



NASA Ames Contractor Council
Meeting Minutes
September 1, 2021
Meeting held virtually via Microsoft TEAMS

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>M/S</u>	<u>Phone</u>
NASA Representative	Carol Carroll	ARC	200-9	4-0256
President	Kari Gonter	Metis Technology Solutions		(760) 500-0136
Vice President	Mark Rowland	Flight Research	NRP-19	(510) 366-5909
Treasurer	Sara Jain	Tellus Solutions		(408) 368-0726
Secretary	Valerie Escobar	AMA	N229-3	(408) 761-6063

Call to Order [11:00] by Kari Gonter

Introductions

Office of Small Business Reminder: NASA Small Industry nominations are due to Christine's office no later than September 3rd.

Steve Hunt, Ames Records Management

- ARC Records Management Office has a website (accessible to anybody on the NASA network), to provide tools and information sources for managing records at Ames.
- There is a requirement whenever an employee leaves, doesn't matter if they are a Civil Servant or Contractor, that an ARC779 form needs to be completed as part of the checkout process.
 - The responsibility for completing the ARC-779 lies with the departing employees Supervisor
- Records Management is working with Procurement and COTRs to add these compliance pieces to contracts.

ACC Business Items

ACC President's Report – Kari Gonter

- Kari approved the August minutes at 11:35 am.

ACC Vice President's Report – Mark Rowland

- No Report

ACC Treasurer's Report – Sara Jain

- Beginning balance: \$14,983.64
 - o \$24.95 for Website hosting (internet services for our website)
- Total Net income: \$14,958.68

ACC Secretary's Report – Valerie Escobar

- No Report

Committee Reports

Small Business – Saba Hussain

- No small business showcase responses were received, we are looking to reschedule the showcase to October time frame.

Ames Calendar– Faten Mansour

- Calendar is a work in progress—we have 14 companies who have agreed to sponsor the calendar
- Motion passed to increase the price per calendar to \$15 each (up from \$12 in previous years).
- Cafeteria is not an option for selling, please send Faten ideas for other places to sell the calendars.
 - o Should we advertise the calendars with a pre-order so we have an idea of how many calendars to print?

Marketing and Communications - Renee Mitchell

- No Report

Imagination Foundation – David Cornelius and Linda McCahon

- No new requests for grants at this time.
- Looking to have the Ames Early Career Network report back in November to provide feedback on how their workshops went this summer.

Public Policy- Sara Jain

- Launch of Boeing's second flight test of its Starliner commercial crew spacecraft has been delayed indefinitely. The company and NASA announced today that Starliner will have to go back to the factory for further troubleshooting after 13 valves in its propulsion system failed to open hours before a scheduled launch on August 3. The root cause of the failure still is not understood.
- NASA Administrator Bill Nelson revealed earlier this year that he was seeking \$11.5 billion as part of the infrastructure/jobs bill to pay for a second Human Landing System for the Artemis program, repairing and upgrading NASA facilities, and other needs that were not included in the agency's FY2022 budget request. That now has grown to \$15.7 billion. The likelihood of getting any or all of it is anyone's guess.
- In light of Blue Origin's lawsuit against NASA for awarding only SpaceX a contract for a lunar lander, NASA has "voluntarily paused work" with SpaceX. Blue Origin founder Jeff Bezos is suing NASA in the Court of Federal Claims insisting NASA's acquisition decision was flawed even though the Government Accountability Office rejected the company's protest. SpaceX, Dynetics and Blue Origin with its "National

Team” including Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman and Draper, won initial 10-month contracts in April 2020 to further their designs under what NASA calls the “Option A” contract.

It planned to pick two of the three to move on to the next phase of design and development in February 2021, but Congress appropriated only 25 percent of what NASA said it needed in FY2021. The Option A contracts were extended on a no-cost basis for a few months while NASA weighed its options. In April, the agency chose SpaceX, and only SpaceX, because of the funding shortfall. Blue Origin and Dynetics protested the award to GAO, prompting the first stop-work order. GAO ruled in NASA’s favor on July 30 and NASA resumed the SpaceX contract, but Blue Origin now is taking its complaint to the U.S. Court of Federal Claims. SpaceX is continuing the development of its system, Starship, nonetheless at its own expense. Company founder and CEO Elon Musk tweeted over the weekend that he expects the first orbital test flight “in a few weeks, pending only regulatory approval.”

Safety Outreach– Mike Weiss and Linda McCahon

- The new rules for unvaccinated folks are very clear for visitors, but it is not quite clear for civil servants and contractors. It is unclear how long the COVID-19 negative test will last and who needs to see the test.

ACC Golf Tournament– Mark Rowland

- No Report—event is on hold.

New Business

- Flu vaccines will be coming in the first few weeks of October and in January COVID-19 booster shots will be available on Center.
- Is there a plan for a get together in January?
 - o We will be contacting Michaels to set a date.

Adjourning the Meeting

- Kari Gonter adjourned the meeting at 12:07 pm.

Next Scheduled Meeting

- The next official meeting will be held virtually on October 6, 2021 at 11 am (PST)