

Envision Cameron

Meeting Notes

August 15, 2022

10 am MST

1. Call to Order

Kelsey Lee called the meeting to order at 10:12 am. Attendees included Mae Franklin, Waylon Honga, Chuck Howe, Don Irby, Aletha Johnson, Kelsey Lee, Chris McKibben, Shawn Newell, Lula Neztosie, Bobby Robbins, Stan Robbins, Eileen Tohonnie, and Brian Cole.

2. Administrative Details and Reports—Tolani Lake Enterprises/USDA Rural Development

Shawn Newell updated the group related to some of the administrative considerations at Tolani Lake Enterprises (TLE). Temporary layoffs were required for a while to address a short-term cashflow situation. Gary Biakeddy is now the Interim Director. Aletha Johnson is the Assistant Director. Both are now fully functioning. Newell indicated that her role has been to catch up on reports which has been done effective June 30, 2022. All of the reimbursements are now in the pipeline and the matter of the federal funding pipeline has been resolved. TLE is coordinating with a contract accounting firm to assist with paperwork and meeting federal requirements.

Don Irby stated he was very appreciative of Kelsey Lee and Aletha Johnson for keeping the project moving along. He was anticipating that TLE would receive reimbursement payment within two weeks. Irby also indicated that up to a one year extension may be in the works for the project.

a. Project Timeline and Budget Revision

Shawn Newell stated that the project has a great ally with Terry McDermott. She is coordinating the recommendation for a revised project timeline and requested details from Swaback. Newell reinforced that approximately \$60,000 is in the pipeline for reimbursement right now. In the future, TLE will ask for advancements in order to pay contractors. She needed forecasted schedules and draw down requests associated with the updated project timeline once the project is extended.

Newell continued that the scope of work developed by Chuck Howe would be satisfactory as long as it were a subcontract under Swaback. Chris McKibben and Chuck Howe would coordinate with TLE on this matter. There would be no reference to “Placemaking Advisors,” but rather it would simply be a subcontract for activities that relate to records evaluation rather than any new type of research such as soils testing, etc.

McKibben stated that Swaback can update the schedule and there was a lengthy discussion about the new timetable. It was concluded that a request for a 12-month extension would be made but the project could be done on a faster pace if circumstances allowed.

The group then discussed the COVID-related meeting requirements. Kelsey Lee stated that Navajo rules allow for 25 people inside of meeting rooms. Stan Robbins stated that the requirement of six-foot distancing and quarantining was being relaxed. Don Irby stated that the Rural Development offices are being closed with most employees working out of their homes.

Aletha Johnson stated that she would need to develop an update on the policy and amounts related to stipends and paying for rent.

Mae Franklin reported that she had attended a meeting with CHOICE Humanitarian in which they were using funding to purchase iPads and demonstrating how to do home assessments. Franklin noted that CHOICE Humanitarian noted the availability of \$15.55 million to the region and this technology could be helpful. Putting all of this information in the iCloud was a goal of the use of the iPads or tablets.

3. Work Session on Current/Urgent Topics

a. Planning for September Community Gathering

It was noted that the September gathering is September 24. A sign has already been updated and placed at the site.

b. Innovation Implementation Challenge Project Discussion

The specific projects being developed for the Innovation Implementation Challenge were noted. Innovation Challenge funding would generally go to C2 Env. for his subcontract with Swaback.

A lengthy discussion then took place related to engaging young people and moving forward with the internship. Coordinating with local K-5 schools was also discussed.

c. Report on Project Facebook Page

No report.

4. Project Activity/Programming

a. Swaback

No report.

b. Building Communities

No report.

c. Native Community Builders

No report.

d. Cameron Chapter/CLUP

No report.

e. Placemaking Advisors

No report.

5. New Business

a. TLE Support Resolution

No report.

b. Kelsey Lee Report to CLUP-C

No report.

6. Other Business

No other business.

7. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Labor Day, September 5, 2022 at 10 am MST. **The meeting was moved to Wednesday, September 7 at 10 am because of the holiday.**

8. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 pm MST.

Envision Cameron Meetings

**1st and 3rd Mondays at
10 am MST**