**Spring TAMS Steering Committee Meeting, Las Vegas**

**March 14-16, 2017**

**In attendance:** Kent Bartholomew, Andy Bessler (by phone), Joe Cebe, Regina Chappell, Pat Childers, Ann Marie Chischilly, Pat Ellsworth, Farshid Farsi, April Hathcoat, Craig Kreman, Chris Lee, Laura McKelvey (by phone), James Payne, Kris Ray, Darlene Santos, Frank Spurgeon (by phone), Shaina White, Ed Wilds

**Tuesday, March 14, 2017**

**Welcome and Introductions –**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Craig Kreman. Chris Lee gave the invocation, and everyone was welcomed.

**Review and Approval of Agenda** –

The agenda was approved with minor changes.

**Regional Discussions and Recommendations –**

**Joe Cebe, Forrest County Potawatomi - Region 5**

* Little Traverse Bay Band requesting radon monitor for fish hatchery program (indoors) – high levels of radon from groundwater; just need ball park numbers for data; working with Farshid. Pat suggested TAC involvement, invite to calls.
* Ho-Chunk – continuous frac sand issues – purchased dual sampler (PM2.5 and PM10) for monitoring – do not want help from the state. Problem is PM4 (silica) Laura – tribe can request that silica be listed as an air toxic.

**April Hathcoat, Cherokee Nation – Region 6**

* **Ozone –** When reviewing the annual fourth-highest daily maximum 8-hr concentrations averaged for 2014-2016 for CNEP’s sites, no sites were at or above 70 ppb. I believe this was the case for all tribes that monitor in the region; however, 2015 and 2016 were mild ozone seasons.
* **Ambient air monitoring**
  + AQS – CNEP still gets some requests for assistance with loading data into AQS, but only by new users. There is a new AQS website: <https://www.epa.gov/aqs>. EPA planned to host quarterly AQS webinars, but this has not materialized; they do host conference calls specifically for tribal users, which have actually been useful. I still receive requests from other tribes about software-specific training (Airodis and AirVision); perhaps the TAMS Center could host a training or webinar?
  + 2016 guidance on annual PE audit levels - Covers how to identify the low audit level for the annual performance evaluations, the 2nd annual PE audit level (99th percentile) and the appropriate concentration for 1-point QC checks. Go to <https://www3.epa.gov/ttn/amtic/cpreldoc.html> to access the guidance documents. Also used the revised QA handbook (section 10, pages 7-13) to determine to establish the appropriate calibration scale and span check values. There was also new guidance published in October 2016 that expands the reporting of negative values for some gaseous criteria pollutants.
* **Funding -** Our FY18 grant proposal request was less than last year; we did not ask for any equipment, but we will need to replace some ozone analyzers soon. Several of our analyzers (ML9810s) are in the process of being phased out, and although we can still get parts, it doesn’t make sense to spend a lot on parts for an analyzer that will become obsolete. We receive notifications when a manufacturer plans to discontinue an instrument; not sure if the regions are aware of this information. We try to replace equipment well before the support date ends, but this may not always be possible if funding continues to decrease.
* **Grants.gov -** According to the grants.gov site, applicants will no longer be able to download the older, single PDF application package of forms for submission as of December 2017, and will instead need to use grants.gov Workspace (which is already available online). I am not sure how this may affect our submission process; CN goes through a single contact to perform the submission. I did not get a chance to inquire how other tribes submit their applications. The information is at the bottom of the following page: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/outreach/grants-gov-notices.html>.
* **Mobile monitor** – We have moved the mobile monitor from the Kickapoo Tribe location to Wyandotte Nation; it will remain on site for a year. We actually have two New Mexico Tribes (Pueblo of Laguna and Pueblo of Santa Ana) on the waiting list. There were filter-based PM10 monitors (R&P 2025s) operated at the Santa Ana site several years ago, but the data is likely no longer relevant.
* **Ambient Air Protocol Gas Verification Program (AA-PGVP)** – This only applies to organizations that use gas cylinders. The recently signed monitoring rule (published on 03-28-2016; effective 04-27-2016) contained two revisions that directly impact the AA-PGVP:
  + The **required** completion of an annual survey of the gas standards used by monitoring organizations in their program through the Battelle website.
  + The **required** participation in the program by sending one unused gas standard to one of the two regional air verification laboratories (RAVLs) **once every 5 years**. When the program was first implemented, monitoring organizations were allowed to volunteer to send standards to the RAVLs.

The survey for 2017 was recently opened at <https://www.sdas.battelle.org/airqa/>. There was an issue with setting up a shipping account last year for contacts without a “.gov” email address; this issue has supposedly been corrected, but I have not yet received my account information from UPS. For Region 7, the cylinder receipt dates are May 5th, August 11th and October 27th.

* **VW settlement** – Our upper management is aware of the settlement and our Secretary of Natural Resources has been on some of the calls; not sure how it will filter down to our department. I believe all tribes should stay informed about developments. There will be a training offered at the NTF prior to the conference (on Monday).
* **Indoor Air Quality** - CNEP offers radon, lead-based paint and asbestos assessments, but does not have a coordinated indoor air quality program like many other tribes. We currently use AccuStar labs for our radon testing (<http://www.accustarlabs.com/Default.aspx>). We partnered with TU on the Home to School Asthma Program, which provided cleaning supplies and training on how to use them for school custodians and individuals in the home, with the hope of improving the health of students susceptible to indoor air pollutants.
* **Sensor technology** – CNEP and the Quapaw Tribe each tested an Aeroqual ozone sensor in various locations and alongside regulatory monitors; correlation was good in most cases. Craig has compiled an evaluation of the study.
* **Exchange Network/E-Enterprise** – CNEP has an Exchange Network grant and participates on the Exchange Network (EN) Tribal Governance Group (TGG). Several other R6 tribes have EN grants also. The EN grant might be a way for some tribes to receive funding for special projects that cannot be supported by air monitoring grants, and can be an avenue for tribes to work together and share resources. On December 1, 2015, the Exchange Network Governance became part of E-Enterprise for the Environment; the EN joint governance model of Federal, State, Territorial, and Tribal Partners working together has been adopted by E-Enterprise. Governance consists of the E-Enterprise Leadership Council (EELC), the E-Enterprise Executive Committee (EEEC), the E-Enterprise and Exchange Network Management Board (MB), and the E-Enterprise and Exchange Network Interoperability and Operations Team (IOT). I currently participate on the IOT. In order for tribes to have equal representation on the EELC, an effort has been made to elect representatives from each region; this has been done through the RTOCs. Most regions have elected a representative; they have been invited to participate in a face to face meeting of the EELC this first week of April.

