

**Fall TAMS Steering Committee Meeting**  
**Las Vegas**  
**October 9-11, 2018**

**In attendance:**

Kent Bartholomew, Pat Childers, Vallen Cook, Farshid Farsi, Lori Howell, Carma Huseby, Nicole Johnson, Mehrdad Khatibi, Monika Lacka, Chris Lee, Angelique Luedeker (ph), Mike Natchees, James Payne, Camille QuickBear, Melinda Ronca-Battista (ph), Darlene Santos, Taylor Smoke (ph), Andrea Stafford

**Tuesday, October 9, 2018**

**Welcome and Introductions –**

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

**Review and Approval of Agenda –**

The agenda was approved.

**New Member Orientation –**

- TAMS (Tribal Air Monitoring Support) Center Collaboration, TAMS Charter, TAMS Workplan, TAMS Policy Documents were reviewed
- Outgoing SC (Steering Committee) members Kris Ray and Joe Cebe attended by phone; welcomed new members and provided guidance and a summary of ongoing and accomplished work
- Mehrdad provided a review of the AIAQTP (American Indian Air Quality Training Program) Cooperative Agreement

**TAMS Center Activity Update –**

**Angelique Luedeker:**

- Emissions inventory (EI) work: submitting data on behalf of tribes into EPA's database; deadline January 2019
- Reviewing data, ensuring calculation is correct
- Wrote template for Level 3 EI
- Develop example template for Level 4 EI
- The more EI coming from region, more funding can be available; help tribes per Pat Childers

**Melinda Ronca-Battista:**

- 35 new files for sharing, data toolbox. sharing online library (reports, examples, etc.)
- Meeting in DC report out; 12 different workgroup; streamline processing of QAPP in Regions; providing more consistent resources; develop useful resource tool; look at current training needs and resources, where are gaps in training?; look at what a requirement document looks like, what grantees need to submit; develop consistent set of requirements; what needs to be submitted for QAPP; shared services for tracking QAPP approval; system tribes can access for update on QAPP review
- Meeting was productive; learned what happens in regions reviewing QAPP
- Will send document that outlines tasks
- 5 new example QAPPs being reviewed; PM 2.5 filter base, shipping requirements; for online courses; working on cost estimates; develop proposals
- TREX discussion

**Technology Specialist III:**

- Glenn Gehring retired end of June; vacancy
- Utilized peer-to-peer mentorship Professional Assistance support
- One candidate applied; interview went well
- Offer to Mike King, Navajo Nation; he accepted; background check pending

**Kent Bartholomew:**

- Revised equipment list on TAMS website
- Update website and delete Glenn's info; add Kent's info
- Purchased audit pm (particulate matter) monitor BGI PQ200 which has an FRM designation
- Review and give suggestions

**TAMS SC Ex-Officio Discussion –****Andrea Stafford/NCRFO:**

- 2 primary missions: TAMS Center funding for equipment purchase; radiological emergency response support and other disasters i.e. radiation, etc.; assist with crossover assistance for recent Region 10 fires
- Partnered with emergency response with EPA cooperative agreement; offer annual 40hr HAZWOPER workshop per Mehrdad Khatibi
- Host 40hr HAZWOPER here at TAMS; and radiation courses
- How often is HAZWOPER offered? (CQ)
- One major activity; funding impacts; lease expires September 2020; will affect TAMS direct; actively working with EPA facility group; headquarters working with GSA; meeting Thursday for new information/update

**Pat Childers/OAR:**

- Regional organization chart is being restructured
- Policy issues
- Oversee couple grants: NTAA (National Tribal Air Association), AIAQTP (American Indian Air Quality Training Program)
- Prioritize work; only so many resources; what to focus on
- Oversee STAG (State and Tribal Air Grants) funds; \$12M; flatlined; cut \$3M
- We are positioned well to receive more funding; 70 percent tribal air is OAQPS; ambient; OAR, IAQ, etc.
- Need to weigh in and help with air quality issues
- Contact with administrator's office; air quality; not only water or waste
- New focus with EPA and how to work with tribes; focus on tribes implementing

**James Payne/OAQPS:**

- New Division Director was announced
- 6 divisions; policy analysis division; central operations and resources (COR); air quality assessment division; air quality policy division; health and environment impacts division; outreach and information division;
- Mainly in Outreach and information division
- Gather and review air quality information; share with regions
- Report information to congress; policy rules and regulations, regional haze
- Monitoring air quality; hazardous air toxics, pollutants
- Provide technical assistance; and policy; i.e.; air toxics sampling; assist TAMS with identifying and how to dispose monitors; seek regional help
- Also work with environmental justice; even if not federally recognized; help to connect with other resources

**Monika Lacka/TAC:**

- Region 5; represent TACs (Tribal Air Coordinators); resource to tribes in all regions
- Bring concerns to headquarters
- Monthly TACs meeting
- Discuss regional concerns
- Project officers, grants specialist; also restructuring

**ACTION ITEM:**

- Call tomorrow on agenda with TACs; opportunity for SC members to address air quality issues in their regions
- Avoid losing grants; go forward to continue work

**Mehrdad Khatibi/ITEP:**

- Work closely with all program managers on workplans and budgets.
- Ann Marie Chischilly is Executive Director; share issues of concern
- Actively working on current open positions: Pat Ellsworth retires end of October; she will continue part time for a year; position soon to be posted; instructional specialist position to develop more online courses; will be advertised after Pat's position is filled
- In the 4<sup>th</sup> yr of the AIAQTP cooperative agreement; prepare for recompeting; suggest ideas and what we can do better to improve, etc.

