**TAMS Steering Committee Meeting, Las Vegas**

**March 8-10, 2016**

**In attendance:** Andy Bessler (by phone), Joe Cebe, Pat Childers, Ann Marie Chischilly, Pat Ellsworth (by phone), Farshid Farsi, Aunjanee Gautreaux (by phone), April Hathcoat, Mehrdad Khatibi, Craig Kreman, Chris Lee, Laura McKelvey, Tracie Merrill, Kris Ray, Darlene Santos, Lydia Scheer (by phone), Frank Spurgeon (by phone), Shaina White, Ed Wilds (by phone)

## Tuesday, March 8, 2016

**Welcome and Introductions -**

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

**Approval of Agenda and Minutes -**

The agenda was approved with minor changes.

**Regional Discussion and Recommendations -**

**Joe Cebe, Forrest County Potawatomi – Region 5 Update**

Ozone designations taking place, still areas in non-attainment. Frack sand mining coming back in Wisconsin. Washington DNR initially state that frac sand was not contributing to PM 2.5 and said it was more of a water issue. The silica component is sharp and is probably PM4. This shape is a concern and there is a push to monitor for it since it is in demand.

There is a tribe in southern Wisconsin (Ho-Chunk Nation) that wants to monitor for PM2.5 and PM10. Farshid added that Thermo Fisher has an instrument head for PM4. Ho-Chunk has contacted TAMS about monitoring, not a request for equipment yet, but would like to do up front work. Craig asked if we could replicate the EPA Region 5 Air Journal (no funding mechanism, done by tribes), incorporate into the Status of Tribal Air Report (STAR). The website should be able to capture tribal snapshot.

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

* Ozone designations, daily max 2013-2015, no sites above 70.
* Still receiving many requests for AQS assistance; converting all EPA websites to Drupal.
* Ozone Designations Mapping Tool, March 23, 2016 can help support tribes in designations process. (Laura will check if they are asking people to register and to encourage more webinars.)
* Submitted grant application.
* Attended the Tribal Exchange Network Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, February 9-10, 2016.
* Attending the Tribal Summit in Dallas, TX, April 13-15, 2016.

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

**Region 7:**

* Scott Weir (Kickapoo Tribe) is working with the climate change grant. Kickapoo Tribe has a small-footprint CASTNET site. Joe Painter (Winnebago) just finished up funding request, no other reports.
* Pat made a suggestion to get involved with Office of Atmospheric Protection (OAP) for a presentation.

***Action Item***: Add to agenda for CASTNET to present at next TAMS SC call.

**Region 6:**

* Jackpile Mine (Pueblo of Laguna) is looking at setting up a monitoring station.
* Caddo Nation is looking at doing lead monitoring.
* Ecotech has been aggressive with Delaware Nation, trying to sell VOC-sensor and other monitors. A suggestion was made for TAMS to provide a contact list of preferred vendors or to utilize an existing listserv.

***Action Item***: Chris to draft a letter about listserv for SC to view.

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

* Numbers show that La Jolla has some of the highest ozone numbers in the area; borrowed equipment from the TAMS

Center in June.

* Tribes need to understand ozone transport issue. Higher elevation can cause high ozone, but unable to verify.
* Tribes in Southern California are trying to put together a consolidated PQAO; will discuss further during call with EPA Region 9.
* Tribes are still calling with AQS questions; directs them to the TAMS videos which have been very helpful.
* Laura will be presenting a session on ozone transport at the National Tribal Forum (NTF); maybe Frank would like to present.

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

* Tohono O’odham Nation received an E-BAM; QAPP is still at EPA pending approval.
* Pasqua Yaqui Tribe (southeast of Tucson) did not receive funding for an air program, they were denied. They are

very small and do not have an environmental program; more concerned with indoor air. TAMS is working with them to set up an E-BAM.

* Hualapai has a very old air monitor (20+ years old) that often breaks down and hoping to get replaced; need funding.
* Suggestion was made to add hardship and issues on STAR report. Interested in using an E-BAM at a new agricultural site close to the reservation.
* Attended the Diesel Emissions Workshop (Gila River) – technical grant to apply for DERA funding. Possibly ITCA can apply on behalf of other tribes. ITCA is working on bridging gaps between states and tribes on the SIP process and the CPP.
* Working Group Meeting at the end of the month; will get a better idea of tribal air programs.
* Request that Frank contact Nevada tribes (Justin Stang with Washoe) for updates.