The Tribal Exchange Network was held in Alpine, CA February 28th – March 1st; several Region 6 tribes were in attendance. We had about 65 attendees and a lot of great presentations. There is still some confusion among participants about what E-Enterprise really is.

ITEP has a great website for tribes interested in the Exchange Network; please visit <http://www.tribalexchangenetwork.org/home.html> for more information about the EN and the work that tribes are doing. There will be a tribal Exchange Network meeting February 28th – March 1st; location TBD (looking at west coast).

**Craig Kreman, Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma – Region 6 and 7**

* Interest in VW Settlement
* Ozone advance - Providing information at community events (webinar next week w/ NTAA); extend outreach and education on air quality; replacing ozone monitors; will give presentation.
* Getting involved with TAS LEAN process – work to shorten process and simplify; looking to expand to other regions; Laura will have presentation at NTF; working with Kickapoo and Citizen Potawatomi – process should only take 140 days.

**Frank Spurgeon, La Jolla Band of Luisueno Indians – Region 9**

* Twenty-Nine Palms-Salton Sea – potential increase of PM; request to borrow equipment from TAMS for PM study.
* Las Vegas Paiute – request for information about downloading SOP’s and other tribes running monitoring sites; is there a list of site operators; suggestion was made to send out request on the listserv; add other information, point of contact from TACs or website
* Funding is biggest concern; asked if anyone has any numbers yet.
* Continuous work on gathering monitoring equipment numbers.

**Shaina White, Inter Tribal Council of Arizona – Region 9**

* Navajo Nation recommended a session at NTF for permitting, or maybe form a workgroup.
* Not sure how many tribes are involved with permitting.
* Laura mentioned one of the sessions at NTF will be on permitting (Ambient Policy Track); there may be an option to provide training through the grant.
* Tohono O’odham Nation – still having issues at the Mexico border. Pat mentioned the need to keep an eye on funding for international issues; should be aware and tracking.
* Wildfire season – White Mtn Apache found webinar useful; Kris mentioned there will be a training at NTF.
* Gila River – digital capacity measurement system (Virtual Technologies) training on Friday; replacing method 9. Could ITEP or TAMS fund a multi-user so tribes can use it for free? ***Action Item:*** Chris to reach out for software information.

**Kris Ray, Colville Tribe – Region 10**

* Funding – just had cuts in their region; programs barely functioning with 30% cuts.
* EPA staffing – have added people in the last six months, but they don’t have tribal experience – but they are smart, nice people who are great to work with.
* Revision for federal air rules for Region 10 moving along.
* Indoor air quality – classes going well – had member of housing dept. attend training.
* Upgrading education and outreach for preparing for smoke events. Training to be held at NTF, also a link for Smoke-Ready Communities training.
* Going to learn how to do a social media plan for PM2.5 and Facebook (working with Kathy Moses).
* VW settlement going to be a big issue in Region 10.
* Promoting tribal air programs – challenge other tribes to promote your programs (STAR report)
* Need to put a dollar amount to what we are doing. How many lives would be saved if tribal programs were funded properly? (Pat – hard to segregate our efforts from the national numbers) Ann-Marie – National Indian Health Board is working to pull some information together, as well with the American Public Health Association – may be able to get data sets from them. Also, think about partnerships in your area (on and off reservation).

**Mary Matthias, Orutsararmiut Native Council – Region 10**

Craig reported updates:

* EPA Tribal consultation on keeping toxics out of Alaska Landfills – model does not consider tribal lifeways – does not include fish and wild game, marine mammals and plants.
* Asbestos exposure – residents not familiar with risks – a school burned and debris not disposed of properly; reports indicate asbestos is present; how do they get more landowner to clean up property properly
* Develop strong partnerships; help organizations

**Ex-officios Discussion and recommendations -**

**OAR/Pat Childers -**

* Tribes are already in the spotlight (Wind River settlement).
* Currently on a continuing resolution until April 2017.
* 2018 very unknown, but direction is of concern. Need to be prepared on information submitted to OAR moving forward; draft agenda for meeting around June 14; how do you decide who to invite; one representative from ITEP, TAMS SC, NTAA, CAAC, etc.
* Region 1 Bill Thompson dropped off NTAA; need northeast voice in TAMS SC; keep committees strong with strong voice.
* Region 6 TAS awareness; what can we do as a group?

**NCRFO/Ed Wilds** –

Budget/funding is the biggest uncertainty. Looking at trend, less with less. Funding for gravimetric lab was moved from special fund and placed into budget; have begun using TAMS in RAD side of NCRFO for tribal support projects; looking to get TAMS more involved..

**OAQPS/Regina Chappell/James Payne –**

Tribal Program History:

* 1990 amendments: Recognizes obligation to treat tribes “in a manner similar to states”
* OAR lead on developing the Tribal Authority Rule
  + Proposal 1994
  + 1998: Tribal Authority Rule Promulgated
  + Initially OAR had one program staff, an IPA
* OAQPS had informal program
  + Mid-1990’s: informal team
  + 12-17 members
  + More interaction with Tribes and other offices.
* 1998-1999: Full time detail to initiate program
* October, 2000: Formal OAQPS tribal program

EPA Tribal Program Accomplishments:

* Continue developing relationships and trust with the tribes
* Developing capacity
  + Bi annual WETG Training for OAQPS staff understanding of working with tribes
  + Updated OAR Handbook on Tribal Consultation - 2013
  + OAR participation in ITEP/TAMS courses and National Tribal Forum
  + 4 Tribes on the Clean Air Act Advisory Committee (CAAAC)
* Establish infrastructure and tools to support tribal implementation of programs or to enable us to directly implement
  + Promulgation of Tribal NSR (minor/major nonattainment) – 2011
  + NAAQS Designations Policy
  + TIP guideline and SIP training
  + Class I – Redesignations Guidance
  + TAS Cheat Sheet

Outreach and consultation:

* In FY16, OAQPS:
  + Held over 60 tribal outreach events which included on-site trainings, informational meetings, webinars, video conferences, workshops, and conference calls.
  + 10 Consultations on rules
  + Provided updates/information on over 47 topics that were of interest to the tribal community or potentially had impacts in Indian country through the joint National Tribal Air Association & EPA Air Policy monthly call.