**Andy Bessler/NTAA:**

- Executive Committee met in St. Regis Mohawk; great meeting; made key decisions; policy response kits in process; SC cosigned letter; strategic plans; provide early comments; do SC members want to cosign?; last year NTAA cosigned letters with TAMS; proposed federal tribal cuts; national program managers guidance; will send documents to new SC members; need by October 23; sending something in next few days; concerns for tribal air programs; doesn't address climate change and how EPA is handling
- Analysis for tribes; letter; fact sheet
- Draft EPA guidance Title V sources adjacent
- Producing kits for clean power plan
- Recording will be on website
- Policy kit for EPA
- Highlight white paper for cooperative federalism
- Comparing STAR Report (Status of Tribal Air Report); highlight tribal air programs around the country; section on TAMS and SC members; need input; workgroup calls create content for STAR report; call starts in December
- Sending letter to national tribal caucus; request air issues added to meetings; air quality issues
- Preparing representatives for next CAAC (Clean Air Act Advisory Committee) meeting

**TREX DISCUSSION –**

- TREX Network is a proprietary software that allows for tribes to share their air monitoring information online; The TREX Network funding through the NEIEN grant ended in September 2017. Tribes using TREX approached TAMS to see if there was a way to keep TREX operating.
- Sutron indicated they could keep providing support for the TREX Network at approximately \$130/mo per tribe; currently 20 tribes identified as TREX users but number of tribes actively using TREX is 15. In addition to Sutron cost, there is an NAU cost for housing and maintaining the TREX Network servers
- OAR and OAQPS assisted with finding emergency funding that was provided to keep the TREX Network operating for two years utilizing an OAQPS grant to the ITEP. Need to identify way to keep the network operating or find/develop a new tool for the tribes to use.
- Develop comparison chart; include costs, etc. per Pat; Mike Natchees mentions his tribe pays one time fee \$300 per user
- Upcoming call with TREX users; share information and layout options available
- What is goal of TREX? Continuous reading; real time data; advantage for TREX is immediate information is available online; critical for sharing with other tribes; easy access to information; continue to work with Sutron; independent service; best short term solution; develop software solution in cloud as replacement

**ACTION ITEM:**

- Daniel Dix can assist; work with Minnesota tribes per Vallen Cook; discuss further with Melinda Ronca-Battista; set up call with Daniel Dix
- Can Access data thru Smogwatch; AirNow per Vallen
- Less than \$3-4k/yr to run servers per Mehrdad
- Sutron includes water side; good to have water information as well as air quality
- Put together list of requirements for software bids for developers (MRB); email helpful information to her

**ACTION ITEM:**

- Chris to draft document and send out before next call; send maps of regions per Camille

**TAMS Needs Assessment –**

- Draft has been created; Chris provided presentation on report and reviewed document
- Done several times, 2014, 2017; team of SC members subcommittee; questions revised to obtain additional information
- Focus areas on various topics
- Support needs based on services provided at TAMS
- What were overall results? Tribes still having trouble with data management; overall response was expected; most tribes that responded have air funding; a few didn't
- Find ways to attract tribes with no funding for more information and details of those tribes (Pat C)
- SC members developed needs assessment; wanted to identify need to focus in other areas
- Make effort to get broader feedback from tribes (MK)
- Confirm that things we're doing is still important
- Where can improvements be made: SC members to get involved

**ACTION ITEM:**

- SC members to review document thoroughly and agree to move forward and finalize
- discuss at next TAMS call;
- share with TACs and STAR report
- Chris to email to all

**Regional Equipment Inventory Summary –**

- Chris shared raw data report
- Still no data received from Region 8; Mike Natchees and Camille to request data from regions and will report out
- TACs working on strategy for setting funding aside for aged equipment (ML)
- Determine equipment needs to be maintained or replaced; how do you prioritize

**ACTION ITEM:**

- Chris to send data report and graphs to all for review and further discussion in future calls
- Who would like to take on and continue reporting out to share with other regarding what we are seeking? Effort needs to be made to revamp equipment
- Develop workgroup to continue with strategy plan

**QAPP Review –**

- QAPPs getting lost and not approved; how to prevent; work out solution; develop implementation plan; divide into groups

**Wednesday, October 10, 2018****OAQPS Report/James Payne:**

- Final Draft Guidance completed and provided to original '18 SC members. Any changes will be provided to TAMS. Will update as needed with new information, looking at major changes every 5 years. Asking new members to look at version on drobox site for review/comments before making final.
- 103/105 Air Quality grants
  - one-pager providing information and comparison of 103 v 105. Identifies considerations and limitations.
  - upcoming webinar
    - Created draft outline for talking points on webinar.
    - Asking Frank Spurgeon to be on webinar regarding process.
  - Information was presented to the NTAA EC.
    - NTAA potentially reaching out to the 35 tribes that have TAS (Treatment-As-State) for water but not for air.

