

**Joint Village Strategic Plan
SPECIAL MEETING
Briefing with Chairman Tim Nuvangyaoma
July 23, 2020
Upper Moenkopi Village Community Center**

1. Welcome and Call to Order – Governor Leroy Sumatzkuku

Cedric Kuwaninvaya welcomed everybody to the meeting on behalf of Governor Sumatzkuku. Cedric explained that the Governor had some health concerns that were being addressed and that he would not be able to attend the meeting.

2. Self-Introductions

Attending the meeting were Catherine Wright (Yuwehloo Pahki Community), Jennie Talahongva (Yuwehloo Pahki Community), Oriel Tootsie (Yuwehloo Pahki Community Board of Commissioners), Claudina Burgener (Yuwehloo Pahki Community Board of Commissioners), Everett Calnimpewa (Upper Moenkopi Village Council), Patrick Secakuku (Upper Moenkopi Village Administration), Cedric Kuwaninvaya (Upper Moenkopi Village), Philton Talahytewa Sr. (Upper Moenkopi Village), Dorma Sahneyah (OED), Hopi Chairman Tim Nuvangyaoma (OTC), and Brian Cole (Building Communities).

3. Purpose/History/Status of the JVSP Effort

Cedric Kuwaninvaya asked for Brian Cole to provide a history of the JVSP effort. Cole began by stating that the effort began in Yuwehloo Pahki Community in December 2017. It was at a meeting when one of the attendees identified herself as a Relocatee. It was then determined that it would be beneficial for Yuwehloo Pahki Community to have a Transition Plan addressing the possible closure of the Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation (ONHIR). Cole explained that the planning process took place in October 2018 with a completed draft plan in January 2019.

Yuwehloo Pahki then teamed up with Upper Moenkopi Village and the Village of Moenkopi (Lower) to formalize the process now known as Joint Village Strategic Planning. The Village of Moenkopi (Lower) completed its Strategic Planning process in January 2019. A copy of both documents was circulated.

Upper Moenkopi Village will get underway with their Strategic Planning process as allowed by travel restrictions related to the pandemic.

Over the past three months, there has been regular (weekly) videoconference meetings to develop the 12-page document summarizing all the projects and budgets to address all three communities.

Cole indicated that we have arrived at a point where the planning is sufficient to pursue federal funding. In the meantime, plans will continue to be updated to reflect new priorities.

Claudina Burgener identified herself as one of the original Relocatees and explained that her family had testified in favor of meeting the promises made by the federal government related to roads, schools,

community facilities, infrastructure, etc. Claudina Burgener stated that she believed that the Hopi Tribe needed to be more forceful in advocating for what should be coming to the people. She explained that her family has been dealing with these unfulfilled promises for 42 years.

Everett Calnimptewa spoke about a spoke of his support for the project and planning effort on behalf of Upper Moenkopi Village. He highlighted several projects that are “ready to go.” He also emphasized that information should continue to be collected so that the case becomes stronger.

It was noted that, combined, Upper Moenkopi Village and the Village of Moenkopi (Lower) only have 1,050 acres for development. Land has basically all been utilized, and it is difficult to get a land allotment for any type of future development.

Cedric Kuwaninvaya then outlined a series of priority development projects including additional water capacity, potential commercial development, projects being advanced by the Moenkopi Developers Corporation, housing projects, planned development associated with the Legacy Inn and Suites, need for improvements at Rare Metals, and the fact that EPA is managing monitoring wells to determine the quality of water at Upper Moenkopi Village. In addition, another priority relates to improvements at Pasture Canyon. Finally, the Moenkopi Utility Authority (MUA) has priority projects. Recently, the Reverse Osmosis Plant has been shut down.

Margaret Pooyouma began her remarks by commenting on the need for improvements at Yuwehloo Pahki Community. She explained that she worked for YPC in the past and knows the people and priorities of the area and wished everyone well. Margaret Pooyouma explained that her village is supportive of their plan and the effort to move forward together.