Tribal Program Guidance:

* Completed the guidance for the Regions on the TAS for the Good Neighbor provisions of the CAA (126 and 110(a)(2)(d)(i)
* Completed all the general permits and permit by rules
* Completed the FIP for new Oil and Gas development in Indian country

Residual Risk and Technology Review:

* **Air toxics -- Well into the second and final phase of the program. Overall, we’ve completed 56 RTRs so far in the second phase – more than two-thirds of those since 2009.** 
  + Air toxics program is designed to eliminate unacceptable health risks and exposures in affected communities
  + Required by Clean Air Act Section 112 and court deadline suits
    - **187 HAPs** – including carcinogens, mutagens, and reproductive toxins.
      * Health effects include cancer, respiratory illness, and harm to organ systems such as the kidneys or nervous system.
      * A highly toxic pollutant, even when emitted in small quantities can substantially increase cancer risk in exposed individuals. A less toxic HAP emitted in large quantities that expose a larger population can also increase health risks.
  + First phase (MACT/NESHAP) -- technology-based emission standards, based on emission limits achieved in practice (based on performance data, top performing 12%). These standards level the playing field for all facilities in a source category.
  + Second phase – the risk and technology review – includes:
    - Risk review -- a one-time check after 8 years to make sure people nearby aren’t at risk from things like carcinogens.
    - Technology review -- A look at the most recent technology, practices and performance to see if advancements over time have made it cost-effective or desirable to require better control
  + Results
  + **1.5 million tons** of HAPs have been reduced from stationary sources since 1990.
  + Monitoring data and emissions inventories show overall reductions in air toxics across the country.
  + NATA indicates that the number of U.S. counties with high risks continues to decline, although some concerns remain, particularly in urban areas and near large emissions sources
  + Vehicle emissions will be reduced by 80 percent by 2030 from 1990 levels.
  + **Upcoming Risk and Technology Reviews**
    - As we develop these RTRs, industry often provides significant input and information, including opportunities to streamline and harmonize requirements. A key early step in the RTR process is issuance of a data collection request to industry.  Sound data are critical to writing effective rules.
      * Deadlines for **5 categories** coming up
        + **2 court orders -** Nutritional Yeast Manufacturing, Pulp and Paper
        + **3 consent decrees** – Publicly Owned Treatment Works, Portland Cement, Wool Fiberglass (technology review only)
        + Sued on **42 other categories** where CAA deadlines have passed

NAAQS review:

* **EPA has strengthened air standards that protect more Americans from the health impacts of pollution, and underpin economic growth—making a real difference in people’s lives.**
* Our strategy to follow the science and the law has led to steady, reasonable, common sense reductions in air pollution across the United States as health-based standards have been set for common pollutants and states and local communities have developed and implemented plans to protect their communities from harmful levels of soot and smog.  EPA has completed rulemaking to consider all the recent science on each NAAQS pollutant and strengthened the standards related to ozone, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxide and particulate matter to better protect public health. EPA has also taken important steps to curb air toxics and other emissions from a wide range of industrial sources. Data indicate that we continue to make tremendous progress in delivering clean air. As compared to 1970, air pollution has decreased across the United States by nearly 70 percent while GDP has tripled.
* The agency:
  + **Set stronger, science-backed standards** for ozone (2015), particle pollution (2012), sulfur dioxide and nitrogen dioxide (2010) that improve public health, especially children’s health.
  + **Reduced emissions of common air pollutants** by 18 percent. This is a 14-million-ton reduction in air pollution, which means that 12 million more people are breathing air that meets all national air quality standards.
  + Ensured that **air quality continued to improve**. Based on data from 2013-2015:
    - 110 of 115 original nonattainment areas meet the1997 8-hour (84 ppb) ozone standards
    - 26 of 46 original nonattainment areas meet the 2008 8-hour (75 ppb) ozone standards
    - 24 of the 32 original nonattainment areas meet the 2006 24-hour fine particle pollution standards
    - 38 of the 39 original nonattainment areas meet the 1997 annual fine particle pollution standards

**NAAQS Reviews: Status Update** (January 2017) -

**(*See Attachment)***

NAAQS Implementation FY2016:

* PM and Ozone
* Final: 2012 PM2.5 NAAQS Implementation Rule
* Final: Designation of several deferred areas for 2012 PM 2.5 NAAQS
* Proposal: 2015 Ozone NAAQS Implementation Rule
* Final: Transport rule to address 2008 Ozone NAAQS
* Issued: Area designations guidance for 2015 Ozone NAAQS
* Final: Exceptional Events (EE) and Wildfire/Ozone EE Implementation Guidance
* SO2
* Final: Round 2 of area designations for 2010 SO2 NAAQS (61 areas)
* Issued: Round 3 area designations initiation letter for 2010 SO2 NAAQS
* Regional Haze
* Proposal: Regional Haze Rule and draft Reasonable Progress Guidance
* SIP Management
* Final: Source determination rule for oil and gas sources
* Issued: 6 Title V orders in response to 13 title V petitions
* Proposal: E-Notice Rule for NSR, Title V and OCS programs
* Proposal: Title V Petition Requirements Rule
* Proposal: Rule to Remove Emergency Affirmative Defense
* Proposal: GHG SER Rule to address US Supreme Court decision on EPA’s Tailoring Rule