- Wanted to present and clarify the 2 funding opportunities for tribes under the CAA and TAS under 105
- Not discussing GAP
- 103 funding has traditionally been the initial funding mechanism for most tribal air programs, providing opportunities to start and develop projects. Such projects may include EIs, monitoring, AQ assessments. 103 also provides a way for staff to develop professionally through trainings, meetings and conferences. Project based
- 105 is programmatic funding meaning it is for implementation of a program. Activities may be the same or different under 105, but the difference is that the actions can continue as a program, rather than a project which should have a start and end period.
- The TAR (Tribal Authority Rule) provides that tribes can receive TAS for 105. Can receive 105 funding with or w/out TAS, but there are advantages to TAS
  - Prior Notification-if a region is going to lower or discontinue funding, prior notification and a public hearing is required. With that, funding is considered more secure than 103
  - Having TAS reduces the obligatory match from 40% to 5% for the first 2 years. After 2 years, the Regional Administrator may make a determination that increases the match to 10%. At that point, the tribe has the option to apply for a match waiver that would reduce or eliminate the match.
  - Determination of eligibility or TAS for 105 is straightforward if TAS for other EPA programs has been established.
    - 34 tribes with Water Quality Standards, 25 tribes with 105 only, 24 tribes with both
    - TAS requires the delineation of boundaries, which may be difficult or compromising to tribes.
      - 105 funding can be placed into a PPG (Performance Partnership Grant), providing another way to reduce the match to 5%.
- Woodstove workgroup endeavors
  - National focus but with specializing/individualizing regions.
  - Each regional call has developed notes including data gaps and potential partners.
  - Outreach letters request for someone from agency to join workgroup.
    - Intended to increase the number of people on calls, insights into wood stove change outs in regions, and possibly increase partnerships.
  - learning from others, for example be careful about first time use of stoves, offgas from new product.
  - NTAA may host a webinar on how to set up a wood stove program, providing success stories and lessons learned.
  - Had a call with NACAA (National Association of Clean Air Agencies), getting in touch with NESCAUM (Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management) to discuss their work with wood stove change out programs.
  - Worked with Chimney Sweeps across the country, because they inspect the chimney and appliance, share tips with owners on best burn practices. Shared workbook with them. Will be modifying activity book to include encouragement of getting chimney/appliance inspected every year.
  - Could be good to have an in-person meeting. Could potentially use NTF or the Hearth, Patio, and Barbecue Expo.
  - Outreach letter will be sent out along with partners list
  - Updating Wood Smoke Working Group webpage
- BenMAP
  - BenMAP-CE is an open-source computer program that calculates the number and economic value of air pollution-related deaths and illnesses. The software incorporates a database that includes many of the concentration-response relationships, population files, and health and economic data needed to quantify these impacts.
  - At NTF?
- Provide information regarding the ARA program
  - ARAs are trained to be dispatched to an incident to assist with understanding and predicting smoke impacts on the public and fire personnel. They analyze, summarize, and communicate these impacts to incident teams, air quality regulators, and the public.