**Tracie Merrill, Seldovia Village Tribe – Region 10**

* Survey available for those doing research in the artic region over the past few years – closes March 15th
* Alaska Road Dust Survey (get a better understanding of issues in rural communities) – closes May 2nd
* Open Alaska seat on NTAA – nominations closed February 26th
* Alaska Forum on the Environment was held recently.
* Murres (sea birds) are still turning up dead in Alaska; not sure why they are starving and also, not breeding. May be climate change related.
* UAF Smoke – all Alaska wildfire information (see Tracie for web address)
* PSP News – 7 southeast Alaska Tribes for Toxins Program (Sitka heading program) to monitor algae blooms – a lab was just created where they can test shellfish for toxins; regulatory methods will be used soon.
* Ocean Acidification Project – collecting samples and sending them in.
* Youth road dust video contest.
* Several dust management project ongoing.
* Road dust monitoring tribe-to-tribe help, mobile hi-vol air sampling, helping to develop OTAQ and mobile emission monitors.
* Barrow is putting together an RFP to do dust testing. Will know within a few months if successful. They are getting their own monitoring equipment so help from DEC is not needed.
* Nulato and Nikolai are also doing some dust management work.
* Exchange Network - Chickaloon Village is also flowing water quality data and may flow data for a nearby tribe.
* Region 10 EN face-to-face meeting in Seattle, June6-7 (Tracie will call in and send information to Lydia.)
* State submitted AQS Codes and Verification; no update received.

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

* Proposed FY2017: No increases in tribal funding.
* Kris wrote an email about possible ramifications of not getting additional funding: stability of staff and programs may dwindle, salaries can’t keep up with cost of living, GSA and travel are getting cut; can’t provide preventative measures, struggling to sustain programs. We are on a trajectory for an unsustainable future. Did EPA recommend an increase for tribal programs? Laura responded that a recommendation for tribal programs to receive an increase was submitted. TAMS and NTAA need to engage the NTC; they meet with administrator level. Air may not be at the top of the list, it could be water, indoor air, GAP, solid waste, etc. Need to make sure grants are being utilized and is not going back to EPA. Get people to understand the tribal side of monitoring. Success of TAMS to segregate from other funding to become more stable. Pat recommends a comprehensive needs assessment (indoor and ambient together). What is the need beyond current funding and unmet needs. Can EPA calculate how many lives have been saved due to tribal air programs? 812 study perspective: for every dollar spent on clean air act, we get “x” number of benefits. Doesn’t break down by tribal programs, but by all programs.

***Action Item***. Pat and Laura to provide copy of the report. Laura will have Tammy demo OTS and provide a summary and go

forward; look at quantifying benefits of tribal air programs.

**Ex Officios Discussion and Recommendations** -

**Laura McKelvey, OAQPS -**

* Moving forward with CPP, and the current stay – we can’t implement it or improve a plan, but that doesn’t mean you can’t work on a plan. Laura can provide background information if needed.
* Clean energy incentive program – can use allowances to get funding.
* Title V Petition Proposals – agency can reconsider formal process; need to put in more structure around the petition process.
* In the process of responding to decision by courts to have us reconsider MATS analysis – necessary and appropriate funding.
* Finalizing rules for NO2 monitoring redistribution – most studies show there’s not too many high concentrations.
* Regional Haze – second round of SIPs will be due soon; updated rules will be out soon.
* Lead NAAQS Review Process (science stage) - mining related impacts; will be out for public comment soon (talk with Laura on separate call about responding to comments in the future)
* Exceptional Events rule is still out for comment.
* Ozone implementation rule guidance just came out. Designations process – worth giving a recommendation even if you are in compliance. Sit in on the webinar and check out resources available to you.
* Site remediation – in conjunction with OSWER.
* Will be finalizing all four of the oil and gas rules, PM implementation, and several others. Have to get everything before September (before administration changes).
* Clean Energy Incentive Program (CEIP) funding and tribal set aside, allowances to receive funding, state will utilize allowances and can help offset investment. Energy Efficiency Low Income Communities, breaking down some barrier for low-income communities. Tribal or Community Level and working with potential NGO (non-profit). What constitutes low income?