Permitting:

* Permitting
* Final: Source determination rule for oil and gas sources
* Issued: 6 Title V orders in response to 13 title V petitions
* Proposal: E-Notice Rule for NSR, Title V and OCS programs
* Proposal: Title V Petition Requirements Rule
* Proposal: Rule to Remove Emergency Affirmative Defense
* Provisions from State/Federal Operating Permit Programs
* Proposal: GHG SER Rule to address US Supreme Court decision on EPA’s Tailoring Rule

Non-Regulatory Programs:

* Burnwise
* School flag program
* Supplemental Environmental Programs
  + Navajo
  + Eastern Band of Cherokee

Areas of Interest we are hearing from tribes for FY 2017:

* TAS process review
* Training on Permits
  + General Permits
  + Permit applications
  + Reviewing state permits
* Wild fires and wood smoke issues
* Senor technology
* Mining operations

**EPA Regional TAC/Avi Lapp/Ben Giwona –**

Bridge gap between regions and headquarters to share information.

**ITEP/Ann Marie Chischilly** –

ITEP is in several transitions: Mehrdad’s position will not be replaced due to budget issues; ITEP is now under the Office of Native American Initiatives (ONAI). Craig is scheduled to open plenary session and give opening comments at the NTF; he will acknowledge ITEP/TAMS/NTAA; he is also involved in talk show and table at ECO Café; also acknowledge Pacqua Yaqui Tribe, Casino del Sol. Biggest concern is VW settlement; ITEP will have big involvement in developing work plan and implementing consent decree. There is a page on the NTAA website, asking members to be well-versed on the issues. ITEP is hosting 25 year anniversary and celebrating on September 11. Keynote speaker, Winona Duke. NTAA is planning to have their meeting at the same time. Invitations to TAMS SC members to attend (working on getting BIA funding for travel scholarships). Ann Marie to send link to information on conference for travel scholarships. ITEP preparing for budget cuts.

**NTAA/Andy Bessler** (on phone) –

Andy/NTAA – submitted several letters to DOJ on the VW settlement; thanks to TAMS SC for leadership and providing a voice on the issue (there was a vacuum nationally with other tribes). The tribes are part of beneficiaries; there is a 60-day window for beneficiaries to claim funds for states, not tribes; Wilmington Trust is selected trustee; propose to manage settlement funds; still needs court approval; negotiate with court; can be rejected or approved. Approval will set trust effective date; trustee will set up website. Will have training at NTF. At meeting with DOJ, they stated there is no way one tribe has enough capacity to use all the available funds. We would like to see how they made this decision. EC will contact trustee; $500K for technical assistance, recommend ITEP as the entity to handle the technical assistance, thru TAMS SC and NTAA.

Elaine/STAR report – Kris - will have new data from needs assessment (provide narrative and summary report); also working on monitoring equipment list; is there specific section; monitoring section? Create another section; add importance of tribal air monitoring. Elaine needs updates by March 31st; get all narrative, tables, charts, etc. need revision time; next call 3/22, submit summary before then. Elaine request that tribes add issues, concerns, equipment needs, troubleshooting training, etc. to STAR. Highlight work, share information. Also, deadline for flash drive updates is April 14th for NTF. Next STAR workgroup call is March 22nd.

**Importance of Tribal Air Monitoring –**

**Tribal Case Studies-**

**Melanie Lawson, Choctaw Nation (on phone) -**

Melanie Lawson/Choctaw Nation – Hopes to start school flag program next year. State cancer profiles.gov map used for EI. Wind rose – winds primarily from S/SE. Concerned about funding.

**Joe Cebe, Forest County Potawatomi -**

Tribe wanted to establish baseline before Exxon moved mine in. Began air monitoring program in 2002; started IMPROVE in 2017. Applied for Class I in 1993; received in 2008. Developing AQRV (air quality related value) – could be plants, aquatic systems and visibility, or even buildings/monuments. Milkweed is affected by high ozone. Source would have to move into the county to trigger baseline. How many tribes are currently pursuing Class I? Joe – ITEP trainings were a huge help when he was getting started. Melanie – the hands-on trainings were the most helpful.

**Needs Assessment Results Review and Discussion**

* Started mid November; total responses received so far is 59 – not all included in the reports
* What are some examples of “other”?
* Tribal funding for AQ legend needs to be corrected.
* First focus area – EI Support: PA, Class, E/O (education/outreach)
* Second focus area – Air Monitoring Instrumentation
* Third focus area – Air Monitoring Instrumentation
* Fourth focus area – IAQ diagnostic equipment
* Fifth focus area – IAQ radon canisters
* Most tribes are aware of the VW settlement. As for training, they prefer ITEP/TAMS by 71%, then EPA.
* Extend needs assessment through the end of NTF.
* STAR report information due by March 31st. Needs assessment workgroup to gather the information.
* VM match letter – need another letter from TAMS/NTAA stating that only a 5% match should be required.

**Regional Summary of Tribal Air Monitors**

* Received data from all Regions except 4, 5 and 8
* Region 4 & 6 should be giving updates tomorrow
* No response from Region 8
* Waiting on Alaska data
* Compile data on spreadsheet; James can map information and put onto the Dropbox folder
* Point out state and national benefits of tribal data in the STAR report.

**Tribal Caucus -** Meeting session for TAMS SC voting members – held in hotel lobby.

**Wednesday, March 15, 2017**

**VW Settlement and the DERA Option – OTAQ**/Lucita Valiere

(fact sheet out by end of March)

* Tribes will have an annual Sept. 1 deadline to participate in that year’s allocation
* A beneficiary can split trust funds.
* Two or more beneficiaries can submit a joint request.
* “Communities with disproportionate air pollution burden” is not defined; you will define it.
* DERA option (#10) – beneficiaries may use trust funds for their DERA non-federal voluntary match.
* Tribal fact sheet should be distributed by the end of the month.
* Ann Marie – suggest they use some case studies with the fact sheets
* DERA appropriations – 30% state non-competitive, 70% National (competitive, where tribal allocation comes from)
* Unused state funds go to competition portion of the program.
* Tribal draft grant work plans due to regions October 15th, 2017. RFP launches in June.
* DOJ has not yet responded to tribal consultation.
* Andy – DOJ submitting a recommendation to the court rather that a motion, and should be done soon.