- ARA's are technical specialists with expertise in air quality science including: air quality monitoring, smoke modeling, pollutant health thresholds, and communicating about smoke risks and mitigation. During wildfire incidents when smoke is a concern, their objective is to provide timely smoke impact and forecast information and messages based on best-available science.
- What they do
  - Provide, install, operate air quality monitors and interpret data for base/ICP/ spike camps and communities as needed.
  - Summarize information about current air quality conditions compared to national health thresholds and communicate findings with partner agencies and the public.
  - Utilize and interpret national smoke models and run fire specific models to provide forecasts of future air quality impacts.
  - Assist safety officers and others addressing incident personnel impacts from smoke.
  - Advise on how to reduce risk and mitigate smoke exposure of the public and personnel.
  - Support IMTs in public meetings and in media such as Inciweb, AIRNow and smoke blogs.
  - Coordinate with public health agencies and air quality regulators to address their concerns about smoke impacts of fire operations on the public.
- Training info
  - The annual training will be in April, located in Boise.
  - There is about a week to week and a half worth of pre-training course work.
  - There is no cost for the training; however, transportation and lodging are not covered.
  - Class size is about 18 people.
- Contact Pete Lahm @ the U.S. Forest Service for more info at 'pete.lahm@gmail.com' or 'plahm@fs.fed.us' or visit <https://sites.google.com/firenet.gov/wfaqrp-external/home>
- AQ for wildland smoke class
- Sensors ASIC update
  - Local, State, and International government agencies generally view sensors as a supplement, not replacement, for regulatory grade instruments. Sensors are often characterized as three tiers - "regulatory/compliance monitor", "professional" or "mid-tier" sensors, and "consumer" or "citizen science" sensors.
  - There is general support and interest in performance targets for air sensors and enhanced data quality. Local agencies (SQAMD or Southcoast Air Quality Management District) and the private sector (voluntary consensus organizations – ASTM, data management companies) are moving forward in their own way that may be similar but also differ in important ways.
  - Sensor data ownership is a big deal in international sensor projects, especially those in developing countries. A number of manufacturers in the exhibit hall were not open to sharing raw data with users. Many of them offer paid or unpaid subscriptions to their algorithm corrected data sharing platforms.
  - Most people deploying optical PM sensors are also doing in-situ calibration with reference monitors, which is great, but because of variability in the size distribution, this may not be enough to accurately characterize the uncertainty or error.
  - There are a lot of proposed data frameworks and sensor vendors seem to have backed away from only offering a model where the sensor vendor owns the data. Cities in California are already grappling with the situation where there are multiple sensor networks from different vendors and SQAMD is building an IT system for this purpose.
  - Machine learning is being actively researched and investigated for a variety of applications related to sensors and sensor networks. We heard a few presentations on using machine learning to effectively figure out how to help do calibration in the field or on the fly.
  - As indicated by Rob, Google, SQAMD and others are developing data frameworks for storage, analysis and display of sensor data. Especially the Googles of the world have a significant comparative advantage in data handling etc., we need to figure out what role we want to play in this arena given that there are others taking the lead in this.
  - EPA and other valued performance evaluations remain a vital component of this area.
  - Purposeful use of sensor data is still in the eyes of the beholder. Performance targets needed to help clarify good versus poor quality instrumentation.

- There seems to be a disconnect between researchers and community users. We provide a lot of information for communities/citizens to help them implement studies using sensors or analyzing sensor data. We assume that they are using it but that is not necessarily the case. Either there is way too much information, or it is too hard to find. Providing more information does not always translate to being more helpful.
- There is potential to work with important groups (e.g., manufacturers, government, and academics) to facilitate the use of appropriate messaging. Some examples: the deployment of Purple Air sensors (USFS, Kris Ray); California ARB - Data Portal; University of Washington - San Ysidro monitoring network in Imperial Valley CA.
- The opportunities presented by sensors are energizing community groups, as well as teachers and students, to become “community scientists.” Based on the presentations by communities at the conference, they understand the importance of collecting high quality data and partnering with academic or government organizations.
- The opportunities presented by sensors are energizing community groups, as well as teachers and students, to become “community scientists.” Based on the presentations by communities at the conference, they understand the importance of collecting high quality data and partnering with academic or government organizations.
- State and local sensor use is becoming more serious. Especially CA which is using sensors for new legislation.
- People were very surprised at extent of EPA evaluating sensor systems. People want to work with EPA for sensor evaluations and/or participate in research.
- Wildfire smoke sensor issue highlighted because of the sensor challenge, good example of what EPA is trying to do.
- CA AB 617 – law is pushing the envelope, how to we help or learn from their experience, what seat if any do we have at the table.
- Lots of repeated interest from community groups for hazardous air pollutants and VOCs. No low-cost VOC specific sensors.
- Air quality district managers who attended the meeting all appear to see the end goal as making substantial, localized improvements in public health, based on combined data from regulatory and sensor networks. Other benefits they expect are: democratization of data, improve emissions inventories, capacity building for disadvantaged communities and tribes. As part of the process, CARB and SQAMD will each be developing data platforms to manage all the sensor data from multiple dense networks.
- if you want regulators to take you seriously, focus on QA/QC
- Visualization tools will be critical for non-scientists and general public to understand sensor data.
- Ongoing challenges and opportunities amplified by many
  - Need performance standards and test protocols. Multi-tiered, or pass/fail? Formal ASTM process?
  - What is health or activity message for 1-minute/short term data?
  - Need studies assessing longer term (1 yr +) sensor performance
  - Community projects: can be resource intensive, deal with basic issues such as education, what monitor to choose, power, siting, communication, vandalism.
- QAPP Lean
  - Anytime grant funds are provided to collect environmental data, a QAPP (Quality Assurance Project Plan) is required. Should be completed and approved prior to data collection.
  - OEI (Office of Environmental Information) provides the guidance and policies that outline the requirements. Regions implement the conditions
  - EELC (E-Enterprise leadership Council) met last April and agreed that the review and approvals of QAPPs were too long and inconsistent within and outside of the regions.
  - WG (Workgroup) was created to undertake a Lean Kaizen process to understand and identify issues across the nation and across all medias.

