

**Joint Village Strategic Planning
MEETING NOTES
Tuesday, January 4, 2022
10 AM MST
Zoom Videoconference and Telephone**

1. Call to Order

Brian Cole called the meeting to order at 10:06 am MST.

2. Self-introductions

Meeting attendees included Andrew Gashwazra, Linda Honahni, Travis Hyer, Dale Lucero, Fred Shupla, Le Roy Shingoitewa, Sam Shingoitewa, Kathleen Sumatzkuku, James Surveyor, Cathy Wright and Brian Cole.

3. Efforts to Refine Projects and Budgets and Seek Federal Funding

The group confirmed that it was still committed to holding an in-person planning session on Wednesday, January 19. Immediately after the meeting, Building Communities confirmed with the Moenkopi Legacy Inn and Suites that their meeting space would be available. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 9 am and conclude by 2 pm. Building Communities will provide lunch for up to 25 attendees.

The group had a thorough discussion of the current status of COVID and concluded that it would be strongly recommended that people have proof of a negative COVID test result before attending the meeting in person. The meeting will also be offered by a Zoom hybrid format.

The group agreed to extend a broad invitation to relevant Hopi Tribal Council Members and Department Heads.

Brian Cole then mentioned the availability of grant funding through the USDA Rural Development Rural Business Development Grant (RBDG) program which has an annual funding deadline of February 28. Several members of the committee expressed interest in the grant program and program information is attached as Attachment A.

4. Reports from Villages/Community

a. Upper Moenkopi Village

Dale Lucero indicated that the first meeting of the newly-elected UMV council members would be on January 11.

b. Village of Moencopi (Lower)

No report.

c. Yuwehloo Pahki Community

Cathy Wright noted that much of the effort by Yuwehloo Pahki Community relates to the expenditure of \$20,000 for gravel for improvements to the YPC road system. She also noted that the Village is short-staffed and is currently hiring for two positions.

5. Other Business

Brian Cole noted that there is still a Board opening position at TCRHCC and asked if Le Roy Shingoitewa was still interested in submitting his name. Shingoitewa affirmed and indicated he would be on their website soon.

James Surveyor updated the group that he continues to reach out to Taos Pueblo for their expertise on how they secured funding for telecommunications planning. He also noted that a second well has been drilled out at Range Unit 251.

Cathy Wright would forward an updated listing of Community Service Administrators (CSAs) to Brian Cole for distribution to the group (see Attachment B).

6. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 11, 2022 at 10 am MST.

7. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 am MST.

Rural Business Development Grants (RBDG)

What does this program do?

RBDG is a competitive grant designed to support targeted technical assistance, training, and other activities leading to the development or expansion of small and emerging private businesses in rural areas that have fewer than 50 employees and less than \$1 million in gross revenues. Programmatic activities are separated into enterprise or opportunity type grant activities.

Who may apply for this program?

Rural public entities including, but not limited to:

- Towns
- Communities
- State agencies
- Authorities
- Nonprofit Corporations
- Institutions of Higher Education
- Federally recognized Tribes
- Rural Cooperatives

What is an eligible area?

RBDG funds must be directed for projects benefitting rural areas or towns outside the urbanized periphery of any city with a population of 50,000 or more. [Check eligible areas.](#)

How much funding is available?

There is no maximum grant amount for enterprise or opportunity type grants; however, smaller requests are given higher priority. Generally, grants range from \$10,000 up to \$500,000. There is no cost sharing requirement. Total opportunity type grant funding is limited statutorily to up to 10% of the total RBDG annual funding.

How may funds be used?

Enterprise type grant funds must be used on projects to benefit small and emerging businesses in rural areas as specified in the grant application. Uses may include:

- Training and technical assistance, such as project planning, business counseling/training, market research, feasibility studies, professional/technical reports, or product/service improvements
- Acquisition or development of land, easements, or rights of way; construction, conversion, renovation, of buildings, plants, machinery, equipment, access streets and roads, parking areas, utilities

- Pollution control and abatement
- Capitalization of revolving loan funds including funds that will make loans for start-ups and working capital
- Distance adult learning for job training and advancement
- Rural transportation improvement
- Community economic development
- Technology-based economic development
- Feasibility studies and business plans
- Leadership and entrepreneur training
- Rural business incubators
- Long-term business strategic planning

Opportunity type grant funding must be used for projects in rural areas and they can be used for:

- Community economic development
- Technology-based economic development
- Feasibility studies and business plans
- Leadership and entrepreneur training
- Rural business incubators
- Long-term business strategic planning

Rural Business Development Grants (RBDG)

How are applications evaluated for competitive funding?

