



AIANEA National Council Teleconference Minutes

Tuesday, January 20, 2014

12:00 am Pacific, 1:00 pm Mountain, 2:00 pm Central, 3:00 pm Eastern

Respect, Harmony and Beauty

Council Members & Guests Attending:

President

Steve Durgin, Washington DC

Secretary

Melissa Sturdivant, Texas

Treasurer

Bill Parrish, Pennsylvania

Northern Plains Regional Representative

Cameron Clark, Wyoming

Southeast Regional Representative

David Elliott, Alabama

Guests Attending:

Barry Hamilton, National Tribal Liaison Officer, Wash., DC

Cassius Spears, Rhode Island

Past Presidents

Ciro Lo Pinto, Pennsylvania,

Meeting Minutes:

- a. Meeting was called to order at 2:05 pm (Central) by Steve Durgin, President.
- b. Steve took roll call. No quorum was achieved and action on business before the Council which required a vote from the National Council members was deferred until a later date.
- c. New agenda items: David asked about the status of the DUNS and SAM registration, and discussions followed and were then further discussed during the treasurer's report.
- d. Review of the action items from past meetings or those currently on the Registry
Facilitator – *Melissa Sturdivant*
 - 1) **ACTION ITEM:** Steve will forward to Ciro and David the questions brought forward about the East Regional Tribal Conservation Advisory Council (RTCAC). Steve was not sure if he had forwarded this info, but will take care of it.
 - 2) **ACTION ITEM:** Tanya will go to the local Wells Fargo bank and remove her name from the account. Melissa indicated that both Tanya and Pam had forwarded an email and reported that this was completed.
 - 3) **ACTION ITEM:** Pam will prepare a listing of all of those who attended the national training and provide this to the National Council. Melissa reported that Pam had sent an email reporting that this was accomplished.
 - 4) **ACTION ITEM:** Steve will work to form an ad hoc committee which includes Carol, Melissa and Cameron to develop a directory of personnel working within the AIAN arena to include the AIANEA National Council, TLs, SEPMS, and other Agency personnel with tribal responsibilities. Steve reported that he was still working on this.
 - 5) **ACTION ITEM:** Carol will prepare the final letters to be sent to the scholarship recipients and forward to Steve. Carol completed this item.
 - 6) **ACTION ITEM:** Steve will sign the letters for the scholarship recipients and forward these to Pam for processing. Steve signed the letters and Pam has reported that the letters and checks were forwarded to the scholarship recipients.
 - 7) **ACTION ITEM:** Melissa will work with Steve to prepare the call for nominations for the current vacancies on the AIANEA National Council and get this information to Yvette for distribution. Melissa reported that this was accomplished.

ACTION ITEM (carried forward): Steve will forward to Ciro and David the questions brought forward about the East Regional Tribal Conservation Advisory Council (RTCAC). Steve was not sure if he had forwarded this info, but will take care of it.

ACTION ITEM (carried forward): Steve will work to form an ad hoc committee which includes Carol, Melissa and Cameron to develop a directory of personnel working within the AIAN arena to include the AIANEA National Council, TLs, SEPMs, and other Agency personnel with tribal responsibilities. Steve reported that he was still working on this.

- e. Review and approval of minutes for the National Council meeting conducted on December 2, 2014.
Facilitator – *Melissa Sturdivant*

Melissa reviewed the minutes from the meeting. However, seeing that there was no quorum, this item was tabled for action at a later date.

- f. Treasurer's Report.
Facilitator – *Bill Parrish*

Bill reported the following account balances:

- 1) \$ 45,630.22 in Wells Fargo checking
\$ 104,567.02 in Frost Bank

Bill reported that we had paid approximately \$24,000 in expenses in conducting the national training, and income was about this amount as well. Bill further reported that 13 registrations have not been paid to date.

- 2) David asked if we could discuss the status of the DUNS and SAM.gov registration. He further explained that the state of Alabama could not make payment for the national training until this situation was resolved.

Melissa stated that she was limited in what she is able to do because DUNS & Bradstreet will only speak with Pam as the designated officer. Any action items requiring changes to the entity's records must be accomplished by Pam. Melissa reviewed the processes undertaken to date by Pam and her, and reported that they were reassured by the DUNS & Bradstreet investigator that the records were updated by DUNS & Bradstreet and this should be communicated with the SAM.gov system, but it supposedly just a matter of time according to the DUNS & Bradstreet personnel. Melissa explained that DUNS & Bradstreet had reported that because the Association was "not active" for so many years, the entity was archived according to their records.