**Farshid Farsi, NCRFO –**

* Ed Wilds, was interim position – as of February 22nd, he is the Director.
* The NCRFO Lab was reopened for business January 1st after Field Operations Guide (FOG) assessment. Radiation emergency response is the main function of this lab.
* The quality of the lab needed to be improved in 2011. The Gravimetric Lab was closed under this same order, contracted lab was hired.
* In 2012, the lab was reopened for business but did not get used because of other documents not in order; 2016 Field Operation Guide (FOG) assessment.
* Radiation analysis could help tribes; Navajo Nation has used the service and visited Grants, NM (Jackpile Mine). Scanner van, 2013 Pueblo of Acoma, no follow up work happened with radiation service. Ute Mountain Ute, Spokane, Laguna, Acoma. Radiation concern to fracking.
* Efforts are being made to find additional resources for tribes and working with Dave Rowson in how to work this out.

***Action Item***. Pat recommends presentation on NCRFO Lab and how it fits in with TAMS as a whole.

**Andy Bessler, NTAA –**

* Active IAQ Needs Assessment extended to March 31st. 56 tribes responded.
* Working on the STAR report – significant revisions this year. Discussing successes and challenges rather than focusing on Regional needs.
* Calendar of proposed rules so NTAA can decide what to prioritize; potential policy work.
* New policy advisor role has been filled; tribes benefit from CPP.
* NTAA now has 102 member tribes; how are they benefiting from being a member?
* Election for Alaska member seat is ongoing.
* Assist with any revisions or additional sections for the STAR after reviewing the draft.
* Are there any recommendations for NTF sessions or joint sessions with TAMS? Ask tribes for success stories for STAR.
* Tribes are helping tribes: Pilot Sensor Studies, Ozone Advance Program, Indoor Air Experts to CAAAC, PQAO, fires in the Pacific Northwest.

**Mehrdad Khatibi and Ann Marie Chischilly, Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals –**

* AIAQTP Workplan, 1st year of 5 year cooperative agreement (July 1st to June 30th cycle)
* Incorporate recommendations into workplan, following trends of tribal air programs.
* Secured new agreement with BIA, Climate Change Grant - boost training for climate change; plan to have a steering committee for that group (five tribal members, five others); two year grant, but looking to work out relationship, more from a training curriculum standpoint. Develop five courses this calendar year and seven the following year. Should have better idea of training outline after RTOC Region 8 meeting in March.

***Action Item***. Share with TAMS SC and also reach out to advisory committees in respective regions (get list of

advisory committees).

* Gearing up for ITEP 25th anniversary next year. NAU developed a five minute video.
* Uranium issues and Navajo Nation Training.

**TAMS Air Toxics Guidance Paper Discussion:**

* Provide background to the development of the air toxics guidance paper.
* Initial funding to begin the School Air Toxics project was $250k in 2009.
* Over 4 years, 9 projects were completed and approximately $150k was spent and $90k is remaining.
* Remaining funds were spent down to purchase other monitors.
* It was recommended to develop a concept paper to advertise and secure additional funding to provide more projects in the future.
* Funding resources are limited, but EPA is willing to support the continuing of service if new tribes are utilizing the service.
* What is best way to inform tribes of the air toxics service?
* Monitoring equipment is available at TAMS Center and is ready for deployment.
* Cost for laboratory analysis is big question mark; other options are available (regional funding).
* Following draft version provided to SC from TAMS, several iterations went back and forth and the SC is ready to approve this document by consensus.
* NATA is updated to 2011; will amend paper to include new data.
* Number of Tribal Air Toxics Program can help Regions secure more money, but will be taken elsewhere.
* EPM money does not exist, front loaded request for TAMS services needs to be requested.

***Action Item***. Finalize and attach cover letter summarizing paper and send to: Steve Page, Chris Grungler (OTAQ), Mike Flynn, Julie Simpson, and Jason Walker; cc: to Pat and Laura.

**Future of Tribal Air Monitoring –**

Initial Needs Assessment identified the technical support needs of tribal air quality programs nationwide and aided in helping develop services that better meet tribal air program needs. A priority of the assessment was to determine if a need for air quality filter weighing services still existed. The results of the survey clearly showed a demand for a variety of reasons. From this, the SC produced a filter weighing service concept paper providing guidance on how the TAMS Center will implement the service as well as a guidance document on how the steps needed to set this service in motion.

