**Joint Village Strategic Planning**
**MEETING NOTES**
**Tuesday, August 11, 2026**
**10:00 MST**
**Zoom Videoconference and Telephone**

**Attendees:**

- Sarah Dallas, Andrew Gashwazra, Stephen Jew, Jarvis Namoki, Tim O'Brien, Bonnie Secakuku, and Brian Cole

**Primary Meeting "Take-aways:"**

- Sarah Dallas opened the meeting with an update on the devastating monsoon floods that have wiped out all of the crop production at the Lower Village
    - She noted this was second year in a row that there would be no harvest; last year the problem was drought, this year it is exceptional monsoon activity
    - She noted that there has been an emergency crew working on the fields for a week
- Bonnie Secakuku reported that the irrigation line from Pasture Canyon to the fields has been cleaned; there was one particular area in which roots had impacted the line and that has been resolved and future monitoring will be in place in future years
- Bonnie Secakuku noted that weather nowadays is in extremes; rain and snow has been exceptional
    - The Black Mesa area is 1,000 feet in vertical elevation higher than Moenkopi and rain activity there takes nine hours to impact Moenkopi
        - The large weather events have brought silt downstream which has overflowed onto the fields
            - She noted that there is between three and four inches of clay covering the historic fields of the farmers
            - She reported that the Army Corps of Engineers was involved with the area approximately two years ago but it proves to be difficult for the agencies and the traditional farmers to understand one another to the extend that an executable plan can be developed
    - The Lower Village wants to utilize its status with its Constitution to take action which will be faster than what the federal government and Tribe can provide
    - This type of flooding will certainly happen again and might even be bigger
        - Secakuku noted that the Sipaulovi Village is also facing impacts from weather as it relates to the stability of their Mesa
- Tim O'Brien responded that such problems are typically analyzed and addressed at a Basin level
    - He inquired about the status of a University of Arizona study

        - Secakuku replied that the findings of that study had not been implemented; they related to plants and changes to structures
- Secakuku noted that the Hopi Tribe has utilized its drone to take visuals of the impacts
    - NOAA has a Flagstaff office and they have established an alert system on the Highway 264 bridge, but the alert system needs to be more upstream in order to provide notification that would be advantageous
- The Hopi Department of Natural Resources is knowledgeable about the problem
- Local farmers know where the problems are and they have identified some of their own solutions
    - The flood has covered the entire valley
    - There are some families living in the farming area which is the first concern; the farmers are safe, but relocation will be necessary but it is up to the farmers themselves to move
- The Village wants to take action to remove invasive species
    - Government action might be slower than Village action
    - The farmers have no harvest so they are anxious to do something to remedy the problem
- Brian Cole asked if this problem should be placed upon the JVSP agenda
    - Sarah Dallas responded that currently they have sufficient attention and potential resources to consider solutions to the problem
- Tim O'Brien then summarized the work of the Harvard Growth Lab interns
    - They provided some recommendations in terms of "thinking big" on the New Lands near Winslow
    - The report was received as very useful and Tim O'Brien is now working on projects that will involve next semester although they will be on-site and not at Hopi
- Stephen Jew indicated that he has completed 13 grid surveys in coordination with funding from HUC
    - 12 of the 13 surveys indicate that projects are feasible
        - NeRD Power will meet with the solar installer at Side Rock soon
        - Upcoming meetings will be in late August and early September that will result in 13 grid-tied homes and 32 off-grid homes plus the completion of the microgrid
    - Stephen Jew reported that he has been working with the Tribe administratively to have funding released for the project
    - The monsoon conditions have led to the need to deal with some wet patches on roofs
    - Work is scheduled to proceed with the roof and solar projects on the Administration Building and the Community Center
    - The first 13 residential projects will be completed by December 31, 2026 – and potentially all of the residential projects in that timeframe
- Jarvis Namoki stated that he is scheduled to meet with the BIA, and NTUA on a water project that could benefit Jeddito
    - He is coordinating with Dr. Carrie Joseph of the Hopi Department of Natural Resources who has been very helpful on land and right-of-way issues with very useful information
- Namoki reported that the Heritage Days Festival is October 3 and will run from 7 am through 4 pm

- Namoki reported that he continues to work with the Hopi Tribal Housing Authority on a potential housing project
    - He noted that HTHA is advancing a development project at Winslow
- Yuwehloo Pahki continues to offer services associated with its Mobile Laundromat and its Porta Pumping Truck
- Yuwehloo Pahki is also offering building rental, backhoe services, land clearing, burial services, dump truck rental, and looking into providing a towing service
    - All of this in addition to NTUA wanting to tap into the Yuwehloo Pahki water system
- Yuwehloo Pahki continues to advance a fire wood project in coordination with Wood For Life and the US Forest Service
- Brian Cole reported that he met with Neil Yazzie of MUA and the Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) project budget has been reduced from $2.997 million to $2.0 million and paperwork would be sent back to the Tribe
- Andrew Gashwazra stated he is continuing to reach out to Villages and would like to make use of the documentation that was developed by Yuwehloo Pahki and others to establish the Community Development Corporation
- Andrew reported that he continues to work on housing projects at Tawa'ovi and is looking into commercial development project
- Andrew is still coordinating on the $1.5 million CDS and doing outreach to IHS related to the status of the Environmental Review
- Brian Cole and Bonnie Secakuku reported on the status of the bathhouse documentation
    - Bonnie Secakuku indicated that the updated version of the proposal would be reviewed by her Board soon
- Andrew Gashwazra reported that both of the Harvard student interns provided excellent services; Eloise had left two weeks ago and Mellie is set to go back to Cambridge, Massachusetts soon
    - Building Communities assisted HTEDC to apply for intern resources