Steve asked Bill if he can help Pam with this. Melissa explained the function of the SAM.gov system to those in the meeting. She further explained that for NRCS to do business with the Association, we are required to complete the validation of our non-profit status, banking records, and status as an entity with the SAM.gov system, but all of this is contingent on the accuracy of the records and the information recorded with DUNS & Bradstreet. Melissa went further to explain what the SAM.gov system does in the verification process and that we are having difficulty and not able to verify some of those items. Pam is the only one that can represent the Association and is registered to do so with DUNS & Bradstreet. Melissa stated that she will continue to work on this and see what can be done to correct the problem, and will follow-up with Pam and work with her.

David suggested that as a last resort, the Association can request a new DUNS number and start over, and it may take about 30 days or so to do this. But, it may be needed as a last effort to solve the problem.

ACTION ITEM: Melissa will get with Pam and see about the status of the DUNS and SAM.gov registration.

- g. President's Update.
Facilitator – *Steve Durgin*

- 1) Steve provided a report of his efforts to complete the evaluation from the national training. He is still compiling the information and assessments. He stated that he will send a reminder and see if he can get some more responses.
- 2) Steve and Melissa reported that the ballot was ready to be distributed; however, we still need the bio from Cassius to include. Before the end of the teleconference, Cassius called in and joined the meeting and also reported that he just forwarded his bio. Melissa added that Yvette was out sick but she would try and get in touch with her and see if we can get help with sending out a communication regarding the elections. Discussions followed about getting some help for Yvette so that we have a means to reach the membership.

Melissa reviewed the current slate of nominees which make up the ballot. Melissa reported that she will follow up with Yvette and see how she is feeling and see if we can get the ballot out soon.

ACTION ITEM: Steve and Melissa will get the election ballot prepared and distributed to the membership.

h. Regional Representatives' Reports

Facilitator – *Steve Durgin & Regional Representatives*

1) Southeast Region, David Elliott

David indicated that the Southeast Indian Working Group is scheduled to meet the next day.

David attended a United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc. (USET) meeting recently and has another scheduled in the near future. He stays actively involved with this organization

David reported that the Poarch Band of Creek Indians recently hosted a National Restore meeting related to the BP Oil Spill and the efforts for the Gulf Coast Recovery. He reported that this initiative continues to make strides in restoring the sensitive estuaries.

2) Northern Plains Region, Cameron Clark

Cameron reported on his mentoring efforts to recruit new members and for members to run for National Council positions.

i. National AIAN SEPM Report

Facilitator – *Deborah Clairmont*

Deborah was not present.

j. National Tribal Liaison Officer Report

Facilitator – *Barry Hamilton*

Barry commented on the previous month's meeting and the efforts and work of the National Tribal Network. Barry further added to the reports previously provided by Melissa and Tanya, and welcomed any efforts and work provided by the National Council. Barry stated that we need an up-to-date resource that has current information and serves as a directory of all those agency personnel with tribal responsibilities.

Everyone agrees that it is a huge task and we need to have a plan for how best to compile the information, how to update the information, and how the Association can be a resource for NRCS in getting this accomplished. Ciro added that we can do this and we are willing to do. We have the separate lists and the Association will assist Barry in compiling this information and will share it with him. Steve further reported that we plan to include other agencies and those that are involved with tribes so that it is as comprehensive as possible. Steve further reported we have a disadvantage in that we don't have a sharepoint available, but this would be a good tool to help bring this together.

Barry asked about how we are going to work on this, and Steve indicated that our communications and ad hoc sub-committee will work on some of this project. Barry asked if we could identify one person in the state who can be the focal point for any tribal business.

David indicated that in the past we have had several groups work on a project such as this, and the drawback is that our potential to reach folks is somewhat limited to those who are members of the Association. David stated that he maintains a database of NRCS people he works with in the various roles he has with the 26-member USET-based work. He also has a database for USDA employees working with those tribes affected by the BP oil spill in the Gulf. He has worked on these lists because of the work he does with those various committees.

Ciro added that the letter that goes out to each state seeking to update the information really needs to come from Barry's office as it has the clout to get the responses needed from state offices across the country. Steve asked that if we can have a little bit of time for this ad hoc committee to begin working, and from that, we will then be clear on what is needed and then go from there.

