

**Ames Contractor Council**  
**March 6, 2024 Minutes**  
**For**  
**April 3, 2024**  
**ACC Virtual Monthly Meeting**

**1. Introduction and Approval of Minutes of March 6, 2024**

Comments: Faten found typos, fixed and posted online

No objections. Minutes were approved.

**2. Small Business Report**

Mariam Rahami: Nothing to report

Saba Hussain: Nothing to report.

**3. Calendar Sales**

Faten Mansour: 2 calendars were purchased at the Happy Hour

Faten will be at the Monthly Happy Hour on 4/17/2024 for ACC

Very nice turnout and a lot of people come.

**4. Treasurer's Report**

Sara Jain: beginning balance was \$18,715.19. One expense for the internet at \$24.95. Total balance is \$18,740.14.

**5. Featured Speaker: Amir Deylami, ARC Associate Director**

Federal Employment Viewpoint Summary

Thursday – Virtual 1-4 PM

Open to civil servants and contractors.

40% on contractor side; 60% participation on civil servant side

NASA wide DIA; for SAFETY, contractors do not make full use

Improved by 15% overall; Code D is the most improved over others;

Summer picnic is June 12<sup>th</sup>.

NASA's issues and challenges related to Workload are under discussion.

Special recognition at times can go a long way such as a launch invite.

Communication improves by more transparency and flow down of info

Goal for more progress on workload and burnout

Recognition of performance at 60%; some percentages are in line, others are not.

Preview of DIA Day given; feedback on data and cultural progress is appreciated.

Just getting to know the person on the other side of the Virtual table can be key.

DIA initiative on what ARC is doing – focus on center leadership to reach out

Plans for DIA and psychological safety are in the works. The community is civil servants and contractors. Give a shoutout to those already in play. Ames Honor Awards. A DIA Hero at every level - your friend, colleague, someone who makes your day.

GOAL is Psychological Safety and Anti-Harassment

Invite by Amir to be forwarded to ACC for all to attend.

## **6. Old Business**

Linda McCahon: The initial intent of the ACC is to bring the Site Managers together or whoever they sent as their representative. It wasn't for everyone in the contractor community, all of the lead individuals in the community. Probably why others do not know about the ACC more for the representative.

## **7. Marketing**

Renee Mitchell: Nothing to report.

## **8. Imagination Foundation**

David Cornelius: Nothing to report. David not present for meeting and emailed Kari.

## **9. Safety**

Linda McCahon/Mike Weiss: On the Adam contract, 4 NIMITZ reports that are basic First Aid and close calls. In the last couple of months, in front of B-260, a JACOBS employee trips over a huge offset in the sidewalk. Offer to pay for repair by JACOBS Corporate Investment. Streets and sidewalks noted by Weiss are in bad condition. Weiss cautions the contractor council to be aware of these issues at ARC.

## **10. Ames Exchange Council**

Debbie Kolyer/Sara Jain: Sara attended last month; this month, the meeting is the 3<sup>rd</sup> week.

## **11. Small Business and the Golf Tournament**

Kari Gonter: two weeks ago, Kari sent out an email on both of the above to all members. One answer came 7 days later. Renee was the only respondent. For the Golf tournament, no one responded. We want to have a Small Business committee and we want to have a golf tournament but no one has responded. Will send out invite to 4 people for the Golf

Committee. Springtime is the first option but must be done quickly. Participation is the issue here. 20 people in this meeting so the number is low.

Renee Mitchell Comment: This is a big red flag that membership needs to increase. Linda and Mike were working on a membership drive but do not know where it is right now. If we can get more people involved, we will have more volunteers.

Linda McCahon comment: We used to have 100s of people. People are backing out now as must do more than show up but make a contribution. Does not know if inviting more people is the answer.

Renee Mitchell comment: Disagrees. Change is good.

Kari Gonter comments: I know there was discussion between Mike and Linda and other government entities cannot be a member. Suggestion to send out an email to Linda, Mike and Saba and hit it again on this topic as there are other contractors. OK for Renee and others to do the same to increase membership.

Renee Mitchell comments: There is GOOGLE and they have a big outreach program for contractors.

Kari comments: Request to meet for ½ hour next week with Miriam and Saba. Will send out more invites as well. Sandra Rasmussen wants an invite also.

## **12.Public Policy**

Sara Jain: Apollo Astronaut General Tom Stafford passes away. Stafford made four space flights but is probably best remembered for his last internationally groundbreaking Apollo.

China's China launches second lunar communication relay satellite China launched a second satellite on March 19th, and that will orbit the moon to enable communication with lunar Landers on the far side, which always points away from Earth.

Starliner crew test flight is targeted for May 6<sup>th</sup>.

Boeing and SpaceX, where two winners of the commercial crew transportation capability CCP contracts the two companies, shared \$6.8 billion. Boeing got \$4.2 billion, while SpaceX got \$2.6 billion.

Space Force gets boost in final financial year 2024 appropriation, though less than requested.

On March 31st, Congress and White House have finally agreed on funding for the last set of financial year 2024 appropriation bill, which includes dead what did SpaceX Space Force receive for its financial 2024 appropriation? Space Force is getting approximately \$29 billion or about 1 billion less than the 30 billion request. Appropriators reduce the Space Force procurement request both for their procurement account as well as their research, development, training and engineering. RDT and

E procurement account was reduced from 19 billion to 18.6 billion and the procurement account reduced to 4.6 from 4.6 to \$4 billion.

Kari Gonter comments: Again, we need a Secretary. For anybody wants to volunteer to do this, let me know and our next meeting is going to be May 6th and that one will be virtual and in person.

Reiterated about membership from Renee's perspective which is not new business.

Jeff Johnson (NFAC) comments: Made an introduction about his company. Thanked Mike Weiss for asking him to join the ACC. So technically my company that I work for is a contractor at the Air Force, but since we are on the Ames campus and the impact is owned by NASA, we're just a tenant. So I'm I'm glad to be invited and I look forward to getting to know people and contributing and being part of the Council.

We're actually considered a satellite facility or campus of the Arnold Engineering Development Complex located in the Middle Tennessee, where the airports does most of their ground test, research and development. NFAC is actually **National full scale aerodynamic complex** in answer to Kari's question as to what the acronym stood for. Jeff Johnson (NFAC)  
And again, I appreciate Mike inviting me to be part of the Council. My company is not listed and it really wouldn't be because as I mentioned, we're a contractor to the Air Force, not to NASA, but I'd be happy to give our company information and contact a name if that is appropriate to be on the list as a member of the Ames Contractor Council.

**Meeting ended at 11:58 AM.**