- WG consists of a rep from each region (QA managers), 2 from OAR, 2 from OW (Office of Water), 1 from OLEM (Office of Land and Emergency Management), 2 from OEI, 2 state, 2 tribes, and Melinda
  - Problem statement: Tribes and States experience lack of clarity, delays and inconsistencies in EPA's review and approval of their QAPPs. Time Transparency Consistency
    - Time
      - Regions differ in number of days committed to review
      - Regions organized differently, and workload varies
      - Regulation requirements may change, affecting QAPP renewal
    - Consistency
      - QAPP content vary by statute/regulations and program/project
      - EPA G-5 allows for a graded approach
      - Regions may have supplemental guidance/checklists
      - Inconsistent use of EPA G-5 Guidance checklist for review
    - Transparency
      - Process steps vary by region, common elements exist
      - Regions vary in their use of information technology/applications
      - Communication barriers between EPA and grantee
  - Course of events at meeting
    - Day 1
      - Map current state of the 10 regional processes
      - Report out on best practices and challenges/pain points
    - Day 2
      - 3 groups: Root cause analysis (fish bone)
      - Brainstorm solutions
      - Prioritize solutions
    - Day 3
      - Develop implementation plan
      - Report out
    - Implementation plan-Over 20 action items, most with targeted completion dates by the end of this year. Surveys, develop communication protocol, use a database to track workflow, assessments, SOPs, training for EPA staff on interpretation of QAPP requirements, digital signatures, prepare summary of available fillable electronic forms to use,
    - Some immediate needs will be fulfilled, long term will take some resources including time
  - Recommendations for process changes falls into two categories:
    - Development of QAPPs; Clarify QAPP development requirements as early as possible; make QAPP guidance clearer, more consistent and less subjective; enhance capacity for grantees to develop/revise QAPPs and for QA reviewers to provide feedback/assistance
    - Review & Approval of QAPPs; Streamline the review process, where needed, to eliminate steps and standardize workflows/steps; and develop a means for tracking QAPPs throughout the review/approval process
  - Findings will be presented to the EELC tomorrow
    - Discuss fate of QAPP WG
  - Monitor the Lean effort through E-enterprise governance
  - OEI will assess the resource needs for some of the action items.
- Flag Template
  - Would like to host as a TAMS document until 508 compliant
- Oil & Gas
  - September 11<sup>th</sup> period opened, comments not yet.
  - Doing technical corrections
  - Engineer & fugitive emissions (?)

- Affordable Clean Energy Act
  - Comment period closes on 31<sup>st</sup>.
  - Change from within fenceline monitoring to sector monitoring
    - Best emission reductions w/in fenceline vs CPP (Clean Power Plan) sector
  - Changes FIP timeline
  - Changes how other regs are implemented
- Tribal Implementation Plan Guidance is out
  - Contact Toni Colon
- Regional Haze Roadmap
  - Scheduling
  - Planning Process
- Peter Tsirigotis
  - Restructuring the division
  - Combining S/L/T-may have impact on how we can conduct training
  - Looking to incorporate small business
  - Staff of 13 down to 7
  - Don't currently know the impact
- CAA & Permitting class to be held last week in November

#### **ACTION ITEM:**

- Work with OAQPS; testing sensors; what are other resources; work with Amanda
- Need overall policy developed from TAMS SC; develop subcommittee to work with OAQPS; move forward with purchasing additional sensors
- Do other regions have loan programs?
- Template created AQ flag program; tribal document; custom to own language, use photos; can make TAMS document; Sec 508 compliant is accessible to anyone
- Oil and gas rule; streamline implementation, etc. open comment period 60 days; comment period closes 31<sup>st</sup>
- Regional haze road map is now available
- New director; restructuring division; uncertain impact; combine state and local programs
- CAAP course in TAMS last week November

#### **Election of Officers –**

- SC members voted and elected Nicole Johnson for Chairman and Camille QuickBear for Vice-Chair

#### **TAMS SC Representatives-Discussion and Recommendations –**

##### **Nicole Johnson, Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska – Region 10:**

- AQ outreach has stepped up
- Statewide AQ survey; 250 tribes; received 40 responses
- 60% focus in IAQ; road dust program suffering; not enough monitors; quantify there's a road dust problem; more IAQ requests for improvements
- Rehabilitation of former meth houses; big issue; mold and mildew remediation in villages

##### **Camille QuickBear, Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate' – Region 8:**

- Camille shared plan regarding testing homes for meth, etc.; equipment used is \$40k; Pat suggested to present as leader and share with tribes; housing inspectors are certified for testing
- Brought donation blanket for Mike Papp; handmade by Camille and ladies of her tribe

##### **Lori Howell, Shoshone-Bannock Tribes – Region 10:**

- Flag program popular; just ordered flag; Coeur d'Alene Tribe started their program
- Wood stove workgroup and VW settlement
- Wild fire issues; lots of calls; unsure of locations

- What is status of FARR (Federal Air Rules for Reservations)? No revisions; being worked on; areas within FARR the region working with tribes affected by new change; everything on hold; headquarters limited amount of engagement; not ready to review or implement; no recent studies from Region 10; no other regions working on