Chairman Nuvangyaoma began his comments by discussing the past and current efforts to get an equitable benefit from ONHIR. Chairman Nuvangyaoma stated that the Tribe engaged with a process to send a message to the federal government that there was not sufficient benefit for Hopi by that Office. Chairman Nuvangyaoma stated that by the time he was made aware of the opportunity for comment, it was late in the game. Nevertheless, he will continue to advocate for stronger benefits for Hopi and YPC. Chairman Nuvangyaoma stated that he believes 96% of the benefit of ONHIR went to Navajo and only 4% of the benefit went to Hopi.

Chairman Nuvangyaoma then updated the group on current legislative activities designed to reprogram \$15 million back to ONHIR so that it can benefit the region. This may be an opportunity for YPC to seek funding support from ONHIR soon.

Brian Cole responded to all of the discussion by making six points: 1) the JVSP effort was underway well before the impacts and related funding of the coronavirus, 2) there is an opportunity to request funding in three phases over 10 years, 3) everyone views the past situation as inequitable, 4) there is an opportunity to repurpose ONHIR to become the Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Recovery not Relocation in three ways: a) expanding the geographic benefit to include the Bennett Freeze, b) expanding the functional aspect of ONHIR to relate to recovery, and c) creating powerful oversight by Hopi over ONHIR to ensure that the funding benefits the Hopi People, 5) there are three current

avenues to receive funding: a) stimulus funding, b) the regular federal appropriations process, and c) a federal settlement. Cole indicated that all options should be on the table. Finally, 6) Cole explained his view of the win/win potential of working collaboratively with the Navajo Nation in the pursuit of funding.

Chairman then indicated that he was not familiar with any legislation that would fund this effort. Brian Cole responded that no such legislation has been drafted yet. Cole indicated that having this meeting first was important to ensure that all parties were on the same page.

Philton Talahytewa Sr. indicated that he makes a point of taking a lot of notes during all meetings. This ensures that people are being heard and that he has a record to reference to follow up on meetings. He also spoke to the need for Tribal Council members to work constructively for the betterment of the Tribe and all the villages. Tribal Council members should be working for the people.

4. Immediate Next Steps

Everyone in the room expressed a desire to continue to move the effort forward. Specific next steps can include:

- Efforts by YPC to continue to look for historical records and to further document the promises made
- Conducting Plan Week for Upper Moenkopi Village and producing their plan
- Monitoring the possible recapturing of \$15 million for ONHIR and YPC making a request for benefits
- Continuing to brief Hopi Tribal Council members of the importance of the project and to take action
- Continue the regular meetings of the JVSP by videoconference
- Monitor action in Congress that might present a door opening for funding
- Increase the two-way communication between JVSP and the Chairman's Office

5. Next Meeting

The weekly JVSP meetings will continue. In general, the meetings have been on Fridays at 10:00 am MST.

6. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm MST.

**JVSP Meeting
July 23, 2020 (2:00 pm)
Upper Moenkopi Village Community Center
ATTENDEES**

Catherine Wright	Yuwehloo Pahki Community	(928) 738-8201
Jennie Talahongva	Yuwehloo Pahki Community Board of Commissioners	(928) 255-3271
Oriel Tootsie	Yuwehloo Pahki Community Board of Commissioners	(928) 613-8496
Claudina Burgener	Yuwehloo Pahki Community Board of Commissioners	(928) 890-7057
Margaret Pooyouma	Village of Moenkopi (Lower) CSA	(928) 283-5213
Everett Calnimplawa	Upper Moenkopi Village Council	(928) 614-8720
Patrick Secakuku	Upper Moenkopi Village Administration	(928) 221-2936
Cedric Kuwaninvaya	Upper Moenkopi Village CSA	(928) 283-8056
Philton Talahytewa Sr.	Upper Moenkopi Village Council	(928) 614-1029
Dorma Sahneyah	OED	(928) 734-3201
Tim Nuvangyaoma	OTC	(928) 734-3102
Andrew Gashwazra	Hopi OCPED	(928) 734-3241
Brian Cole	Building Communities	(928) 814-3710