***TAMS Steering Committee Call Agenda***

**February 15, 2019 @ 10AM PDT**

**Opening Business**

Pat Childers, Vallen Cook, Farshid Farsi, Lori Howell, Chris Lee, Laura McKelvey, Mike Natchees, James Payne, Camille QuickBear, Melinda Ronca-Battista

The agenda was approved.

The October In-Person Notes and December Call Notes: Question about notes from James Payne regarding TAS. Will correct and add to the October notes.

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

Past and Future Trainings/Courses:

* IAQ Diagnostic Tools course for February was postponed because of the federal shutdown.
* Melinda Ronca-Battista explained about the R Training Course at the Fond du Lac Community College on the Fond du Lac Chippewa Reservation.
* Helen Waquiu, formerly with Pechanga and now with state of Minnesota, took the R Training and recommended it as a training for tribes.
* R is a platform that allows people to develop statistical scripts that allow to manage air monitoring data.
* Vallen Cook took the course and felt it was very useful and helpful.
* Melinda had requested that the instructional team from the R mini course at the Fond du Lac be invited for a new 3 days course to be offered at the Pechanga tribe this summer.
* Questions were asked about conducting this course as a one-day training session scheduled on the preconference training day of the NTFAQ.
* Melinda explained about TurboQAPP 3.0. offering more flexibility.
  + Output was always problematic.
  + ALS have changed validation tables and changed links.
  + Opens up in editor so can change.
  + Working with Lakes to update on a shoestring budget.
  + Have embedded links and files.

Professional Assistance:

* No in-person PA projects setup yet.
* We have Yavapai Apache with PM10 equipment pending and Kickapoo Tribe request also pending.
* Pat Childers indicated that Mike King will be invited to participate on the Tribal Air Coordinators call to introduce himself.
* Kickapoo Tribal request is urgent because they are currently being denied their funding right now because they aren’t up to speed with maintaining their CASTNet site. The issue may be more that the problems with the CASTNet site.
* Farshid indicated that he is working with the HoChunk Tribe to bring them into the TAMS Gravimetric Laboratory Service.

TREX Network Update:

* In November of 2018, had a call with the TREX member tribes and operators, Sutron and ITEP, to discuss what to do to keep the service operating after the emergency funding is depleted this coming October 2019.
* Sutron indicated they would continue to still provide service to the Tribes at the same rate that they indicated they could provide the service for when the emergency funding was initially sought.
* That amount was $135-140 per tribe/month.
* For this year it included a 3% increase for inflation.
* Sutron did not want to contract individually with the tribes and requested that ITEP continue to receive the payment from the tribes and then turn around those payments as a lump sum to Sutron.
* We have not informed the tribes of the amount for this service yet because we are pending further information from Sutron regarding paying a smaller amount to Sutron because not all of the currently active tribes should not come back to the service in the new year.
* A question was asked about new tribes.
* New tribes can be added and their support will be absorbed by the current funding.
* Starting October 2019, new tribes will need to pay their own amount into the service.
* Sutron will continue to provide the service and set-up the equipment.
* Pat indicated that tribes should request the additional funding in their grant proposals for next year in order to have the available funding.

**Spring In-Person Meeting/Possible Shutdown Scenario** - **All**

* President Trump did sign the continuing resolution so we now know that the previously planned in-person meeting will move forward.
* It will not be necessary to identify a plan B.
* The TAMS SC decided to go over the draft in-person agenda.
* Pat C. suggested changes to allow time savings on the last day.
* James Payne suggested adding a discussion item on the in-person agenda to respond to comments that were made by Richard Freitas regarding working with tribes.
* Kris Ray, Colville, had a good response to Richard Freitas.
* Make recommendations to the Agency on policy evolution and for the TAMS SC to suggest to the agency a better awareness on their part to help them understand how this QAPP LEAN process affects the tribes.
* Will be added to the agenda on Tuesday afternoon from 3:15-4:00.
* CASTNet is interested on taking an open slot as well, 11:15-1200 on Tuesday.
* Mike Natchees will share information from Region 6 tribes on their technical support needs on Wednesday 11:15-12:00.
* Is there specific PA processes for CASTNet?
* TAMS has general PA procedures and can find ways to assist with all types of air monitoring networks such as CASTNet and IMPROV.
* Tribal case studies, Catawba and S CA Tribal Air Collaborative.
* Sensor technology, case study tribes Red Cliff and Leech Lake.
* Chris will be contacting Camille on the session on IAQ and Meth.
* ORIA will not participate on the IAQ and Meth session.
* Expert from Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate can provide help on how to clean up.
* Where help is needed is answering questions regarding what are the possible health effects from a meth house.

**Inviting NREL to fall SC meeting regarding their availability of resources** - **James Payne**

* James proposed to have Sherry Stout, the NREL representative present on the in-person meeting.
* Farshid suggested to include in the timeslot that was initially left open for Amanda Kaufman.
* All TAMS SC agree that it should be placed on the agenda.

**Invite newly Federally recognized Virginia Tribes to utilize TAMS Services - All**

* Pahmunkey Tribe is the only tribe in Region 3 so far that has requested EPA funding but nothing air related yet.
* Group agreed that it would be good to draft a letter to the Region 3 tribes about the TAMS Center services.
* TAMS Co-Directors will draft the letter and share with the TAMS SC for their input and confirmation.
* Pat suggested to possibly coordinate with the NTAA.
* Contact Andy Bessler to see what NTAA is doing.

**Replacement of TAMS SC member(s)** - **Camille QuickBear**

* Nicole Johnson – Resigned; Need new Vice-Chair
* Two nominations to replace Nicole have been received by the TAMS Center for Darold Wallick, Pala, and Delbert Altaha, White Mountain.
* Nominations still open until Feb 22 and so selection will be made at the in-person meeting.
* Farshid asked Pat if he had reached out to Mary Mullin regarding a possible Alaska representative.
* Taylor Smoke – Attendance availability
* Provision in the TAMS SC Charter that applies to physical attendance of the TAMS SC members had been triggered by Taylor.
* Taylor has informed Camille that he would be missing the upcoming in-person meeting and has already missed his first in-person meeting.
* The TAMS SC all agreed that Taylor missing the upcoming meeting will be triggering the provision, and thus the commitment is not there.
* Camille will send Taylor an email regarding what the TAMS SC has decided regarding his position.
* Once this correspondence occurs, then the position will be opened and a call for nominations will be executed.

**TAMS Technical Needs Assessment Discussion** – **All**

* Chris sent a Draft final Needs Assessment Report to the TAMS SC.
* Chris is asking the TAMS SC for a final review and approval from the TAMS SC.
* After final approval, then need to determine what to do with it, i.e. does the TAMS SC want to share it at the next NTFAQ and what other locations should the report be shared.
* Mike suggested taking about two weeks to get a thorough review before being able to recommend final approval.

Before adjourning meeting, Camille requested all TAMS SC to contact Avenues of the World to confirm their itineraries for the in-person meeting in March.

***There will not be a Conference Call in March due to the in-person meeting scheduled for March 5-7, 2019 in Las Vegas.***

Submitted by:

Darlene Santos