Recently, a letter was sent to participating tribes that their 3 year period is coming to an end and will need to seek funding elsewhere to continue filter weighing services. But this is a great opportunity to get additional tribes utilizing the service as the Concept Paper indicates.

The 2012 needs assessment also identified types of support needed to implement IAQ. The SC with EPA partnership developed the IAQ Implementation Plan which highlighted the current status and future need of IAQ which included: equipment, training, professional assistance and IAQ resources. Radon was also explicitly highlighted in the IAQ Implementation Plan. Staffing was also highlighted in the plan. Several SC members have participated in the NTAA IAQ Workgroup, and the NTAA IAQ Workgroup has indicated that they appreciate the partnership.

The TAMS SC surveyed EPA Regions to compile a list of air quality monitors being used by the Tribes. The report, “Summary of Tribal Air Quality Monitors by EPA Region,” clearly showed the aging equipment being used by the tribes. The plan is to reach out to the regions every two years and provide an updated “Summary”. Hopefully with each iteration, we can paint a more accurate picture of the monitors tribes are utilizing to assess air quality. This summary was reported at the 2015 NTF and was circulated to the Regions and HQs.

The TAMS SC also saw the need to develop a monitor spare parts coordination services as the “Summary of Tribal Air Quality Monitors by EPA Region” clearly showed the aging equipment being used by the tribes. It was indicated that approximately 60% of the equipment is aging. Many tribal monitors are no longer supported by the manufacturer, making obtaining replacement parts problematic. This service is very close to becoming active.

The new technologies for air sensors are very exciting to Tribal Air Programs and the TAMS Center. The TAMS Center is purchasing sensors and the SC is developing guidance and SOPs for sensors. Should not take away from tribes monitoring for NAAQS, though, should be used for screening purposes.

Joe Cebe mentioned that there should be a separation of funds between indoor air and ambient air. Indoor air is becoming more popular, ambient monitoring gives the tribes’ power due to NAAQS comparison and attainment/non-attainment designations. Pat Childers indicated the need to find another funding source to make pot larger for tribes, similar to what the states do, for indoor air. Capping of funds does not help tribes. Indoor Air Funds is also taking away from ambient monitoring.

There was discussion on a TAMS Certification Program. In order to have a better idea on what a TAMS Certification could be, the group suggested getting more background information on the numbers of tribal professionals whom have taken one course, two courses, and three or more courses. Mehrdad indicated that the data regarding training could be obtained.

In summing up the discussion on the future of air monitoring, Laura suggested that the successes of the TAMS Center be put together to tell the story to those whom will be coming in with the leadership change. The timeframe would be next year when the new administration is coming in and so we have time to do the data mining. It was mentioned to make sure that David LaRoche is aware of the OTS. Tracie Merrill also stressed that the Alaska Tribal information is included in the reports.

**Potential question of next Needs Assessment: Would it be helpful to have a Curriculum to get to certificate**

***Action Item:*** Gathering Data (ITEP) and have available for future call.

**Tribal Caucus -**

Meeting session for TAMS Steering Committee voting members – held in hotel lobby.

**Wednesday, March 9, 2016**

Dave Rowson, Director of Indoor Air Environments Division joined the meeting via phone line.

**TAMS Equipment Loan Program –**

With the current manager position being vacant, the question was raised whether the position could be filled with a fulltime, salaried EPA employee. Farshid responded that the current effort was to continue to fill this position with an employee through the National Older Worker Career Center (NOWCC) because this process was the quickest way to backfill the position. The letter to Mike Flynn, ORIA office director, from the TAMS SC is still under consideration and even if there is a positive response to the letter requesting to make the TAMS equipment manager an fulltime EPA position, that process at a minimum would take at least 8 mon to a year to complete. To counter possible future turnover issues, the TAMS Center could build a pool of trained tribal professionals by always having an internship position available through the ITEP internship program.

The status of equipment currently on order was provided. The EVM-3M particulate sensors were purchased and would soon be arriving at the TAMS Center. The Aeroqual 500S ozone sensors were initially purchased in August 2015 and are still on order. Farshid will contact Pat Childers to determine what is causing the delay in completing the purchase.

