoke Program
* Voluntary Education Partnership Program
  + Key Message: *Burn the right wood, the right way, in the right appliance*
  + Goal:
* promote upgrades to cleaner burning technologies
* educate users on how to properly use their wood burning devices
* Would like guidance, direction or feedback from SC members on thoughts in making this an annual program to support and partnership with; will help with our goals and objectives
* Good for tribes; we can help with developing materials, tailor to tribal theme, add logos, etc.
* SC members to submit written response; review and discuss
* Good way to be proactive; this benefits tribes; looking for guidance and feedback for future support; is it worthwhile
* Lori to draft statement and share with SC members; provide feedback
* Chris suggests to identify or provide indication of amount were looking to provide support
* Hayden reports that this year, due to time constraints, there is $1k for support of printing materials, etc.; reasonable amount for future annual support; would like feedback from SC members if amount should be more or less
* As new ideas suggestions and opportunities comes up, there’s a tribal woodstove workgroup that Billy Toledo leads and NTAA supports, suggest to collaborate; open to partnering with others and looking at ways to leverage resources
* Challenging to get tribal specific content for outreach materials due to lack of people’s time; Mehrdad suggests to get ITEP summer interns involved that are working at tribal communities or at EPA offices OAQPS summer interns can work directly with tribal communities to develop materials and make it more tribal specific; can discuss further

**Infrared Camera Training Discussion** – Lori Howell, TAMS SC, John Pavitt, EPA

* Lori working with John; discussed idea to have infrared camera training
* John to provide overview and how it will benefit tribes
* Provide review of what cameras are capable of; how EPA and industry are using cameras to check for leaks
* Review FLIR website; offers training and certification; different types of cameras
* Mansel includes topic in his IAQ training
* Camera detects changes and heat
* Offer trainings and webinars; salesman can demo products; build awareness of camera
* Chris indicates that there is a component of the TAMS IAQ course that includes training on the use of infrared camera for indoor air quality applications
* For compliance with oil and gas operations, cameras would be used in those situations; would be good to have specific course training; useful for tribes with oil and gas; discuss further with ITEP staff
* Mike Natchees reports tribe has gas imaging camera; documenting leaks before EPA does; limitations, doesn’t tell you what gases are leaking; cost over $100k on camera

**TAMS Center Update** – Chris Lee and Hayden Hardie

Courses/Webinars – Christal Black, ITEP Program Coordinator

* Review of tentatively proposed training agenda for next fiscal year 2022
* Requesting feedback; will send to Darlene to share with all
* Identify any topics or needs in tribal communities

Staff Activity:

- Angelique Luedeker

* Will be attending Non-Point Method Advisory Meeting today
* Continue to provide assistance to students enrolled in self-paced online EI Fundamentals and EI Advance training courses
* Working on enhancements to spreadsheets for easier use; summary of NEI data for 2017 NEI data for EI Fundamentals training course
* Reminder for 2020 NEI cycle of submitting data will open some time in June; if interested in submitting data to NEI, you have until the end of December, a little into January to submit point on road and nonroad data; if submitting nonpoint, you have until March 2022 to submit data

- Josie Kamkoff

* Continue assisting QA Fundamental students
* Working with Fort Independence tribes on their PM10 QAPP, SOPs and MET QAPP
* Planning for youth and elders panel for NTFAQ
* Working on presentation with Melinda for QA conference next week

- Mike King

* Continue assisting with support calls and inquiries for TAMS loan equipment
* Organizing planning team and preparing presentations for TAMS Center training sessions for upcoming NTFAQ

- Melinda Ronca-Battista

* QREST going well; requesting reviews on level 1 data validation report template; received good feedback
* Working with region 9 on the definition of an independent 3rd party review that would qualify for data being classified as regulatory; a lot of interest in that for people who would be uploading their data, make sure it is documented
* Report template documents data and would be part of QREST
* QREST test site review of monthly stats tool
* Working with Mike King on dataloggers; getting more dataloggers connected to QREST
* Next week presenting at QA conference with Josie, plans for open QAPP which is open source version of turbo QAPP in the cloud
* Pueblo of Isleta requesting assistance with measuring radon in old church that has high radon concentrations; providing loan equipment and interpreting results helping with QC

- Chris Lee/Hayden Hardie –

* Tribes expressing interests in air toxics monitoring and gravimetric lab services; figuring out mechanism to help provide services to tribes that are requesting services
* Gravimetric contract is closed until the end of the fiscal year; working on getting new contract in place; hope to have air toxics included in contract; Hayden will contact Pat for guidance
* Equipment update; packing everything up; facility is in moving process to the new building; TAMS staff offices are packed up; working on equipment as well
* Planning on completing move to the new building in next couple of weeks
* Equipment out for calibration and factory refreshing
* Working with Chris on list of recommended new equipment; partial list; Mansel to provide input; will finalize list
* Chris reported that TAMS has received a higher number of equipment loans, there is a need to refresh and update current equipment offering
* Started with minivols and the gravimetric lab services for the minivols; now moving towards continuous monitors; need to focus more attention on new equipment since has been an increase in requests from tribes
* Air monitoring system support for tribes should be at highest quality of monitoring that can be obtained for tribal nations since they are governmental entities using data for possible legal concerns.
* Closing TAMS needs assessment end of this month; approximately 35 submitted
* Get information out to tribes to provide input and submit needs assessment
* Most input received in the past was about 50 responses
* More input means we can have a more relevant service for the tribes
* Pat sends kudos to Camille for her time and wonderful work on Laura Mc Kelvey’s quilt
* Lori requested Chris to forward email of needs assessment notice to all SC members; she will send to region 10 contact

**Update on American Rescue Plan Funds** – Pat Childers

* The key part to be aware of is that it deals with $100; there is two parts: monitoring and environmental justice
* Federal dollars geared towards making changes in infrastructure and addressing environmental justice issues and will be handled as two separate pots of money
* Ensure NTAA is prepared for a policy perspective; look at plans as they are being developed to make sure tribes interests are served
* Some funds may be used to upgrade or to replace monitors; right up our alley here at TAMS
* Make sure that tribes are aware of these opportunities and that opportunities are provided to tribes and the process that works for tribes
* Both NTAA policy issue as well as a TAMS technical issue we want to be aware of
* For environmental justice specifically, it named four statutes areas that funds can be utilized in; one was 103/105 funding areas for funding tribal air and state local air programs and the other is the DERA fund
* Make sure that there is opportunities as they are being developed, are tribal inclusive; Andy working with NTAA to make sure policy side is taken care of; make sure that tribes, we as the TAMS support organization should have all the information the tribes need to put in their application for grants to let folks know they have a monitor that qualifies to be replaced or needs new parts
* Announcements will be coming out the next month or so; some may have short turnaround timelines
* Environmental Justice grant extended deadline to June; expecting more additional funds to be in those grants
* Additional funds that we can use as individual tribes or we could help make EPA use in ways that benefit tribes
* Timelines for implementation may be short once information gets out; will provide updates as received
* Infrastructure money available

Submitted by:

Darlene Santos