[www.epa.go/cleandiesel](http://www.epa.go/cleandiesel)

**IAQ – ORIA/John Edwards -**

John – he was appointed as director of OAR. Facing uncertain times, budget wise. Keep communication and share thoughts.

Would like to learn more about needs assessment. Radiation updates - working on regulations that would have some interest for tribal nations; Subpart W - radon emissions operating uranium facilities. Rule just signed and published on January 17, scheduled to go effective March 21. Ute Mountain Ute interested because they are close to processing facility in White Mesa UT. Part 192 uranium extraction rule - good base line before start, do proper flushing and post closure, reach stable and required levels; re-proposed rule and it is now open for public comment; January 19 FR to review rule. Chris Griffin - creating a group to review IAQ selections. Craig – Needs assessment shows need for IAQ and diagnostics.

Dave - looking at various sources of training for tribes; what can we do to drive things forward in regards to IAQ; add additional IAQ training for 2018; who can Dave work with to make the additional IAQ training happen; highlights from IED work on IAQ to provide support to IAQ and healthy homes; work on radon, asthma, etc.; support available funding and tech assistance; looking at various sources of training for tribes; recognize TAMS center highly visible and respected; talking to HUD for training available to tribes; pursue supplement current funding that is available to TAMS, or rearrange planned training to include or swap in IAQ training; -any thoughts or recent updates to make it happen?

Chris – will work with Pat Ellsworth on planning AIAQTP training course; most tribes are just getting started; the need for level 1 training has increased; recent offering from TAMS is IAQ Diagnostic Tools; offered 4 times to date; very well established; based on demand for additional courses; consistent offering, level of interest is high; other popular course is Fundamentals of Air Monitoring; also offer individual assistance with equipment. Farshid - receive more equipment loan request for IAQ due to course experience; help fund additional equipment to fill increase of requests; TAMS has 3 sets of IAQ equipment, 1 set is kept for training purposes and other 2 sets go out on loan; Ann Marie indicated that some issues with training is cost. Pat C - show success of TAMS in STAR report; funding will be decreased.

Dave - may not be able to add funding to grant; is there supplement required to go over limit; open to doing supplement; some impacts may be parallel with ambient and indoor programs; unmet demand is higher for level 2 than level 1; interest in adding additional funding to grant; TAMS to look at other audiences for training (housing authorities, architects, etc.; do outreach to increase demand; increase awareness in IAQ healthy homes for more training. Chris - Mansel and Pat working with Region 9 for training with housing staff. Dave - best action is listen to other conversations; SC thoughts; continue consult with Chris and F2 to purchase additional equipment, etc.; Can supplement money be used to fund 2 IAQ courses; to allow for equipment purchase; Ann Marie and TAMS staff to work on and discuss further.

John: no decision has been made by ORIA to refill Jed’s position, but not opposed to it; Mike Flynn oversees.

Dave: recruiting full time person to work with IAQ issues with tribes under an IPA internship.

Met with NTAA EC in DC, issue that came up was radon; remain committed to assist tribes with radon; there will be full day technical assistance training before the NTF; also, committed to work on match for grants with tribes, looking at possible solutions.

**TAMS Equipment Loan Program -**

Farshid reported that Ken has done a great job with managing the equipment. Ken – reported on status of equipment list in 3 categories: indoor air, ambient and calibration (MET Equipment; DeltaCals are in demand). There are 3 full sets of indoor air equipment for loan, 4th set is partial, missing parts (need particle counter and camera). Do we need programmable six-channel particle counters? Three-channels are available for half the cost. There are two BAM 1022s in lab – uses USB to connect on front of instrument. $17,900 per instrument. Uses same pump and tape as BAM 1020. Two Teledyne T400 ozone analyzers on order; may also order another standard.

Shaina – working with Ken to get equipment information for equipment loan page. May load technical documents to ORCA page.

Ken – are the descriptions and recommendations good enough? Will send link for our comments.

Ann Marie – can we provide links to Glenn’s video?

Review website so we can have it up by NTF.

Farshid - ordered BAM 1022 and finally received (one set up in lab) SC members would like to see; 2 teledyne on order.

Website Implementation – Shaina demonstrated the equipment loan page on the TAMS website.

**OAQPS -**

**Regina** – project officer for tribal training grant – RFA came out last summer; ITEP was selected – will work with Pat Ellsworth to coordinate training plan. Last grant did community training on the CPP and was well received; also put in new grant for community training and outreach; task process review; training on how to start permit program—wildfire issues, mining operations, hands-on training. What are we thinking for training? It is under a 3 year grant, but is only funded for two years right now. How many courses per year? Looking at 2-3 courses per year depending on training. Other training is wildfire smoke. For scholarships, put money into training first, then see if money is needed for scholarships. Set aside funding for webinar for TASK training. Maybe use some funding for training tribes in WRAP. How about a course on what you do with your EI data? How to start a minor source new source review program as opposed to a title V permitting program.