**Mike Natchees, Ute Tribe of the Uintah-Ouray Reservation – Region 8:**

- Interest in grant management instruction
- Oil and gas
- Amend to streamline permitting
- Four regional monitoring sites; co-manage with contractor in Salt Lake; they do data management; moving towards becoming independent; maintain sites now with Lonnie
- Tribes to become more independent; trust responsibility with agency to help tribes; should focus
- What is size of staff; manager to retire in December; any succession planning; wait until last minute
- Is there effort in developing their own permitting program; never seriously discussed; challenge with permit sent to them for review
- Good relationship with Southern Ute; instructor at permitting course did good; ITEP can support peer-to-peer training with Ute tribe per Mehrdad
- Tribe and state do not get along

**Vallen Cook, Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa – Region 5:**

- Finished TAS application; submitted last year
- PM 2.5 monitor for last 10 years
- IAQ, last couple years
- Working with tribal government
- Request more training on wood smoke; participate on calls with weather service; coordinated effort with national weather service that impact communities; join work groups
- Several requests for modeling course; currently being offered April 23-25 at the TAMS Center

**Carma Huseby, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe – Region 5:**

- Wood smoke is big; changed 4 recently
- Mining meeting next week; will have update
- BAM numbers high; can see via Smogwatch

**Taylor Smoke, Saint Regis Mohawk – Region 2:**

- Received grant to do radon testing with HUD program
- Hosted NTAA meeting two weeks ago
- Monitor for NOx, SO2, PM 2.5 and ozone; metal sampling
- 103 and 105 Grants

**Update on EPA Rules/Actions – Pat Childers:**

- Office layout; OAR, air, water, solid waste, grants, etc.
- Biggest group is OAQPS; tribal programs 70 percent; they regulate nonmoving; OTAQ is moving under OAR
- IAQ has become prominent; more problematic than climate change; no similar outcry for IAQ
- Budget loss for tribal air quality programs
- STAG, GAP, fair funding grants
- GAP guidance: ensure IAQ was funded under this program
- AIAQTP grant; internal EPA grant; EPM (Environmental Programs and Management) funding
- Strategic plan changed in new administration; based on President's plan not budgeted
- AQ no longer a goal; we are an objective; simply to reduce number of nonattainment areas
- What are projects that will help reduce; comments on strategic plan
- 3 major goals; core; return power to states; rule of law, improve process
- How do we fit in climate change; air quality, etc

- Administration is taking closer look at TAS; how is EPA directly implementing Indian country; how can we empower tribes;
- Focus is on how EPA is implementing Title V
- Finalize internal report; with history, what sources are Indian country
- Recent request from inspector general office asking new source review; how is EPA doing new source review
- How is federal government doing on rules; are we helping tribes empower themselves
- Increase emissions inventory; monitoring into AQS; defend and set up funds
- ITEP plans between EPA and tribes; mandates; need for GAP grant, IAQ programs, etc.
- EPA side requirements; electronically; make documents useful; identify sources on tribal lands
- Clean act awards coming up; programs that address clean air act; look up application awards process; submit applications; can self-nominate
- Identify monitoring needs to move tribal air programs forward

### **Regional Tribal Air Coordinator (TAC) Discussion –**

Region 1 – Monica Lacka reporting for Region 1.

Running smooth; one tribe interested in TAS; emphasize; awarded fy18 grants

Region 2 – Gavin Lau:

Finished funding for FY18; QUAPP updates with tribes; address funding PCB concerns; St Regis Mohawk to begin next year; winter meetings start December/January

Region 3 - No report

Region 4 – Ana Oquendo:

No active pending TAS applications; working with tribe and will soon submit TAS application; working on draft; TAS activities for FY19 section 105; grant actions awarded, 2 air grants sec 103, 1 was 105; awarded 3 for FY19; RTOC meeting to start hosting in Feb 2019; multi-media; not air specific; many programs

Region 5- Avi Lapp/Ben Giwojna:

Briefing scheduled October 22 for general TAS; Grants - \$1.2m awarded 7 section 105, 8 section 103 grants; hosting Q&A; Seven of Section 108 tribes are in PPG; one stand alone; air only; TAS: 7 section 105; 1 approval; 1 more application from Michigan tribes; boundary issues with others interested; Class 1 redesignation; two tribes interested; one coming in this fall; current Forest County Potawatomi; RTOC is week of October 13-15; ETEPs discussion; new acting director 120 days

Region 6 – Aunjane Gautreaux:-

Project Officer; grants on time for September 30; 6 tribes monitoring; 10 grants, finalize TAS; tribal health summit next week

Region 7 – Paula Higbee:

Awarded 7 grants; received half million on all grants funded; 2 tribes TAS; no EPA staff changes; RTOC meeting was last week; no air related on agenda; big news, ITEP course in Sioux City Iowa

Region 8 - RTOC happening this week

Region 9 – No report

Region 10 – Sandra Brozusky:

No pending TAS requests. Moving forward with the Kalispel Tribe's Class I redesignation, hoping to have a public hearing in Dec. Sarah Fredrick and India Young are filling two vacant positions. CAA Grants to 17 Tribes; All awarded on schedule except 2 tribes to be awarded in the upcoming months due to different timing of the fiscal years. Sept 18 on the RTOC-Discussion on the NPN Guidance and how to submit early input; also, a presentation on the affiliated tribes of the northwest. Hot topics: Past summer, had bad wildfire season – localized impacts, weather forecast and health

messaging, burn bans, etc... Planning for ATCEM. Not much to update on the FARR. A couple different steps to complete in-house to move forward on the FARR. Staffing restrictions when comes to staffing for regional counsel.

