

**Joint Village Strategic Planning  
MEETING NOTES  
Tuesday, November 23, 2021  
10 AM MST  
Zoom Videoconference and Telephone**

**1. Call to Order**

Brian Cole called the meeting to order at 10:11 am MST.

**2. Self-introductions**

Meeting attendees included Andrew Gashwazra, Dale Lucero, 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**

Le Roy Shingoitewa emphasized that it is important for UMV to best understand the current and future plans that the Moenkopi Developers Corporation (MDC) has for the future.

Le Roy Shingoitewa reminded the group that it would be beneficial to have a newsletter that would explain the activities of the JVSP group. Brian Cole stated that he is developing a draft of that newsletter.

The meeting then shifted to an update on the EDA Build Back Better Regional Challenge grant application. News on that grant should be received by December 8. Funding from that Phase 1 grant could provide technical assistance to the Moenkopi area for analysis needed to extend water both from the Siderock well and the Pasture Canyon well. Shingoitewa also stated that he, Andrew Gashwazra and Brian Cole attended a meeting of the Hopivewat Learning Center Board. Andrew Gashwazra added that the definition of tourism could be inclusive of cultural preservation which would support the goals of the Hopivewat Board in possibly accessing EDA funding for design and development of the Learning Center.

Brian Cole reported that he had been invited to make a brief presentation before the MDC board on their important role for the future of the region. Cole stated he emphasized the valuable role that non-profits can play in administrating ARPA and other federal funds.

The discussion then evolved into an overview of the precarious budget situation now being faced by the Hopi Tribe. There is an estimate that the Tribe expends approximately \$18 million annually but now only has \$2 million of annual operating revenues. The forecast is that the tribe will be totally out of funding within five years. Le Roy Shingoitewa stated that he thought the period of future funding was less than five years.

**4. Reports from Villages/Community**

**a. Upper Moenkopi Village**

Le Roy Shingoitewa asked Dale Lucero if he would be running for the Upper Moenkopi Village Board. Lucero affirmed that he was going to pursue that position. Later in the meeting Kathleen Sumatzkuku also indicated she is submitting her name for consideration to be a UMV Board Member. Lucero noted that the terms for all of the UMV Board Members end on November 30, 2021. The Election will be on December 14, 2021.

Le Roy Shingoitewa noted that Kathleen Sumatzkuku would be stepping up to serve as Secretary for the UMV Steering Committee activities.

It was noted that Philton Talahyewa will not be running for reelection. Le Roy Shingoitewa stated he would be reaching out to Talahyewa to remain active with the JVSP and UMV Steering Committee efforts.

**b. Village of Moencopi (Lower)**

No report.

**c. Yuwehloo Pahki Community**

Cathy Wright indicated that Yuwehloo Pahki Community now has a new Vice Chairwoman, Martina Honie. Wright also reported that the Villages have until November 30 to remit unspent CARES Act funding. Wright also noted that she had attended training provided by the KIVA Institute.

**5. Other Business**

Brian Cole provided a series of updates on his activities over the past week:

- He had reached out to Dyron Murphy related to the interest and capacity of his firm along with Todd Burt to provide professional services related to water system improvements. Their company is standing by to provide assistance.
- The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill has passed and this can provide additional financial resources to the Hopi Tribe and its Villages and projects in the months ahead.
- Building Communities is working to get on the agenda for the next Community Service Administrator (CSA) meeting to provide an update on several projects/initiatives, including JVSP.
- The deadline for the USDA RD Rural Business Development Grant Program is February 28. This program might be beneficial to Hopi/JVSP.

Le Roy Shingoitewa reminded the group that he had met with Navajo Nation Council Delegate Otto Tso and two members of the Navajo Thaw Support Team, Raymond Maxx and Bobby Robbins. Shingoitewa stated it was important for the communications with Navajo to lead to positive results. Brian Cole responded that he would continue to facilitate that communication.

Sam Shingoitewa summarized the results of a federal grant made for telecommunications planning. Shingoitewa stated it might be beneficial for the Moenkopi area to pursue a similar grant.

**6. Next Meeting**

The November 30 JVSP meeting will be canceled. The next regularly scheduled meeting is Tuesday, December 7 at 10 am MST.

**7. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am MST.