RBDG applications compete at the state office level, which are dependent on appropriations.

All applications are evaluated based on:

- Evidence showing job creation to occur with local businesses;
- Percent of nonfederal funding committed to the project;
- Economic need in the area to be served;
- Consistency with local economic development priorities;
- Experience of the grantee with similar efforts; and
- Other factors described in the current Notice of Solicitation of Applications (NOSA), if one is published.

How do we get started?

Applications are accepted through USDA Rural Development's [local or State offices](#) once per year. Applicants are advised to view program information specific to your [local or State office](#) to learn about local application timelines, concept paper requirements, etc.

Grant awardees will need to complete required paperwork and comply with the terms and conditions of the award. Contact your [local or State office](#) for details.

Who can answer questions?

Contact your [local RD office](#).

What governs this program?

- Basic Program – [7 CFR Part 4280 Subpart E](#)
- This program is authorized by the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (ConAct).

What governed the predecessor programs of RBEG and RBOG, as well as all awards given before FY 2015?

- RBEG Basic Program
[RD Instruction 1942-G](#)
- RBOG Basic Program
[7 CFR Part 4284](#)
- This program was authorized by the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (ConAct).

Why does USDA Rural Development do this?

This program provides grants for rural projects that finance and facilitate development of small and emerging rural businesses, help fund distance learning networks, and help fund employment related adult education programs. To assist with business development, RBDGs may fund a broad array of activities.

NOTE: Because citations and other information may be subject to change, please always consult the program instructions listed in the section above titled "What Governs This Program?" You may also contact your local office for assistance. You will find additional forms, resources, and program information at rd.usda.gov. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Last Updated December 2019

Attachment B

VILLAGE	CONTACT PERSON	TELEPHONE NO.	FAX NO.	EMAIL ADDRESS	MAILING ADDRESS
Sipaulovi	Shawn Namoki, Village Manager	(928)737-2570	(928)737-9444	csasipaulovi@gmail.com	P.O. Box 889 Second Mesa, AZ 86043
Kykotsmovi	Mark Talayumptewa, CSA	(928)734-2474	(928)734-2477	marktalayumptewa@gmail.com	P.O. Box 286 Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039
Tewa	Dierdre Honyumptewa, Board Chair	(928)737-2254/2215	(928)737-2267	votcsa@hopitelecom.net	P.O. Box 790 Polacca, AZ 86042
Walpi	Alan Chavez, CSA	(928)737-9556	(928)737-9558	walpicsa@hopitelecom.net	P.O. Box 922 Polacca, AZ 86042
Upper Moenkopi	Yolanda Baca, Acting CSA	(928)283-8051	(928)283-8052	uvmacct@outlook.com	P.O. Box 1229 Tuba City, AZ 86045
Lower Moenkopi	Robert Sumatzkuku, Acting CSA	(928)283-5261	(928)283-5290	rbsumatz@gmail.com	P.O. Box 1709 Tuba City, AZ 86045
Yuwehloo Pahki	Catherine Wright, CSA	(928)738-8201	(928)738-8202	ypcsa@hopitelecom.net	P.O. Box 2008 Keams Canyon, AZ 86034
Bacavi	Karen Shupla, Governor	(928)734-9360	(928)734-9363	bacsa@hopitelecom.net	P.O. Box 185 Hotevilla, AZ 86030
Shungopavi	Leon Lomakema, CSA	(928)734-7135/7137	(928)734-7139	shungopavicsa@hopitelecom.net	P.O. Box 444 Second Mesa, AZ 86043
Sichomovi	Mary Talayumptewa, Acting CSA	(928)737-0446	N/A	sichomovielderly@hopitelecom.net	P.O. Box 272 Polacca, AZ 86042
Hotevilla	Lillian Gomez, Acting CSA	(928)734-0040	N/A	lggmz2014@hotmail.com	P.O. Box 706 Hotevilla, AZ 86030
Mishongnovi	Bertina Kisto, Admin Assistant	(928)737-2263/2264	(928)737-2265	mishongnovi@hopitelecom.net	P.O. Box 697 Second Mesa, AZ 86043
Oraiyni	Beatrice Norton, Board Chair	(928) 206-7756	None	bnorton51@hotmail.com	PO Box 105 Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039
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