Lucita Valiere - Awarded 3 DERA grants; FY18 tribal date RFA, extend closing date to April 3, 2019

Maybe it would be a good idea for the tribes to talk to the TACs to ask them how to help the tribes. Pat is recommending that both the NTAA Ex Committee and the TAMS SC have a separate call with the TAC's all at once in the future as opposed to the separate TAC meetings with the TAMS SC and the NTAA Ex Committee.

Update of the monitoring equipment inventory. What do we need to do with that? Are there other tribes/regions that we need to get with on this document? Reg 8 is the only region that we don't have data. How do the regions strategize on how that monitors are funded or updated? (No answer)

TACs can prepared with a list. Should have more of a dialogue. Should we discuss prior to meeting with the TACs? Yes, we should but because in the changeover of TAMS SC membership, we could not plan that well this time.

Map on the board with regions from yesterday -could the TAMS SC get a copy of the map? Map is on the EPA website. TAMS SC should get with NTAA Representative to discuss what items to ask regional TACs. Which regions do not have a TAMS rep? 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, & 9. Reg 3 Tribe, Pamunkey, will be getting their first GAP grant this year. 7 tribes in total for Region 3.

At Region 5 RTOC, tribes recommended get a tribal contact support list put together that identifies tribes with experience in various areas, e.g. specialize in IAQ, etc...developing a mentor list. The TAMS SC has the ability to have subcommittees to allow for more detailed specific discussion on various topics.

#### **ACTION ITEM:**

Vallen to create region contact list

#### **Emissions Inventory Discussion:**

- Is TEISS (Tribal Emission Inventory Software Solution) still sufficient?
- TEISS request of tribes; came from data mgmt. workgroup; designed to help tribes with EI and produce report, uploaded into NEI database; help with design of program, with Lakes Environmental provide software development \$8k; requires consistent update, fixes, etc. (6.26)
- Supports Windows 10; alternate installation required;
- Tribes report it can be challenging to work with re: design;
- Look at cost to potentially redesign and upgrade to avoid install; go to open source; find replacement, Sonoma Tech produced cost estimate, \$450k min, includes training that we can do; proposal came in too high priced
- As users of TEISS, should we investigate replacement options; develop open source via cloud? Or leave as is?
- Challenges with current software program: pros and cons?
- Biggest problem is the ability to update codes and tables; long process; emission factors get changed; TEISS a little behind; shortfall can save but need to back up copy for; relatively easy to use; Lakes Environmental made commercial version EI view; and offered to state, ask Lakes the cost for putting in cloud
- Cloud version would solve most problems; accessible with any computer; saving data using cloud is easier
- User interface is not easy if just getting started;
- Need EI class then TEISS class; hands on; easy; need introductory course before use; go thru online course
- Develop workgroup for next steps, and funding; white paper?
- NEI submittal every 3 yrs; 2014-17 data to be uploaded
- Tribes should update EI on regular basis;
- For Ute tribes; EI is done and submitted by states; usually agreement between tribes and states; big sources not usually done by states unless there's agreement
- Should Ute tribes do their own EI; good idea to know all the sources in your area; oil and gas is being reported per Mike; 12 Title V sources; Angelique to forward database to Mike N and Pat C
- Need to identify Title V sources in Indian Country
- Why are EI numbers are going down;

- Monika suggest need for basic EI info; identify what EIs are for beginners; good NTF session; per Mehrdad EI is covered in some courses, intro, etc., need more helpful guidance tools
- Future meeting, provide overview of what we currently provide as self-paced tutorials or classroom courses; may be gaps; good for SC members

**ACTION ITEM:**

- Potential next step; continue discussion on future calls; develop one pager summary and share before calling for discussion
- Pat to give presentation on next call regarding funding, increase region funding

**PQAO (Primary Quality Assurance Organization) Update:**

- Request came to ITEP from Southern California Tribes; assistance with consolidated PQAO development; monitoring networks in close proximity of each other; operate under one QMP (quality management plan); individual tribal QAPPS are contained under the overall consolidated PQAO QMP
- Develop QMP for consolidated PQAO; major delay in current effort
- Notes from Frank Spurgeon, La Jolla Band of Luiseno
- 1. There has been a major delay in developing the QMP due to everyone's schedule. It's been difficult to get together.
- 2. Until the workload dies down a bit we've decided to hold off forming a consolidated PQAO for the time being.
- 3. We are however still working together to conduct the required audits on our equipment.
- 4. We've developed forms and SOP's to conduct the semi-annual flow rate audit and performance evaluation.
- 5. Some of us are also working together to conduct a secondary data review and have moved away from using contractors to perform work in our programs.
- 6. I'd say we are still operating as a PQAO, just not in a formal sense.
- 7. I'd personally still love to see this come to fruition but developing a QMP that works for all of us has been a challenge.
- 8. I'm wondering if the TAMS Center or ITEP could assist us in developing this plan.
- 9. Also, we'd like to eventually borrow some equipment from TAMS to conduct the performance evaluation on our ozone analyzers. We'll be contacting you about this soon.