Barry also discussed the issues recently brought up regarding "trust responsibility" and responsibilities we have during consultation. Barry added that this will be addressed at the upcoming USET meeting planned for February. Barry also discussed the initiative underway working with tribal colleges.

k. Committee Reports

Facilitator – *Steve Durgin & Committee Chairs/Representatives*

The following committee reports were provided:

1) *Elders' Committee*, Tanya Meyer-Dideriksen

Tanya was not present, but forwarded a report. Steve provided the update, and a copy of the report is attached (Attachment C). Melissa added that she recently spoke with Judy and she shared that Judy was appreciative of the work put into the book, that it was a long time coming and that she was truly grateful that Harold was honored. Melissa also indicated that Judy was very glad to see that money was being set aside for a scholarship to be named in Harold's honor.

2) *Awards Committee*, Steve Durgin

Steve commented that he had provided a write-up and sent this to Gina. He will follow-up with Gina and see what else needs to be done to get this information to the state's and to the recipients. Steve asked Melissa if she could help him gather names and addresses of supervisors.

Melissa reported that Pam told her that she had the baskets from the national training, and she had mailed a basket to Ciro and Yvette. Ciro commented that there was nothing in the box with the basket; no write-up or award citation, and suggested that Steve follow-up on this. Steve commented that Ciro's absence at the national training was noticed and he was missed by many. Steve added that many sacrificed and worked hard to bring this training together, and Ciro commented that although he is retiring June 2015, he wants to continue to be involved and will plan to attend future trainings.

Visioning Leadership Award – Gina Kerzman

Excellence for Conservation Outreach & Education Award – Millie Titla

NRCS Employee Award – Sarah Bridges

Mentoring Award – Ciro Lo Pinto

Outstanding Service – Pam Crow

Outstanding Member – Melissa Sturdivant

President's Award – Tanya Meyer-Dideriksen

President's Award – Yvette Dulle

President's Award – Melissa Sturdivant

ACTION ITEM: Steve and Melissa will work to get award notifications distributed to award recipients and supervisors.

ACTION ITEM: Melissa will gather names of supervisors for each award recipient and forward this information to Steve.

3) *Cookbook Committee*, Melissa Sturdivant

Melissa provided an update on the project.

a) Melissa reported that a large order was placed right before Christmas, and only three hardbound books are on-hand at present. The orders were fulfilled and shipped to the recipients. She added that some additional orders are coming in to Pam and another order will be placed in the near future.

b) Melissa reported that it is difficult to reconcile the account and determine the monies earned to date with the discounts received from the recent bulk order, because the price was lower than expected and more monies were earned with the order. She had no specific numbers at present, but indicated that the main expense was the shipping of the books.

c) Melissa went on to report that the shipping varies with each order because of all of the variables to include if it's a paperback or hardback book, how many in the order, and how far it is traveling. We had estimated about \$9 earned for each book sold, but that amount earned increases slightly with bulk orders of 10 or more. Steve suggested that Melissa continue to add sufficient numbers to any orders so that we can get the quantity discount. With that, we will earn a few more dollars, and this will also allow for some books to be on hand as well for future orders. Discussions followed. Ciro commented that we can earn more money if people donated more money. Ciro suggested that if we add more information on the order form to help explain that we are basically purchasing at cost. Suggesting that with a donation, they can receive a tax deduction also. This is available because there are monies going to fund a scholarship, and if we provide an opportunity for people to contribute, then we may collect more monies. Ciro suggested adding something to the order form to ask for additional contributions. Melissa said she would work on the order form.

