



**NASA Ames Contractor Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**May 3, 2023**  
**Meeting held virtually via Microsoft TEAMS**

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>M/S</u>	<u>Phone</u>
NASA Representative	Amir Deylami	ARC		
President	Kari Gonter	Metis Technology Solutions		(760) 500-0136
Vice President	Vince DeFrancisci	Bay Area Environmental Research Institute		
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

#### David Korsmeyer

- Amir is currently working with a specialist team from NASA HQ to help complete a facility health assessment. As part of the renewed building health assessment activities, Ames is working to move workforce from the poorer maintained buildings and consolidate into healthy ones. This specialist team, as an independent third party, will be helping inform which buildings should be the focus of the limited funds so that anybody onsite at Ames is in a place that is pleasant to work (comfortable temperature, good airflow).
- Ames is back at full strength when it comes to visitors at Ames. Every week there is an industry, international or other government team coming by to Ames.

#### Christine Munroe

- SBA National Small Business Week (NSBW) will take place April 30-May 6,2023.
- PTACs are NOW APEX Accelerators. The Procurement Technical Assistance Program (PTAP) is now under the management of the Department of Defense (DOD) Office of Small Business Programs(OSBP)and has changed its name to APEX Accelerators. <https://www.apexaccelerators.us/#/>

- Small Business Liaison Officer (SBLO) Training “Second Wednesday” you can go back and watch previous presentations, Stephanie Lewis is someone you can contact if you are interested in signing up for training or obtaining the slides.
- Small Business Goals:
  - Agency is currently not making any of their small business goals (Small Business, SDB, WOSB, HUBZone, SDVOSB)
  - NASA Ames is currently making all their small business goals (Small Business, SDB, WOSB, HUBZone, SDVOSB)
- New resource for opportunities: NASA TechPort-showcases NASA’s portfolio of active and completed technology projects. <https://techport.nasa.gov/home>
- Upcoming OSBP Learning Series: <https://www.nasa.gov/osbp/learning-series>
  - May 17, 2023: How to do Business with NASA Science and Resource Centers
  - June 21, 2023: Annual Small Business Town Hall
  - July 20, 2023: NASA Small Business Conferences and Networking (Virtual)

### **Tyler Lomas-Ames Safety Culture Survey Results**

- Five Components to a healthy Safety Culture are used across the entire agency as a part of the safety culture they are trying to develop.
  - Reporting Culture: We report our concerns
  - Just Culture: We have a sense of fairness
  - Flexible Culture: We change to meet new demands
  - Learning Culture: We learn from our successes and mistakes
  - Engaged Culture: Everyone does their part
- They survey was split up into 25 questions, the first 22 were associated with the five components above, the last three were open ended and specific to Ames.
- There were 2000 participants in the last round, and about 50% of contracts responded to the survey.
- Across the board Ames is doing very well, with averages in the satisfied to very satisfied range.
- There was frustration across the board regarding the infrastructure with both branch/division and senior management.
- Staff was very positive about telework and gave management kudos for it.

## **ACC Business Items**

### **ACC President’s Report – Kari Gonter**

- Kari approved the April minutes at 11:37 am.
- ITPO Contractor Steering Council: New IT issues that are coming through. Jules Clayton will be joining a future ACC meeting to present more information on the Council.

### **ACC Vice President’s Report – Vince DeFrancisci**

- No Report

## **ACC Treasurer's Report – Sara Jain**

- Beginning balance: \$18,590.65  
Expense: \$24.95 (web hosting)
- Total ending balance: \$18,565.70

## **ACC Secretary's Report – Valerie Escobar**

- No Report

## **Committee Reports**

### **Small Business – Saba Hussain**

- There is an event on May 4<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am. This is a virtual event recognizing ACC Small Business members who have successfully graduated from the 8A program, and how the program has helped their businesses.

### **Ames Calendar– Faten Mansour**

- There are still a few calendars. Faten will attend Happy Hour to sell remaining calendars.
- Please think of ideas for the theme of our 2024 calendar.

### **Marketing and Communications - Renee Mitchell**

- No Report.

### **Imagination Foundation – David Cornelius and Linda McCahon**

- No new grant requests.

### **Public Policy- Sara Jain**

- NASA and the Canadian Space Agency named the four members of the Artemis II crew on April 3rd, NASA astronauts Reid Wiseman, Victor Glover, Christina Hammock Koch and Canadian astronaut Jeremy Hansen. The foursome will be the first humans to fly around the moon in more than 50 years when they launch at the end of 2024.
- Makenzie Lystrup is the new Director of NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, NASA announced on April 6th. A planetary scientist and astronomer, she comes from Ball Aerospace, which builds science instruments and spacecraft for NASA and other government agencies. Her appointment is effective immediately.
- The European Space Agency's Jupiter Icy Moons Explorer, or JUICE, began its 8-year journey to Jupiter on April 14<sup>th</sup>. The spacecraft needs five gravity assists so will not arrive until 2031.
- House Republican leadership may be proposing dramatic funding cuts for agencies like NASA, but the Republicans — and Democrats — on NASA's appropriations subcommittee seem much more concerned about staying ahead of China. At a hearing on NASA's FY2024 budget request, the praise for NASA and the agency's Administrator, Bill Nelson, could not have been more glowing.
- Several environmental groups filed a lawsuit against the FAA today because it did not adequately protect the area around SpaceX's Starbase in Boca Chica, TX. The action comes less than two weeks after SpaceX conducted the first launch of Starship/Super Heavy, the most powerful rocket ever built, sending a cloud of dust and debris into the air. Some fell on a nearby town. The rocket exploded over the Gulf of Mexico minutes later. They want the FAA's approval of SpaceX's launch operations at Boca Chica rescinded.

### **Safety Outreach– Mike Weiss and Linda McCahon**

- There were 3 mishaps in March: A fume hood chemical exposure, a loss of balance and an injury when the person hit a light fixture (in a confined space).

## **ACC Golf Tournament– Kari Gonter and Trey Croom**

- No Report

## **Contractor Excellence Awards– Debbie Koyler**

- Planning has begun for a remote ceremony. Aiming to hold the ceremony in the September/October timeframe.

## **New Business**

- Please let Kari know if there are any requests for speakers at future meetings.

## **Adjourning the Meeting**

- Kari Gonter adjourned the meeting at 11:51 am.

## **Next Scheduled Meeting**

- The next official meeting will be held virtually on June 7, 2023, at 11 am (PST).