**James -**

Sensors-

* Current Technology
  + Expensive, often snapshot, big footprint with dedicated power source, may require expertise to use, often delays for lab analysis, established QA protocols, collected by government, industry, researchers, Data stored and explained on government websites
* New Technology
  + Low cost, often continuous, Small footprint or mobile, battery or solar power, perhaps easy-to-use, Real-time w/o lab analysis, QA protocol gaps, collected by communities and individuals, data shared and accessed on non-gov sites
* EPA’s ORD Awarded Six Organizations $4.5 Million to Conduct Low-Cost Air Monitoring Research Projects which has a focus on advancing air monitoring technology while helping communities address unique air quality challenges
  + Primary focus – criteria pollutants (NAAQS), ambient environments
  + Additional select sensors tested for specific applications (e.g. fence line VOC source monitoring)
* Other projects
  + Region 7 - Planned use of low cost sensors in a distributed network, citizen science via portable sensors, plus higher end monitoring.
  + Region 2 study in Puerto Rico – PM, VOC sensors used in source impact investigations.
  + Region 6 Village Green Project station in Houston, TX –development work underway testing additional sensors for inclusion (e.g., black carbon, VOCs)
  + Region 9 study in southern California –working SCAQMD, ozone and PM spatial variation assessment via sensors
  + Ongoing sensor testing and evaluation: Primarily in North Carolina (ambient, near-road settings)
  + SEARCH project in Baltimore, MD – develop custom stationary (50 monitors at 100 locations) and portable monitors (100 participants w/ 24-hr personal multipollutant monitors + GPS) measuring O3, PM2.5, NO2, SO2, CO, CH4, and CO2
* Helping communities manage and process the data
  + Smart City Air Challenge
  + including their plans to share data management methods so others can benefit
* Air Sensor Wildfire Challenge
  + EPA is collaborating with partners to prepare a challenge to develop a prototype multi-node measurement system for continuous, rapid deployment during a fire event
  + Desire for measurements of PM2.5, CO, and CO2
  + Announcement is tentatively scheduled for Spring 2017
* Citizen Science QAPP-OAR is assisting Office of Environmental Information and R1 in writing and review of a generic QAPP for air and water citizen science communities. Due March 2017
* Certification program
  + Develop an options and feasibility analysis for an independent third-party certification program, considering legal, policy, technical, financial, and operational factors
  + Options will be presented to the leadership council in Spring 2017
  + Option 1: Branded program similar to Energy Star or Water Sense (most robust)
  + Option 2: Multi-level certification; no label; limited market surveillance
  + Option 3: EPA publishes test methods and performance standards (least robust)
* Goal:  The Network will help organizations use precious monitoring resources to purchase the equipment that will meet their needs.
  + Identify for agency use new technology that is available for purchase now or may be coming to the market soon;
  + Screen a subset of those technologies in greater detail; and
  + Share that information with EPA and state, tribes, local gov’t (organizations with delegated programs) staff through a central clearinghouse, outreach, and other approaches.
* May 6th, 2016 EPA launched a new sensor scale to help people understand the 1-minute data.
  + The data is an additional tool for planning outdoor activities.
  + Messages and cut points were supported by robust statistical analysis relating short term measurements to longer term standards
* Evaluate existing data standards for communicating (displaying) sensor data
  + Custom solutions for EPA Emergency Response (VIPER)
  + EPA’s ARS and AirNow system
  + USGS’s National Stream Information Program (NSIP)
  + Open Geospatial Consortium Standards
  + Develop a metadata standard

**Technical Guidance Group Updates** –

Members of the TAMS steering committee (April, Frank, Joe, Kris, Chris) and EPA staff (Monika, Avi, Laura, Ben) initiated the revision of the Technical Guidance for the Development of Tribal Air Monitoring Programs. The Guidance is intended to help tribes plan for, implement, and assess their air quality program. From 2007, 160 pages with 8 sections and 8 appendices. It needs updating because hyperlinks have changed, technology has changed (not using floppy disks), monitoring methods have varied, funding sources have changed and funding amounts need to reflect today. Initially, Sections 1-3 had comments and markups; revised the document based off of those annotations. There are still some paragraphs or pieces in Sections 1-3 that require additional review or clarification, such as Section 2; working with Mike Papp to test the Data Quality Objective Tool. Those sections were placed on the drop box on Feb 9th. Additionally, Sections 4-6 were also placed on the shared folder on Feb 9th. Section 4 and half of Section 5 have been reviewed and revised. Checking the hyperlinks and making sure each one is available as a readable format. Still looking for additional review by the group. Plan is for anyone to add comments on validity of data or text, the accuracy of examples, and any general suggestions. Will incorporate the revisions and send it back out. Ann Marie to discuss if we will eventually make this an ITEP document. Will have to determine the cost and what grant would fund it. There have been two calls so far. The next call is scheduled for March 30 at 3pm EST.

**Regional Tribal Air Coordinators Discussion –**

**Region 1 – Eugene B**. – Tribal air is just part of his job, works with Passamaquoddy, will probably fund six tribes next year – has not been a huge fluctuation in work. Has assisted tribes with TAS. Have two 105 grants, the rest are 103 funded. Have tribes that want to do a 5-year assessment, but there is no funding. Would like to have a mercury monitor for Passamaquoddy. Tighter QA/QC – most tribes follow state requirements. No tribes have applied for DERA.

**Region 4 – Mario** (Working with Mia Smith and Darren Daniels) – doing grants work; nothing to report.

**Region 5 – Ben/Diane** – working of tribal issues; more demand than resources to allocate – there are 14 proposals, provide funding for only 12. Total request is over 2 million; 2 yr work plans; currently have 5 funded under 105 grant; working on completing two more eligibility requests. Begin giving priority to long term 105 grants. Most 105 grants are in PPGs. Ten tribes actively monitoring; looking at aging equipment and make decision to purchase some new equipment. Plan to discontinue some monitors (FRMs), not worth continuing due to age of equipment; collected sufficient data. Some tribes looking into using sensors and are struggling to find QAPPs to work from. Majority of tribes working with states, entered agreements to collaborate for monitor sites; next generation sensor technology. Class I Redesignation – Forest County Potawatomi has received; Fond du Lac and Bad River looking to do this (have not formally submitted to EPA). DERA – Leech Lake and Red Cliff Band selected for diesel grant. Diane: consultation on state of Minnesota request for state implementation plan; consult with Minnesota tribes; engage in a lot of consultation, also have monthly tribal air calls. Ben: Providing Wisconsin assistance with frack sand mining.

**Region 6 – Aunjanee** – working on Quapaw TAS – received 18 proposals for monitoring project (requesting 1.9 million but only received 1.2 million last year); funding for EI and IAQ needs. Look at non-attainment, but none are in NA. Look at existing projects to support first, but leaves no dollars for new monitoring. Utilize the mobile monitor (it is booked for next three years). Has not heard any specific complaints about tighter QA/QC. Has only managed one DERA grant (truck stop electrification). One or two tribes in NM have been curious about Class I, but nobody has officially submitted anything.

