



NASA Ames Contractor Council
Meeting Minutes
October 6, 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

David Korsmeyer

- Safer Federal Workforce Site: <https://www.saferfederalworkforce.gov/faq/vaccinations/>
- The Agency is still working on its final process. Official guidance is wait until NASA tells you something officially. Things are moving quickly, with the ultimate goal being to keep people healthy and safe.
- Return to Onsite Work: Ames moved into Stage 2 about a month ago and has stayed at the 25% cap due to additional workforce constraints (Union negotiations and employee notification). Even at 25% Ames believes that they haven't really hit the cap, there is flexibility to put more people into the regular onsite workforce. If you feel your work is stalled without access, please work with CO.
- Agency is planning to give civil servants 30 days' notice that occupancy will increase to 50% capacity within the next few days.

Christine Munroe:

- Ames is anticipating they will not meet their Small Business Goal for FY21, which is due to a couple awarded contracts that were transitioned from small to other than small through the year, but will meet the SDB, WOSB, HUBZone and SDVOSB goals for FY21
- Upcoming Outreach Events: (<https://www.nasa.gov/centers/ames/business/index.html>)

Date	Event	Registration Link
October 7, 2021	NASA Small Business Opportunities Virtual Expo 2021	https://www.eventbrite.com/e/nasa-small-business-opportunities-virtual-expo-2021-registration-165903579071/
October 14, 2021	By Black Conference	https://www.accelevents.com/e/byblackconference2021
October 27, 2021	CPUC/ Joint Utilities Virtual Small/ Diverse Business Expo	https://whova.com/web/cjuvs_202110/

Small Business Awards Update FY21: There was an extension and nominations are due to Christine’s office via the CO by October 15th for the Large Business Prime Contractor of the Year.

- FY 2020 NASA SMALL BUSINESS Industry Award Winners:
https://www.nasa.gov/sites/default/files/atoms/files/sbia_publication-tagged.pdf
 - ARC Small Business Prime Contractor of the Year: Millennium Engineering and Integration Service, LLC
 - ARC Small Business Subcontractor of the Year: Metis Technology Solutions, Inc

Sarah Pollock

- Deputy Director of Procurement Introduction: Ann Haase:
- If you haven’t already heard from your CO, you will be receiving a deviation to modify contract to incorporate the new executive order.
- Majority of personnel approved for onsite work are Contractors.

Dan Likins, Early Career Advisory Group Chair

- Founded in 2020 by cross- organizational formation committee task force
- To serve and promote a culture of diversity and inclusion through continual learning and employee advocacy
 - “early career” is the first 5 years of Civil Service or first 5 years following terminal degree.
- How best do you serve a community as broad and diverse as Early Careers? Ames community was surveyed and the three main take-aways were:
 1. People are prioritizing hiring diversity
 2. Retention
 3. Knowledge Transfer

- Individual working groups were established to address each of the main topics, to further the understanding of the current operating environment.

ACC Business Items

ACC President's Report – Kari Gonter

- Kari approved the September minutes at 11:32 am.
- How do we go about allowing other ACC members to join our committees?
- Kari will not be able to attend meeting on November 3rd as scheduled, the November meeting will be moved to the 10th.

ACC Vice President's Report – Mark Rowland

- No Report

ACC Treasurer's Report – Sara Jain

- Beginning balance: \$14,958.69

Credit:

- o \$732.58 was credited back from our 2019 Paypal balance

Expense

- o \$14.95 for Website hosting (internet services for our website)
- o \$24.95 Webhosting for Cruzio
- o \$348 for Wix

- Total ending balance: \$15,303.37

ACC Secretary's Report – Valerie Escobar

- No Report

Committee Reports

Small Business – Saba Hussain

- Next Small Business meeting is Thursday October 10th, please let Kari or Saba know if you would like to be sent the invite.
- Saba is still working on Joint Counseling Sessions with Christine

Ames Calendar– Faten Mansour

- There are 3 companies that still need to pay for their sponsorship.
- Working with the Printshop to provide a sample for everyone to review.

Marketing and Communications - Renee Mitchell

- Renee is looking to showcase businesses for Hispanic Heritage month. If you would like to be featured please contact Renee or Kari.

Imagination Foundation – David Cornelius and Linda McCahon

- No new requests for grants currently.

- 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

- NASA Administrator Bill Nelson announced on September 21st that he is dividing responsibility for the human spaceflight program into two. One Mission Directorate will focus on space operations and the other on developing systems for exploring the Moon and Mars.
- Three Chinese astronauts returned to Earth on September 17th after three months aboard China's space station core module, Tianhe. It is the longest duration mission by any Chinese astronauts and signals the beginning of China's new space station era. It is a milestone in China's growing space ambitions
- Jeff Bezos's Blue Origin found itself under fire last week both from within and without. An essay penned by 21 current and former employees accuses the firm of being "stuck in a toxic past" while NASA documents blast the company's bid for the Artemis Human Landing System. Blue Origin launches the New Shepard reusable suborbital rocket that took Bezos and three others across the air/space line in July. According to the FOIA'd documents, NASA told the GAO that Blue Origin "gambled" with its bid of \$5.9 billion, about twice the SpaceX price, expecting NASA to come back and ask it for a better offer as it had with an earlier round: "But NASA had no obligation to make this request. This time, the bet simply did not work out in Blue Origin's favor." The court is expected to make a decision on Blue Origin's lawsuit by November 1. Until then, NASA's contract with SpaceX is in limbo.
- A Russian space crew is giving new meaning to shooting a film on location. Actress Yulia Peresild and film director Klim Shipenko boarded the International Space Station in Earth orbit beginning a 12-day shoot for their movie "The Challenge". A professional cosmonaut was at the controls during launch and docking, but the film crew is grabbing all the headlines.
- President Biden signed the FY2022 Continuing Resolution (CR) into law the evening of September 30th after passage by the Senate and House earlier today, the last day of FY2021. The bill not only keeps the government operating through December 3, but funds disaster relief including money for NASA to recover from two hurricanes. Waiting until the last minute as it often does, the Senate passed the CR this afternoon after removing a controversial provision to suspend the debt limit. The revised bill, H.R. 5305, then passed the House and was signed into law just before 7:30 pm ET. Without the measure, a partial government shutdown would have begun at midnight. But for the moment, it is all good news for NASA. Two launches are coming up this month — the Lucy mission to the Trojan asteroids on October 16, and the Crew-3 mission to the International Space Station whose launch date was just moved forward a day to October 30 instead of October 31.

Safety Outreach– Mike Weiss and Linda McCahon

- Ames Incident report hasn't been posted for August/September yet.
- COVID Comments
 - o Bilateral Modification is headed to contractors soon
 - This clause needs to be flowed down subcontractors for anything over \$10k micro purchase threshold, regardless of whether they have Center access.

ACC Golf Tournament– Mark Rowland

- No Report—event is on hold.

New Business

- None.

Adjourning the Meeting

- Kari Gonter adjourned the meeting at 11:49 am.

Next Scheduled Meeting

- The next official meeting will be held virtually on November 10, 2021 at 11 am (PST)