The TAMS spare parts listserv needs to be set up as soon as possible so tribes with aging equipment can begin sharing information on equipment needs. To address the issue of aging equipment, there needs to be a systematic approach so that changing out tribal air monitors is not appropriating additional funds for replacing equipment. Kris mentioned the TAMS SC is not setting policy and will not recommend how regions prioritize their STAG funding for tribes.

***Action Item: 1)*** List of aging monitors – Tim Hanley, OAQPs; 2) Chris to draft announcement to tribes the listserv functions on spare parts and questions.

**ORIA–IED/Indoor Air Quality –**

Dave Rowson, EPA-ORIA Indoor Environments Division (IED) Director, indicated that the IED is looking for ways to better collaborate with the TAMS Center. Dave provided a history to the IED’s past and current work with tribes. Jed Harrison started some good communication with HUD and now that he is retired, the IED is intending to carry on that effort. Dave mentioned the funding available through HUD Office of Native American Programs (ONAP) for addressing mold issues and funding under the National Disaster Resiliency Grants. Dave stated that the IED would like to help tribes apply and more successfully obtain the funding from the HUD, and to help tribes more effectively implement the IAQ programs. The IED has had webinars with tribes in the past and anticipates working with the TAMS Center more collaboratively could be helpful. Would the TAMS Center be a communication vehicle for sharing information with the tribes or will it be more of a collaboration? IED is setting up an IAQ IPA position to work specifically on tribal IAQ issues. Dave mentioned they would need to prioritize the IED’s role in support: Does the IED attempt to handle all the support tasks identified or does the IED have the IPA position assist in directing the funding from the other agencies to the areas/tribes with the most need?

In helping identify tribal needs, Craig Kreman mentioned that the TAMS SC has developed the TAMS IAQ strategy document and that currently the biggest issue is most tribes address IAQ issues with the housing programs as opposed to the environmental programs. The NTAA IAQ Needs Assessment was recognized as a resource for highlighting the tribal needs. The NTAA IAQ Needs Assessment is still in progress.

**Consolidated Primary Quality Assurance Organization Assistance –**

Frank Spurgeon provided a history and an update on the Western Intertribal Air Collaborative Consolidated Primary Quality Assurance Organization development activities. Ten years ago the tribes in the southern California area began working together through the Southern California Tribal Air Monitoring Collaborative. In 2011, the SCTAMC worked with the TAMS Center to develop a PQAO workshop to help the tribes begin forming a consolidated PQAO. At the workshop, it was identified that the Quality Management Plan (QMP) was a necessary part of the project. The tribes have been working on this since 2011. The draft QMP has changed direction and is now being modeled after the California Air Resource Board example. Current tribes involved are La Jolla, Pala, Pechanga, and Morongo. They are currently drafting a cost document. The TAMS Center can continue to provide assistance via training and equipment. Through the Probe Audit equipment was sent to Region 9 to build two audit stations, one trace gas capable and one with standard capability, and has not been returned. Farshid will get an update when the equipment is to be returned. Also, the TAMS Center will review the PQAO information document and update if necessary.

***Action Item:*** 1) Recommend support from TAMS on equipment (work with OAQPS on securing equipment for TTP equipment) – get instructor and class for TTP; 2) Request for Melinda to update document “Saving Tribes Money by Forming PQAOs”; and 3) Farshid to work on getting audit equipment returned.

**Regional Tribal Air Coordinator Discussion –**

The Regional Tribal Air Coordinators (TACs) participated on this session via phone. The TACs in attendance are Eugene Benoit-Region 1, Gavin Lob-Region 2, Eva Lamb-Region 4, Monica Lacka-Region 5, Aunjanee Gautreaux-Region 6, Ron Schiller-Region 8, and Nancy Helm-Region 10. All the regions provided a summary of needs and activities they are experiencing from the tribes in their regions.

*Region 1* - It was reported that overall more funding would be helpful. The Wampanoag is working on designating a Non-Attainment Area. Has not been much turnover in Region 1 tribal programs and reflects in good work done by all tribes in the region. Tribes have consistently indicated they would like training to come to Maine or see that more scholarships are provided. EPA sees issues with not enough detail in reports. Another idea expressed is what can be done to increase program/project funding.

*Region 2* - Saint Regis Mohawk is a successful program. Seems to be a low level or lack of interest from the other tribes. Training on AIRNOW and other air data tools would be helpful. Is there a training to identify the available tools to tribes that do not have air quality programs? ITEP can investigate this further.

