

## **Meeting Minutes for Second Drone Camp**

**Earth Lodge Village New Town July 18, 2024**

**Date of Meeting: 10 June 2024 at 1100 CT**

**Organizations represented:** Valkyrie, NHS College, UND (Aerospace, RIAS, RED, Nistler), Airspace Link, and Test Site

### **People in Attendance:**

Facilitator: Thomasine Heitkamp, PI UND  
Landon Johnson, Test Site  
Michael Hamon, R&ED, UND  
Amanda Brandt, RIAS, UND  
Kerry Hartman, NHS College  
Shelia Hanson, Nistler, UND  
Emily Hoffman, R&ED, UND  
Catherine Self, Valkyrie  
Kelly Lindish, Airspace Link  
James Mo, Aero, UND  
Zachary Reeder, RIAS, UND  
Prairie Rose Seminole, NHS College  
David Flynn, Nistler, UND  
Naomi Hansen, R&ED, UND  
Tanner Yackley, Aero, UND

### **Welcome and updates:**

Thomasine Heitkamp welcomed the group and provided a quick recap of the meetings and interactions she had in New Town in the past couple of weeks. She described the enthusiasm about the project by MHA Game and Fish, Planning and Grants, Law Enforcement, and Emergency Services on advancing drone workforce and technology.

### **Update on arrangements for lodging by out-of-area travelers.**

Naomi Hansen continues to collect names to secure a block of rooms available at the Little Missouri Inn and Suites in New Town <https://www.newtownlmis.com/> for those attending the drone camp. The current count is 15 with people needing to get back to Naomi by Friday (June 14) if they want to be part of this block of rooms. The other options are the Teddy's Residential Suites <https://www.newtowntrs.com/> or the Four Bear Casino <https://4bearscasino.com/> if people want to make their reservations separate from the block of rooms.

### **Flyer for Drone Camp** publicity was shared at the June 7 meetings in New Town.

Kerry Hartman stated he would print it out and drop it off with the Boys and Girls Club if mailed to him. The Boys and Girls Club of TAT is a host with us. <https://www.mhanation.com/boys-and-girls-club> Kerry will stay in touch with their CEO, Kristen Morsette, about arrangements and publicity. The number of students participating in the Boys and Girls Club was discussed. We estimate 25 but will not be sure until the "buses unload the day of the camp".

### **Update on the facilities.**

Prairie Rose Seminole provided an update on planning relative to facilities. She has the form for our use of the Amphitheater and Interpretation Center that she is completing. She is also working collaboratively with the Nature Camp staff at NHS College.

### **Schedule of the Drone Camp Finalized and point people.**

**Registration:** Naomi Hanson and Emily Hoffman

**Safety Brief** –Amanda Brandt will run point with this possibly working with Airspace Link if they are in New Town. That is not confirmed. (15 to 20 minutes)

Attendees will rotate across the three stations following the safety briefing in both the morning and afternoon sessions.

**Station 1 - UND Aerospace to cover** Public Safety Exercise/ Flying an Obstacle Course – outside – use Mavics? Will bring orange extension cords or other barriers with James Moe organizing and Leslie Martin and Tanner Yackley will be running it.

**Station 2 - UND Aerospace** - UAS Ping Pong Challenge (inside) Leslie Martin and Tanner Yackley (along with a student from NHS College)

**Station 3 - UND RIAS/Test Site** – Drone drop to target. Amanda Brandt and Mark Askelson, (student from NES College)

Each station will be 25 minutes long with quick change between stations. David Flynn will coordinate traffic flow.

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A discussion about giveaways was raised, and more to come. UND will bring Swag and the Boys and Girls Club will likely have some giveaways. Thomasine encouraged all to use this opportunity for the recruitment of students for UND and NHS College.

Demonstration Flight: Scott Keane and Zachary Reeder will be doing a demo flight between the two camp sessions. The flight plan is attached.

Radar Truck discussion availability was brought up. Amanda Brandt will follow up with Paul Snyder.

### **The Advisory Board meeting for the 17<sup>th</sup> of July** was discussed.

The itinerary has not been formed and suggestions on topics that would like to be discussed should be sent to Thomasine.

Kelly Lindish presented a list of topics she would like to have addressed that have the most impact on the Stage 2 grant proposal by email. Thomasine will get together with Sheila Hanson and others to finalize with a focus on Stage 2 funding as the DOT SMART grant

NOFO should be out by then. Amanda and Thomasine encouraged Kelley to attend this meeting and the drone camp in-person if possible.

We will host a dinner (5:00 to 6:30 PM) following the Advisory Board meeting. Kerry offered to cater at the college cafeteria. He will get the NHS College team onboard and plan for 25 people.

The decision was made to send out formal invites by mail to Tribal Council Members, the Tribal Chair, the MHA Drone Advisory Board Members, and the current stakeholders to the events including the demonstration, dinner, and advisory board meeting. Thomasine and Emily will run point on this.

Thomasine will work with advisory board member Elizabeth Yellow Bird to host a Tribal Elder session on the morning of July 17 hopefully at the Interpretive Center.

The meeting concluded with agreement we were going to meet weekly on Mondays going forward for updates. Thomasine will send out TEAMS invites.