- l. New business:
West RTCAC Position. Steve stated that he had sent an announcement regarding the opening of the West RTCAC position, and that there were three people who had indicated an interest in being considered for the position. Melissa reviewed the procedure which was done previously when the initial representatives were selected. Melissa will send this info to Steve again so that he can work on this.
- ACTION ITEM:** Melissa will forward info on the RTCAC selection process to Steve.
- ACTION ITEM:** Steve will work to get the materials out to the West RTCAC candidates for their completion prior to the next National Council meeting so that selections can be made.
- m. Review of Action Items from current meeting:
- ACTION ITEM (carried forward):** Steve will forward to Ciro and David the questions brought forward about the East Regional Tribal Conservation Advisory Council (RTCAC). Steve was not sure if he had forwarded this info, but will take care of it.
- ACTION ITEM (carried forward):** Steve will work to form an ad hoc committee which includes Carol, Melissa and Cameron to develop a directory of personnel working within the AIAN arena to include the AIANEA National Council, TLs, SEPMS, and other Agency personnel with tribal responsibilities. Steve reported that he was still working on this.
- ACTION ITEM:** Melissa will get with Pam and see about the status of the DUNS and SAM.gov registration.
- ACTION ITEM:** Steve and Melissa will get the election ballot prepared and distributed to the membership.
- ACTION ITEM:** Steve and Melissa will work to get award notifications distributed to award recipients and supervisors.
- ACTION ITEM:** Melissa will gather names of supervisors for each award recipient and forward this information to Steve.
- ACTION ITEM:** Melissa will forward info on RTCAC selection to Steve.
- ACTION ITEM:** Steve will work to get the materials out to the candidates for the West RTCAC for their completion prior to the next National Council meeting for selections to be made.
- n. Closing thoughts & comments. Steve extended his sincere appreciation to the National Council and Association members for all that they accomplished this past year and was very pleased with the national training which we provided.
- o. Adjourn – Steve extended his appreciation to those members, committee chairs and guest attending, and with no further business, Steve adjourned the Council meeting at 3:45 pm, Central.
- 3 attachments
- A. 2014 Action Item Registry
 - B. National Council 1 20 15 Meeting Agenda
 - C. Elders' Committee Meeting Report

Minutes respectfully submitted by Melissa Sturdivant, AIANEA National Council Secretary. Please respond to melissa.sturdivant@tx.usda.gov with questions or comments.



2014 AIANEA National Council *ACTION ITEMS* Registry

Date: February 1, 2015

Respect, Harmony and Beauty

Date Initiated	Action Item Description	Person(s) Responsible	Disposition Date	Reference Document
ACTION ITEMS				
1/20/2015	<i>Melissa will get with Pam and see about the status of the DUNS and SAM.gov registration.</i>	M. Sturdivant		
1/20/2015	<i>Steve and Melissa will get the election ballot prepared and distributed to the membership.</i>	S. Durgin & M. Sturdivant		
1/20/2015	<i>Steve and Melissa will work to get award notifications distributed to award recipients and supervisors.</i>	S. Durgin & M. Sturdivant		
1/20/2015	<i>Melissa will gather names of supervisors for each award recipient and forward this information to Steve.</i>	M. Sturdivant		
1/20/2015	<i>Melissa will forward info on RTCAC selection to Steve</i>	M. Sturdivant		
1/20/2015	<i>Steve will work to get the materials out to the candidates for the West RTCAC for their completion prior to the next National Council meeting for selections to be made.</i>	S. Durgin		
12/2/2014	<i>Steve will work to form an ad hoc committee which includes Carol, Melissa and Cameron to develop a directory of personnel working within the AIAN arena to include the AIANEA National Council, TLs, SEPMS, and other Agency personnel with tribal responsibilities.</i>	S. Durgin		
10/7/2014	<i>Steve will forward to David Elliott and Ciro Lo Pinto the questions brought forward regarding the East RTCAC.</i>	S. Durgin		