*Region 4* – All tribes are doing good work. Poarch Creek Band of Choctaw are working on air monitoring and would need technical support. There seems to be a focus on IAQ issues and so training should focus on IAQ. Of 50 area identified in the “Making a Visible Difference” community report, 15 areas related to air.

*Region 5* – Intertribal Council of Michigan (ITCM) is working on an air monitoring collaboration with the state of Michigan. Forest County Potawatomi is working on their Class 1 project. Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe and Bad River Chippewa are part of the state of Minnesota’s PQAO. Concerns are funding, aging air monitoring equipment, sensor technology, using forecasting tools in lieu of air monitoring.

*Region 6* – Concerns from region 6 include funding, hands-on support, and IAQ. The Intertribal Environmental Council (ITEC) has been helpful in reaching out to Region 6 Tribes. Region 6 has four new tribes with TAS. Tribes conducting air monitoring or with air monitoring concerns include Alabama Coushatta-Air Toxics Monitoring and Acoma-DERA project. It is hard to for new tribes to get support to begin new air monitoring projects. Monitoring to address uranium issues has been a concern.

*Region 8* - Two new tribes have applied for air quality funding, Rosebud Sioux and Crow Creek Sioux. Training needs include ITEP IAQ Training. May be other non-IAQ topics but person reporting works exclusively on IAQ. Does know that Spirit Lake Tribe is concerned about a source and want to conduct air monitoring. Concerns from region 8 include staff turnover of tribes and environmental programs, funding issues and oil and gas related issues. Fort Peck Reservation will have a training on Visible Difference (Health Home and Indoor Training).

***Action Item:*** Mention in STAR Report Visible Difference training in communities.

*Region 10* - Successes as identified in the Status of Tribal Air Report (STAR) include the Nez Perce Tribe, the Confederated Tribes of the Colville, the Quinault Tribe, the Couer d’Alene Tribe. Tribal needs include tribes indicating a need to grow programs, IAQ funding, keeping a focus on ambient air quality. Tribes seem to have a need in getting their data in the AQS. Could have TAMS or OAQPS conduct webinars for AQS submittal. Have heard from Alaska Tribes that it is very expensive to travel from trainings and would be looking for regionally available trainings. Would possibly need a Region 10 Permit Training.

**TAMS Center Activity Update –**

Farshid updated on the filling of the TAMS equipment manager position. A person has been selected and the TAMS Center is awaiting the response. Farshid also shared information on the communication about the end of service with the tribes utilizing the TAMS gravimetric laboratory service through the contract laboratory.

Chris updated all on the IAQ Diagnostic Tools Course that occurred in early January. Chris also updated on equipment loan activity with Manzanita and the Navajo Nation. Chris also updated everyone on the Fundamentals of Air Monitoring Training which is a new course being offered at the TAMS Center.

**Glenn Gehring –**

* Shared information on the Ozone designation map to include recently reported data from 2015
* Reported on PA conducted with the Catawba Nation in South Carolina.
* Explained that the new Fundamentals of Air Monitoring course is being developed to provide information to the tribal professionals on what the responsibilities are of a site operator. This is a level 2 course and an effort will be made at providing an overview of the various tasks involved in maintaining three different air monitoring stations. Those stations are a particulate air monitoring station, an ozone monitoring station, and a NOx/SO2 monitoring station. Information will also be provided on the other air monitors available for loan from the TAMS Center, i.e. the minivols, the dust trak, the BAM 1020/EBAM, and the air toxics monitoring equipment.

**Melinda Ronca-Battista –**

* QA Fundamentals to go online
* Working with Lakes to update TurboQAPP to QAPPMap
* Working individually with the Gila River Indian Community and the Fort McDowell Yavapai Apache Tribes

**Angelique Luedeker –**

* Provides support on TEISS.
* Angelique expressed an issue with receiving a large number of National Emissions Inventory (NEI) submittal requests at the last minute that cause problems with allowing for adequate time to enter the data into the NEI. The TAMS SC suggested developing a timeline for submittal to allow Angelique more time to assist with NEI submittals. Angelique will develop a timeline and share with the TAMS SC for outreach to their tribal program contacts. The timeline will also be shared on the TAMS website.