**Region 7 – Paula** – Visiting tribes to assist with updating QAPPs and manage maintenance of equipment. Only a few tribes have new equipment. Won’t get proposals in until mid-April; no tribes have 105 funding. Has not heard of any unmet needs. No DERA experience in the region. No Class I redesignation requests. Had issues with ITEP template used for QAPP (Pat Ellsworth to follow up).

**Region 10 – Mehrdad K**. – Busy with consultation with tribes on FARR revisions. More tribes requesting funding than capacity available. Prioritization: Established programs receive priority, but still encourage new grants (however, doesn’t really motivate people). Replacement of monitors – a few tribes have voiced their desire to get new BAMs and replace old equipment. About six tribes receive technical assistance from state monitoring employees; QA/QC issues – no feedback on tighter limits; DERA – several tribes have DERA; upgrades to diesel generators.

**TAMS Center Activity Updates -**

**Glenn Gehring** – There will be a Fundamentals course in a few weeks. Professional assistance (PA): Have had five this fiscal year so far. Usually between 3–5 days for each PA; receives phone calls with questions; draft video of maintenance procedure went well; plan to do more videos.

**Angelique Luedeker** –

Almost 100% of my time over the past few months has been spent on the online Emission Inventory (EI) training series.  This training series is divided into EI Fundamentals and EI Advanced.  Melinda Ronca-Battista is the co-instructor for this training series.  In EI Fundamentals, we focus on using the Tribal Emissions Inventory Software Solution (TEISS) program to assist with developing a Level 4 EI.  In EI Advanced, we focus on using TEISS to assist with developing a Level 2 or 3 EI. A Level 4 EI is comprised entirely of previously published emissions data. So for the EI Fundamentals training, we have participants import county-wide data from the EPA National Emissions Inventory (NEI) and then use the reports in TEISS to analyze data from sources around tribal land that could be affecting their air quality. In contrast, a Level 2 or 3 EI contains original data. The focus of EI Advanced is on gathering data from sources on tribal lands (for example, amount of gasoline sold at gas stations, cords of wood used in wood stoves, miles of unpaved road, gallons of propane purchased to heat community center, etc.) and entering that data into TEISS to calculate emissions from those sources.

Jennifer Williams and Natasha Fulton, ITEP, developed the online training sites for both of these courses in the Scholar Learning Management System (LMS).  EI Fundamentals is composed of six modules, while EI Advanced has eleven modules.  Each module has training material, videos, and homework exercises that participants can access anytime at the training site.  In addition, there is a webinar every Tuesday during the live offering of the trainings.  After a participant submits a homework exercise, we review the exercise and provide them with feedback.

Since we just finished the live offering of EI Fundamentals, I am going to talk about that.  We had 35 people register for the live training.  Here is some information on each of the modules.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module Description** | **Webinar Date** | **Homework (HW) Exercise** | **# Submitted HW** | **% Submitted HW** |
| Module 1-Introduction to Course | 1/10/17 | Install TEISS | 23 | 66% |
| Module 2-Introduction to EIs | 1/17/17 | Write 3 short sections of EI | 19 | 54% |
| Module 3-Introduction to TEISS | 1/24/17 | Start a new TEISS project for reservation | 19 | 54% |
| Module 4-Importing NEI Data into TEISS | 1/31/17 | Import NEI data into TEISS project | 19 | 54% |
| Module 5-Presenting Results in Your Level 4 EI With Reports from TEISS | 2/7/17 | Develop the nonpoint, nonroad, and onroad sections of EI for off reservation sources | 8a | 23% |
| Module 6-Introduction to Geographical Data and TEISS Maps | 2/14/17 | Complete draft Level 4 EI by adding the point section to the EI you have been working on | 9b | 26% |

1. Some participants skipped this homework exercise and went on to complete assignment 6 and that is fine since assignment 6 includes assignment 5.
2. We are expecting a few more draft Level 4 EIs to come in since we are still actively working with several participants.  We are still working on reviewing those that have been submitted.  This is a big task since we need to import the data into TEISS for each participant, check to make sure the TEISS reports in the EI match what we get, and review the text of the EI.  It takes at least 8 hours and often as much as 20 hours to review each EI.

Of the 6 participants that filled out the course evaluation, 100% strongly agreed that they would recommend the course to others.  This was a hugely successful training since as a result of it, at least 9 participants (and probably a few more in the coming weeks) have completed a draft Level 4 EI.  Stay tuned for the next TAMS Steering Committee meeting for exciting news on EI Advanced.  We just started the training on 3/7/17 and have 13 participants.

**Melinda Ronca-Battista** –

Currently working on several areas:

*Online QA Fundamentals* - with rolling enrollment, a lot of people from Alaska and California have signed up; has encouraging reviews from the 16 who have completed it.

*Online Emissions Inventories and EI Advanced* – working with Angelique, assembling and delivering course; for Angelique and I to review participants’ EIs, we essentially have to generate each participants’ EIs on our own computers, so that we can review every single emissions estimate. All of the assumptions, data sources, calculations, and data reporting in an EI report must be double checked, and the only way to do that is to do the same calculations ourselves. Because of this, these two courses are very time consuming, but commensurately valuable.

*Exchange Network* - conference “statistics day” and data therapy: At the Tribal Exchange Network conference in February, ITEP worked with tribal water and air monitoring agencies and an EPA OEI statistician to present a day of statistical analyses with corresponding example data analyses in excel, and a data management therapy session. We had over 17 attendees who stayed all day and used excel to construct confidence intervals and draw statistically-based conclusions from their data.