**EPA Funding/Pat Childers: (see presentation)**

**Thursday, October 11, 2018**

**AIAQTP Courses/Pat Ellsworth:**

(review of course schedule and possible courses for FY20)

- From discussions over the last couple days, courses needed are: meth, TAS, grant, weather for AQ (good as pre-course for modeling); modeling;
- Idea for grants training to be added to Intro course as suggested in past IAQ course; restructure intro course

**ACTION ITEM:**

- On all level two courses add one hour of grants management training/overview per Nicole; Pat E. will discuss at next TACs call: Pat C and Monika to share documents at November 11 meeting with TACs
- Each Region to focus on grants management training; non ITEP training with the tribes; know specifics on how region works or what they expect; regional version; offer to specific tribes with grants coordinators; mini course on grants; tribes working one on one with their regions

**ACTION ITEM:**

- Regions hard to contact; no live answer; create region contact list as Vallen indicated

**NTF Discussion –**

- Tentative month May; no location yet
- TAMS SC participation to assist in breakout session; presentation on your own activity, etc;
- Ambient air quality breakout tracks; SC members to get involved; start planning process early

- Encourage tribes to present on tribal case studies or projects; helps other tribal programs; made effort for one breakout session for tribal audience;
- Woodstove change out good idea per Lori
- Workgroup meets; if interested contact Lydia to add to planning calls

#### **AIAQTP Internship Program and Education/Outreach/Mehrdad –**

- ITEP has an internship program that offers students 8 weeks of experience
- Typically, get more applications from students than have available host sites
- Process is a two-step process: 1. Want to hear from host sites about possible projects. Take applications from host sites. 2. Take all host site applications and share with internship applicants. Internship applicants get to select top three choices. Once get top eight to ten host sites then will match student applicants with host sites.
- Been offering internships since 1994
- Provide a stipend for 8 weeks. Receive a housing allowance. Housing is a challenging issue when placing students at host locations. Students really benefit from assistance from host site with housing.
- Encourage native students to apply
- Need to be in college. Have a minimum 2.5 GPA. Application process is online. Currently open for host sites and not for student applicants yet.
- Just for Arizona university students? No, for students nationwide.
- How are selected students monitored? Weekly progress reports along with update meetings at the beginning, the middle and the end of the internship.
- ITEP stresses that the host sites have specific tasks that are relevant to substantive program projects such as emission inventories, air monitoring, outreach, etc...
- Alaska example: developing idling code for the village.
- Make connections for life
- 8 weeks is short and some potential host sites would find it hard to invest in training interns when after 8 weeks will be finished.
- Mansel Nelson, ITEP, oversees the program for ITEP

#### **Presentation of Star Quilt donated by Camille QuickBear, Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate' to Mike Papp, OAQPS –**

(Laura McKelvey, OAQPS, participated via video conference. Mike Papp, OAQPS, participated via phone)

- Chris explained that Mike Papp will be retiring from the EPA this year and before he retires, the TAMS SC wanted to express their appreciation for the support that he has provided to the Tribes with training, staffing at the TAMS Center, and interpreting and including tribes in the quality assurance regulations.
- Camille QuickBear explained the significance of honoring individuals who have helped the people with a buffalo robe in the past. Today, the Lakota Star Quilt is used in place of the buffalo robe. Camille expressed a new member of the TAMS SC, she has not had a chance to get to personally meet Mike but has heard very good things of Mike's support to the tribal programs. Thus, the star quilt was made for him.
- Mike Papp participated via phone and expressed appreciation for the star quilt and the honoring expressed by the TAMS SC.
- Melinda Ronca-Battista, TAMS Research Associate, expressed her appreciation to Mike.

#### **Meeting Closeout –**

*Tribal Caucus Report:*

- Move caucus to midweek to discuss topics
- Provide presentation documents prior to meeting
- Create contact list
- Relationship between tribes and states with AQ program; build relations technical and policy
- Interest in added courses; meth, TAX, etc.

*Review of Action Items:*

- Contact lists from Mehrdad or James; receiver is Pat C; build list re: topics; contact for IAQ, EPA, etc. Regional TACs and backups etc.

**Final Business and Set Spring 2019 Meeting –**

- March 12-14, 2019 most members not available
- March 5-7 works for all; check availability with hotel
- send save the date calendar invite

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:  
Darlene Santos