***TAMS Steering Committee Call Notes***

**February 17, 2021 @ 10AM PST**

Attending: Andy Bessler, Christal Black, Chuck Buckler, Pat Childers, Ann Marie Chischilly, Tennille Denetdeel, Ben Giwojna, Hayden Hardie, Carma Huseby, Josie Kamkoff, Mehrdad Khatibi, Mike King, Chris Lee, Angelique Luedeker, Laura McKelvey, Mike Natchees, James Payne, Camille QuickBear, Tanda Roberts, Melinda Ronca-Battista, Darlene Santos

**Opening Business**

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

The agendawas approved.

The December and January call notes were approved.

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

Courses/Webinars – Christal Black, ITEP Program Coordinator

* Upcoming Webinar on March 23 - Air Quality System (AQS) Database Basics

Presenters: Mike King, TAMS; EPA OAQPS Staff: Chris Chapman, Michael Brooks and Stuart Gray

* Offered Webinar: Estimating Non-Point Source Emissions on February 16; 56 attended; increased interest in EI Fundamentals; Presenter Angelique Luedeker, TAMS
* In the process of developing scholar LMS courses: Intro to Air Quality programs and Wildland Smoke
* Kicked off IAQ Instructor Led Cohort Series Course for Alaska on February 16 using scholar LMS
* NTFAQ presentations upcoming

Staff Activity:

- Angelique Luedeker

* Presented on Estimating Non-Point Source Webinar on February 16; 56 attended; provided information on spreadsheets and TEIS; received one request for assistance
* Continue providing EI support; increased EI in Region 9 and 10; proactive with providing training to Regions
* Article in Native Voices from Angelique; highlighted technical assistance provided; announced 3 year NEI deadline; informed tribes in all regions if interested in submitting data to NEI; encourage tribes to contact her soon to avoid crunch before deadline January 15, 2022 for all sources other than non-point

- Josie Kamkoff

* Reports usual traffic in QA Fundamental course; writing QAPP course slowed down; completed Fort Independence tribes baseline monitoring program; aim for regulatory standards; also same for Colorado River Indian Tribe (CRIT); discussed with TAMS team to start taking people who have baseline monitoring programs trying to get approved standards; include quality and equipment objectives just for baseline; write in regulatory requirement
* A lot of extra work for QAPP writers to adjust QAPPs to regulatory monitoring
* Tennille asked what are some issues; Josie indicates not including precision and bias accuracy checks etc. there were regulatory issues; finer details and measurements; data quality objectives
* Editing QAPPs to be regulatory programs
* Idea to have interns trained and start a Primary Quality Assurance Organization (PQAO) program; only learn audits on TAM programs; take exam and certified; Tennille has information to share and would like to be a part of future discussions as well as Melinda Ronca-Battista
* Suggestion was made to do as TAMS project using SC resources; appropriate to help guide and steer with intern approach; run by SC and how best to move forward with developing project
* Mike Natchees volunteered to assist in running project
* Christal suggested it may be an additional topic for introductory to tribal air programs course; Tennille to share resources on training/orientation and send to Josie or Christal; how to prepare training manual; Navajo specific; plan outreach event
* Being able to collect legally defensible data is a fundamental issue for tribes and their monitoring projects
* Developing QAPPs for regulatory air monitoring is a significant issue for tribes.
* Chris to develop subcommittee meeting and formulate ideas; will send out email; include Mansel, Tennille and incorporate regional and EPA folks (Pat, James Hayden); also include RTP folks
* QA development can revamp

- Mike King

* Continue Professional Assistance (PA) projects for tribal programs: St. Regis Mohawk- assist with establishing their gaseous monitoring system; Yavapai Apache – assist with pm monitoring project measuring pm 2.5 and pm 10; Delbert Altaha assisted and provided good technical support
* Working with Tri Chapter Eastern Navajo Nation to deploy purple air sensors
* In planning phase of developing 2 part webinar course for AQS Database Basics; working with Chris Chapman and Stuart Gray from EPA/OAQPS
* Webinar 1 (March 23): basic understanding, overview of mandatory AQS codes for AQS planning and how to retrieve data
* Webinar 2 (March 30): technical components; establishing a site and monitor in AQS; format and load to AQS; correcting data in AQS, how to load QA data to AQS; support and resources; EPA developed online training resources and videos; how to receive support from regional contacts
* Camille mentions HAZWOPER course and suggests 8 hour refresher course from ITEP; Mehrdad to talk to Todd’s group since they manage course; email issues to Mehrdad to share with them

- Melinda Ronca-Battista

* QREST update: continue writing Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs); SOPs include real tribal data
* Working with St. Regis Mohawk, Fort McDowell and Pyramid Lake Paiute tribes; annual summary report
* Working on datalogger; requires software; Pat and Ann Marie approve purchase under AIAQTP funds; still need cable from Hayden; Hayden received verbal approval to place order
* Working on list of requirements for open QAPP
* Working with Pueblo of Isleta; reported high radon concentrations; setup zoom meeting

- Chris Lee/Hayden Hardie –

* Hayden/Building update: move pushed to April; working on floorplan for TAMS equipment room; storage racks and inventory of equipment
* Inventory of Rad sources
* Issue with shipping hazardous materials; i.e. lithium batteries; is there a need for DOT shipping with tribes; may need to consider; there are radiation sources in EBAM equipment; includes lead and lithium batteries
* Figure out process for tribes returning equipment; need specific training to be certified and mail equipment back; Hayden will find out training options
* Training will be useful for staff; unsure about tribes
* Mike King indicated EBAM equipment should be fine and is under limits
* Discuss further details; Hayden to get more information; what other equipment falls under hazardous material shipping
* Chris reports the TAMS managers meeting is scheduled for tomorrow; NCRFO and ITEP to discuss issues with operations of TAMS Center and develop TAMS SC Spring meeting agenda
* 4 SC positions are open; no applications received to date; SC members were reminded they can reup for another 2 years
* VM award; 2 nominations were received for Frank Spurgeon and Bill Thompson
* Nomination deadline is end of February; share information on TAMS website
* Needs Assessment Update: receiving steady flow of completed forms; received approximately 20 forms; get information out to tribes; received a few from Alaska

**Update on Coffee Talk with NACAA** – Tennille Denetdeel

* Attended call last week with NACAA advisory committee and NTAA
* Provided overview and accomplishments
* Provided TAMS update
* Focus on lack of resources and infrastructure in Indian Country
* NACAA state and local government
* How to establish communication with tribes
* Represents most states, not all per Andy
* Rewriting charter; how to improve social justice while working on air quality
* Respect tribal sovereignty
* NTAA meeting EPA leadership next week; invited Vallen Cook as TAMS liaison
* Share topics or concerns with Andy or Vallen

**Developing input from the TAMS Center on GAO report/changes in leadership** – Chris Lee/Hayden Hardie

a.Transition Plan:

* Seeking additional thoughts from SC members
* Seeking input from different groups/tribes by March to develop response to report
* QA discussions are significant and a fundamental issue
* Start work on putting documents together in response to GAO report
* Tennille suggested to discuss further on next call
* Link to report is attached to call note per Mike King
* Send out report to SC members for review and discuss further at subcommittee call

b. Regional Equipment Inventory Status:

* Information from Vallen and Darold; started draft document on Goggle doc
* Will turn over to us to complete and send out
* Chris to work on and share with all

**TAMS 20 Year Anniversary Celebration** – Online Event

* Travel restrictions until 2022
* Event will definitely be an online event; planning for Fall of 2021
* Working with subcommittee to plan

Submitted by:

Darlene Santos