Date Initiated	Action Item Description	Person(s) Responsible	Disposition Date	Reference Document
ACTION ITEMS – COMPLETED				
12/2/2014	<i>Melissa will work with Steve to prepare the call for nominations for the current vacancies on the AIANEA National Council and get this information to Yvette for distribution.</i>	M. Sturdivant & S. Durgin	1/20/2015	Nat'l Council Mtg Minutes, Jan 2015
12/2/2014	<i>Steve will sign the letters for the scholarship recipients and forward these to Pam for processing.</i>	S. Durgin	1/20/2015	Nat'l Council Mtg Minutes, Jan 2015
12/2/2014	<i>Carol will prepare the final letters to be sent to the scholarship recipients and forward to Steve.</i>	Carol Crouch	1/20/2015	Nat'l Council Mtg Minutes, Jan 2015
12/2/2014	<i>Pam will prepare a listing of all of those who attended the national training and provide this to the National Council.</i>	P. Crow	1/20/2015	Nat'l Council Mtg Minutes, Jan 2015
12/2/2014	<i>Tanya will go to the local Wells Fargo bank and remove her name from the account.</i>	T. Meyer-Dideriksen	1/20/2015	Nat'l Council Mtg Minutes, Jan 2015
10/7/2014	<i>Melissa will forward to the National Council a link to preview the cookbook project.</i>	M. Sturdivant	12/2/2014	Nat'l Council Mtg Minutes, Dec 2014
9/2/2014	<i>Steve will prepare and forward information about the RTCAC vacancy in the West Region to Yvette for distribution to AIANEA membership.</i>	S. Durgin	10/7/2014	Nat'l Council Mtg Minutes, Oct 2014
9/2/2014	<i>Steve will work with Pam Crow and forward the 50% payment to the Wind Creek Resort.</i>	S. Durgin	10/7/2014	Nat'l Council Mtg Minutes, Oct 2014
9/2/2014	<i>Melissa will forward to the National Council the email from Roylene requesting assistance with developing a communications protocol between the Agency and Tribes, etc.</i>	M. Sturdivant	10/7/2014	Nat'l Council Mtg Minutes, Oct 2014
9/2/2014	<i>Tanya will forward to Melissa the information for inclusion in the cookbook on the three additional Elders.</i>	T. Meyer-Dideriksen	10/7/2014	Nat'l Council Mtg Minutes, Oct 2014
9/2/2014	<i>Ciro will assist Melissa and Yvette with editing of the cookbook to prepare for publication.</i>	C. Lo Pinto	10/7/2014	Nat'l Council Mtg Minutes, Oct 2014
6/2/2014	<i>Athena Pratt and Bill Parish will research bylaws to determine changes needed to make the president positions two-year positions instead of one-year positions.</i>	S. Durgin	7/2/2014	Nat'l Council Mtg Minutes, July 2014

4/4/2014	Steve will coordinate a meeting with Richard Begay, Athena Pratt and Melissa Sturdivant to review duties and responsibilities of the Council officers.	S. Durgin	6/2/2014	Nat'l Council Mtg Minutes, June 2014
3/10/2014	Steve will follow-up with Athena so that she is aware that an external audit is required and of the other requirements needing attention and involvement of the 2 nd Vice President.	S. Durgin	4/4/2014	Nat'l Council Mtg Minutes, April 2014
2/10/2014	Steve will follow-up with Gina to determine the status of the letter to be submitted to the Regional Conservationists regarding involvement of AIANEA with the RTCAC work.	S. Durgin & G. Kerzman	4/4/2014	Nat'l Council Mtg Minutes, April 2014
2/10/2014	Steve will verify the process to form/re-form the Ad Hoc Finance Committee to allow for the annual audit to be accomplished.	S. Durgin	3/10/2014	Nat'l Council Mtg Minutes, Mar 2014
1/14/2014	Gina, Roylene and Steve will continue to compile data to update the skills matrix database and forward this to Astor Boozer and Barry Hamilton as it becomes available.	G. Kerzman, R. Rides-at-the-Door & S. Durgin	4/4/2014	Nat'l Council Mtg Minutes, April 2014
1/14/2014	Melissa will draft the questions from Barry Hamilton and distribute these to the Association membership soliciting feedback regarding NRCS program regulations affecting business at the local level with Tribes.	M. Sturdivant & Council	1/24/2014	Fwd'd to B. Hamilton (MS); Nat'l Council Mtg Minutes, Feb 2014
1/14/2014	Steve and Carol will work to locate documentation which funds the AI Heritage poster event.	C. Crouch & S. Durgin	2/10/2014	Nat'l Council Mtg Minutes, Feb 2014
1/14/2014	Steve and Melissa will work together to distribute the minutes from the Association's Annual Business meeting to those who attended.	S. Durgin & M. Sturdivant	2/10/2014	Nat'l Council Mtg Minutes, Feb 2014
12/19/2013	To have the President work with Tanya Meyer-Dideriksen and Samantha Dinger to draft a letter to bring before the National Council which will be forwarded to the Regional Conservationists regarding the coordination of RTCAC business and involvement with the Association and specifically how often they meet, length of terms, and involvement of our Elders.	G. Kerzman, T. Meyer-Dideriksen & S. Dinger	3/10/2014	Nat'l Council Mtg Minutes, Mar 2014
5/7/2013	Once the sharepoint information and logon instructions are forwarded to Gina and Steve, they will forward this to the Council.	G. Kerzman & S. Durgin	4/4/2014	Nat'l Council Mtg Minutes, April 2014

REFERENCE DOCUMENTATION

- "AIANEA" indicates emails which were forwarded from the AIANEA Membership email account maintained by Y. Dulle.
- "Nat'l Council Mtg Minutes" for the respective month when disposition was reported/recorded.
- Initials indicate the principal individual.
 - GK – Gina Kerzman
 - CC – Dr. Carol Crouch
 - SD – Steve Durgin
 - SD1 – Samantha Dinger
 - TM/TMD – Tanya Meyer- Dideriksen
 - YD – Yvette Dulle
 - GS – Garry Stephens
 - MS – Melissa Sturdivant
 - HW – Herb Webb

For information regarding the registry and/or its content, contact Melissa Sturdivant, AIANEA Secretary, at melissa.sturdivant@tx.usda.gov.