**TAMS Needs Assessment –**

In preparing to conduct the next needs assessment, the TAMS SC inquired about whether the ITEP could get some assistance from the NAU with revising the current needs assessment. Mehrdad indicated that staff from the NAU would be available during the summer timeframe. The TAMS SC then discussed forming a subcommittee to begin working on the next needs assessment. Shaina White agreed to head the subcommittee and set up the calls.

***Action Item:*** Craig Kreman will set up the first call for the TAMS Needs Assessment subcommittee.

Initial discussion on the current needs assessment includes

* rewording the first question
* asking what is the overarching goal of the needs assessment
* providing a narrative of why we want the survey and the results
* further discussion on the focus areas and the support needs

**Selection of new TAMS SC Members and the Virgil Masayesva Environmental Excellence Award Recipient-**

The two TAMS SC member nominations received are for April Hathcoat, Cherokee Nation, and Joe Cebe, Forest County Potawatomi. April and Joe are current sitting TAMS SC Members and so they can renew their current position for another two years. The TAMS SC agreed by consensus that they would accept the nominations of the two current sitting SC members thereby appointing them to another two year term to end September 30, 2018.

Three nominations were received for the Virgil Masayesva Environmental Excellence Award, Angela Benedict-Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe, Rosalie Kalistook-Orutsararmiut Native Council, and Craig Kreman-Quapaw Tribe. Craig Kreman removed himself from the nomination pool. The TAMS SC agreed by consensus to select the two nominees to receive the Virgil Masayesva Env Excellence Award in the following areas, Angela Benedict-Tribal Program Development and Rosalie Kalistook-Policy Excellence.

**Thursday, March 10, 2016**

**NTF –**

Received an update from Lydia Scheer via phone on the current NTF planning efforts. The TAMS SC discussed their input into the Tribal Air Quality Show and suggested the future of tribal air monitoring and sensor technology as topics of questions to discuss on the show. Craig Kreman will put the questions together.

**EPA Funding Discussion -**

Pat Childers expressed that it is a good idea for the various tribal media advisory groups work with the National Tribal Caucus (NTC) on getting their information and stories to the OMB. Chris mentioned that the TAMS SC appeared to not be on the NTC’s listing of tribal partnership groups. TAMS should be on that group and Craig can start by making contact with Scott Clow, Ute Mountain Tribe, who is the air quality lead on the NTC.

***Action Item:*** Craig to contact Scott Clow, NTC.

**AIAQTP -**

Pat Ellsworth participated by phone and provided a summary of the upcoming courses. There was an inquiry about whether there would be a sensor course. Tracie Merrill mentioned that the TSI DustTrak information would be good to include in the Fundamental of Air Monitoring Course or a Sensor Course (if one is being developed). The TAMS staff will discuss with Laura McKelvey a possible sensor course. Kris Ray suggested two topics for possible courses, 1. Preparation/planning for disasters and emergencies and 2. Education and outreach of air quality information. Mehrdad Khatibi shared information about the upcoming Mining Life Cycle Training: Tribal Engagement and Environmental Responsibility.

**Tribal Caucus Report -**

The TAMS SC still emphasizes their effort to provide recommendations without prioritizing them. They stress that ambient air monitoring is an emphasis. They realize that the sensor technology is on the cusp of being more relevant and useful for tribes. The discussion on the TAMS Center Certification is good but there needs to be more thought on this topic.

**Meeting Closeout -**

Craig shared his listing of action items/deliverables:

* Laura and Craig would begin work on determining if there is a way to put a dollar value on the lives saved by funding tribal air quality programs.
* NCRFO lab services with TAMS – set up a meeting
* Ozone mapping tool
* Mehrdad will pull training data
* Follow-up with Tim Hanley
* TAMS to contact Dave Rowson for ONAP contact information
* Follow up with Region 9 and Mark Shanis on the TTP Audit equipment
* Craig and Chris will work with Angelique on getting a timeline developed for the NEI support
* Chris will work with Melinda Ronca-Battista on updating the PQAO information sheet on the TAMS website
* Craig and Chris to contact Scott Clow about the NTC.
* Begin communicating with tribes interested in the TAMS gravimetric laboratory service and also put a notice on the TAMS website regarding availability of the service beginning September 2016.
* Begin developing a transition document for new leadership.

**Final Business -**

The next fall meeting proposed – September 27-29, 2016. The next monthly call is April 20, 2016.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Submitted by:

Darlene Santos