*Online data management* - working with Jen Williams and Natasha Fulton to export the extensive (37 modules, some of which will be combined) data management material into a self-paced online course. This course will include material and videos of OAQPS personnel (recorded during the national air monitoring conferences) regarding audits and nomenclature, example data management systems, many tribal examples, and will culminate in a certification module that certifies the participant as a Data Validator. The goal of this Data Validator certification is to begin to address the issues faced by small agencies who do not have anyone qualified to provide an independent QA review. With this certification, tribes will more easily have the capability for reviewing one another’s data, which is a necessary and often absent component of their quality systems. (This lack of an independent QA reviewer is the major reasons EPA labels tribal monitoring as “informational” only, which makes these programs more vulnerable to budget cuts.)

*Assistance to tribes* – regarding data analysis, responding to EPA Technical Systems Audit (TSA) findings, data uploading to AQS, QAPP reviews, and data review and validation, data analysis and interpretation.

*Maintaining and adding to our online free library -* [*www.datatools.tamscenter.com*](http://www.datatools.tamscenter.com): Tribes and other agencies continue to share their QC forms, example reports, and data evaluation templates. In the past two months, 23 new files have been added, and 87 have been downloaded by users. This work includes (in most cases, as requested by the provider) redacting all identifying information from the document to be shared.

**TAMS SC Partnerships -**

***NTAA VW Workgroup*** *-*  Carolyn Kelley is NTAA lead for NTAA VW Workgroup; suggest smaller workgroup to decide how to move forward with funding; should have TAMS point of contact (POC) person for TAMS recognition per Ann Marie; Craig agreed to be POC. Craig suggested to write a letter regarding reduced match; Andy might be working on this already (but it was broader in scope and mentioned SIRG as well).

***NTAA STAR Workgroup*** – need success stories for report; already discussed with Elaine.

***WRAP*** – Kris became involved because he was concerned with haze; revitalize. Ended up on technical steering committee.

***Tribal Air Data Workgroup*** – Kris Ray is co-chair; focusing on information gathering; James, Shaina, and Frank are advisors on the committee; what are barriers to tribes submitting EIs and submitting data to AQS; host webinar on how to use and pull data from STAR database; looking into training options.

***Other potential partnership*** – Tribal Science Council – Curtis Munoz – curious on what we are doing at the TAMS Center; partner for sensor work “Vision of Citizen Science at the EPA”; CAAAC, etc.

**Selection–Incoming TAMS SC Members -**

All SC members approved Shaina, Camille and Nicole by consensus. Discussion on having next in-person meeting the week of September 11th during the ITEP 25th anniversary – Flagstaff. Would be a joint meeting with NTAA. Craig’s term will end October 2017; Frank could re-up for two years; Shaina could re-up for five more years.

**VM Award -**

All SC members approved by consensus:

Jason Walker, NW Band of Shoshone – Policy Development Excellence

Northern Cheyenne Tribe Air Quality Department– Tribal Program Development

Meeting adjourned @ 4:15pm.

**Thursday, March 16, 2017**

**AIAQTP – Input for FY18 Trainings** – *Pat Ellsworth, ITEP*

Need to be able to explain why having courses at the TAMS Center is important (location, staff, video conferencing capabilities, etc.) Need to let ORIA know that they could assist with some of the indoor air trainings, such as webinars.

*(See attachment - Possible ITEP Air Quality Courses for FY18.)*

**NTF Planning and Participation -**

Plenary, air talk-show, air quality technical breakout sessions (four separate breakout sessions) – sensor studies, TAMS services, tribal case studies, community outreach.

NTF Planning –

* Opening Plenary Session (Craig)
* Air Talk-Show (Joe)
* Air Quality breakout tracks (4 separate sessions) technical, policy, climate change, IAQ
* Sensor technology information from EPA-ORD
* Identify TAMS services; presentation from Glen and Melinda
* Tribal case studies; importance of air monitoring (Bobbi Barnowsky; Mike King)
* Community Outreach: Colville, To’Hono O’odham

**EPA Funding Discussion** –

***Pat Childers, EPA-OAR***

* 2017 – OAR has a budget until the end of April – this could affect EPA attendance at NTF. (Depends if there is a shutdown or continuing resolution.)
* New Grant July 1st – year 3 of 5 for AIAQTP
* 2018 – 32% cut proposed – includes staff and programs; where can we make cuts if we have to? ITEP to submit full budget.
* NTAA – Year 2 of 3 – EPM funding, not 103/105
* TAS/LEAN could become very important if we have less EPA staff to help us.

***Andrea Stafford,EPA- NCRFO***

* Operating under continuing resolution
* Uncertainty after April 28
* Possible government shutdown; federal staff cannot travel to NTF
* Filter weighing costs per tribe/per year - $12K approximately

**Meeting Closeout -**

**Caucus Report:**

Communication is great, not much to report on. Discussed travel and meeting logistics.

**Review Action Items:**

1.     TAMS Story and Information to STAR Workgroup and Elaine Wilson by end of March

2.     Items for Flash Drive NTF due April 14th

3.     Mid-April Review of TAMS Equipment Loan Program Webpage

4.     Data on trainings and attendance to include in STAR

5.     Needs Assessment Workgroup development of document

6.     Get with Pat on who to forward to: Forward initial needs assessment data to interest groups

7.     Requesting deadline for VW Flow Chart with DERA Option from OTAQ

8.     Follow up with IED on helping to purchase an additional IAQ Diagnostic Kit

9.     Check with Jonathon Binder on Federal EPA Inspector Credentials

10.   Forward Ozone Sensor Reports to Laura McKelvey and Amanda Kaufmann and look to partner with TSC in future

11.   Work with NTAA/Andy on a letter to clarify/request to reduce match required on DERA option on VW Settlement (currently 25%, reduce the match total 5%)

12.   Work with NTAA on working up agenda for September 2017 Fall In-Person Meeting

13.   Following up with Laura on TAS Lean Process

14.   Multi-User software potential

15.   March 30th Deadline for Review of Technical Guidance Document

16.   Make contact with VM Award selectees and SC Nominees

17. Update TAMS website and new members.

18. Request deadline for guidance for VW Settlement.

**Final Business and Set Fall 2017 Meeting Date-**

**Next Fall 2017 In-Person Meeting will be held the week of September 11 in Flagstaff, AZ**

Submitted by:

Darlene Santos