AIANEA National Council Teleconference

January 20, 2015

12:00 pm Pacific, 1:00 Mountain, 2:00 Central, 3:00 Eastern

This meeting will take place by teleconference.

Call-in number: 888-844-9904

Passcode: 5203411

ATTACHMENT B

January 20, 2015			
Time (PST)	Duration	Topic	Presenter
12:00	10 min	Welcome and Introductions -Review agenda and ask for new agenda items	Steve Durgin
12:10	10 min	Review action items from previous minutes	Council
12:20	5 min	Review/Approval of December Meeting Minutes	Council
12:25	5 min	Treasurer's Report	Pam Crow & Bill Parrish
12:30	10 min	President's update: - Update on AI/AN National Training - Elections	Steve Durgin
12:40	10 min	National AI/AN SEPM Report	Debbie Clairmont
12:50	10 min	Regional Representative Reports	Regional Reps
1:00	10 min	National Tribal Liaison Report	Barry Hamilton

1:10	10 min	Committee updates -elders committee -awards committee -visioning committee -cookbook committee	Committee Chairs
1:20	10 min	New Business	Steve Durgin
1:30	10 min	New agenda items	All
1:40	10 min	Review of Action Items from current meeting	All
1:50	10 min	Closing thoughts and comments	All
2:00		Adjourn	

Additional items:

Sturdivant, Melissa - NRCS, Goldthwaite, TX

From: Meyer, Tanya - NRCS, Washington, IA
Sent: Tuesday, January 20, 2015 1:17 PM
To: Sturdivant, Melissa - NRCS, Goldthwaite, TX; Durgin, Steve - NRCS, Washington, DC
Subject: Elders Committee

Since I cannot be on the teleconference this afternoon, I am providing a summary of the Elders Committee teleconference minutes below:

We held a teleconference on January 15. Participants included 4 Elders.

Conference Follow up - We discussed the Atmore, AL conference and the Elders all felt it was very good. They really enjoyed the tour and learned a lot from it, the Poarch Band of Creek Indians serves as a good model. Elder Billy Smith and David Elliott were commended for giving so much of themselves to a successful conference. Ted did suggest that future conferences possibly not include such full agendas during the day and evenings. He explained that he had to choose to miss some so he could rest and he felt bad about that.

Ann Perales shared that she sent a cookbook to Judy Bryant (Harold's widow) and she was very pleased about how Harold was represented in the book. Judy plans to order cookbooks for other family members.

The **Working Effectively with American Indians training sessions** were discussed and each will include an Elders. Executive session in Washington DC (March) – James Sappier
New York (April) – Loretta Metoxen
Colorado (June) – Norman Lopez
North Dakota (August) – Roy Doore
Alabama (Poarch Band) – Billy Smith

Elder DVD – the audio CD of the Elder interviews is complete and has been sent to Tanya and Gina to pull audio from it for use on the Elder DVD. We will select that audio and audio for an AIANEA Elder DVD. It will be a big job to sort through all the audio.

Elder Book – The Elders and committee will focus on this book now that the conference is over and the cookbook is complete. Tanya announced that Melissa offered to assist and the Elders were very pleased to hear this. There was lots of discussion and excitement about what a tremendous educational resource this book will be. Loretta suggested we market it to public school districts and tribal governments. She said she will suggest all 400 school districts in Wisconsin purchase it. She explained how there is more of an emphasis and even requirement for states to include more tribal education in their curriculum. Ted says that AIANEA has given a voice to today's Indian country. We have our own agenda to educate on our culture and our own voice. This is OUR story.

Thank you for sharing my report.
Tanya

Tanya Meyer-Dideriksen
Area Easement Specialist
1621 East Washington Street
Washington, IA 52353
Natural Resources Conservation Service
United States Department of Agriculture
www.ia.nrcs.usda.gov