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

1. Call to Order
Brian Cole called the meeting to order at 10:10 am MST.

2. Self-introductions
Meeting attendees included Andrew Gashwazra, Linda Honahni, Le Roy Shingoitewa, Sam Shingoitewa, Fred Shupla, Kathlene Sumatzkuku, Neil Yazzie and Brian Cole.

3. Efforts to Refine Projects and Budgets and Seek Federal Funding
Brian Cole updated the group that he believed that the documentation in support of the Moenkopi Water Project and the Yuwehloo Pahki Community Road Project had been submitted to Congressman O’Halleran and Senator Kelly. It was Cole’s understanding that all of the documentation was in place so that the possibility of a funding commitment might be made for one or both projects. Neil Yazzie indicated he had not heard anything further.

Andrew Gashwazra asked about the timeline on moving forward with the Moenkopi Water Project if funding was committed. Neil Yazzie replied that virtually all of the work to make the project “shovel-ready” had been completed. Yazzie stated that he believed that the project would be put out to bid. Indian Health Services (IHS) will be discussing that bidding process in the near future.

Yazzie continued that the Well #1 project had received a lot of attention this year and forms a template for the additional project. The paperwork related to the right-of-way would be similar for both projects. IHS assists with the right-of-way and preliminary planning aspects of the project.

Yazzie also stated that Andrew Larson of IHS may have a source of funding to help the Village of Moencopi (Lower) with pipelines and stub outs. One of the big challenges is the allotment of land at VML. Larson is asking for assistance to create a current listing of allottees. If that were in place, there may be funding available for water and sewer improvements. All of the parties are aware that some of the residents at VML may not want to see these types of infrastructure improvements on the Lower Village so this matter needs to be treated sensitively.

With respect to the Water Infrastructure Project, Le Roy Shingoitewa stated he would like to see MUA provide increased services to the Village of Moencopi (Lower). Shingoitewa praised Neil Yazzie for the work he is doing, noting that he was aware that MUA was dealing with a main waterline break. Shingoitewa also praised Andrew Gashwazra for being an excellent contact with the Hopi Tribe.

The group then discussed possibly going through the budget document on a line-by-line basis. It was agreed that this might be done as a part of the Water Infrastructure Tour Day. That tour
has been cancelled twice and Cole indicated he would reach out as a part of his June trip which would be sometime between June 20-30.

Linda Honahni wanted to make sure that the interests of the Moenkopi Senior Center were still a priority with the JVSP process. Le Roy Shingoitewa affirmed that it was, especially given that JVSP considers the Senior Center and Assisted Living Center a part of the economic development projects and agenda associated with JVSP.

4. Telecommunications Report
   No report.

5. Reports from Villages/Community
   a. Upper Moenkopi Village
      Le Roy Shingoitewa noted the importance of getting the Water Infrastructure Tour scheduled in June.

   b. Village of Moencopi (Lower)
      It was agreed that reviewing the $1.2 billion projects budget would be a good idea, especially if coordinated between VML and UMV.

   c. Yuwehloo Pahki Community
      No report.

6. Other Business
   Le Roy Shingoitewa noted that he had just been connected with Starlink. He was exceptionally pleased with the service. Sam Shingoitewa had assisted with the setup.

   Brian Cole noted that he had provided an update on federal funding awards to tribes for telecommunications to Sam Shingoitewa.

7. Next Meeting
   The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 17 at 10 am MST.

8. Adjourn
   The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 am Arizona Time.