

EXECUTIVE REPORTING



Hau Mitakuyapi



SWO WEBSITE

As of August 2024, SWO has updated our Tribal website! You may register through the website to view monthly Tribal Council sessions. We encourage all members to be active listeners for accurate information and reporting from Executives and Managers.

New items that may be reviewed on the website:

- Weekly RFP updates (Departments tab- Procurement)
- Weekly Job advertisements (Employment tab)
- Proposed Code amendments (Justice tab- Legal)
- Tribal Council sessions (Media tab)
- Executive newsletter (Newsletter tab)

Tribal Managers will be updating Department/ Program details, including employee information in the upcoming months.

NEW ACCOUNTING SOFTWARE

Over the past ten years, previous Vice-Chairpersons have reviewed many different accounting software proposals and chose not to move forward with a software change for a number of reasons.

However, in FY 2023, a motion was made to accept the proposal to purchase our new accounting software, *Sage Intacct*, after many requests for proposals. With this new system, SWO will have an accounting software that will assist with many of the issues we have with our current legacy software. This work includes consolidating the four (4) different software components while also correcting past audit findings.

Managers and the Finance team continue working diligently with both *Sage Intacct* and *Workplace*, side-by-side, while training is completed. SWO will be 100% transferred into the new accounting software by January 2025.

MONTHLY PRIORITY

- SWO Website
- Accounting Software
- USDA Rural Dev.
- Meth Alarm- Pilot Project
- Grants Administration
- Audits & Indirect Costs
- Food Sovereignty- Community Garden, Farming, Tado Tipi
- Solar For All Grant
- Warming House
- 105(L) Projects

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USDA UNDER SECRETARY FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT DR. BASIL GOODEN VISITS SWO HEADQUARTERS



Within the past few months, USDA Representatives have visited SWO Tribal Council and Executives on four (4) different occasions. During the visit with Dr. Basil Gooden, (2nd in command of USDA), we were able to discuss our challenges, projects, and long-term visions. Our Rural Development SD Representative, Nikki Gronli, was also in attendance to three (3) of the meetings regarding different needs and opportunities of our Tribal Programs.



METHAMPHETAMINE ALARM- PILOT PROJECT

SWO will be participating in a pilot project in which we will be purchasing ten (10) *Methalarms* devices to detect methamphetamine use, manufacturing, and/or contamination in properties. These devices will be placed in different buildings in community areas, which can detect approximately up to 7,000 feet. The *Methalarms* monitors the air at configurable intervals and saves results to a secure portal. When the *Methalarms* device senses use or manufacture of methamphetamine, above a user-defined threshold, the device will email and text-message administrators with alert information. All alerts are silent. Sensors are in a tamper proof case. The device has two tamper activations which will activate a silent alert and send an email and/or text-message to Administrators. All sampling results are available to view or download by the Administrators over time.

SUMMARY

1. Reduced risk of contamination.
2. Lowered remediation costs.
3. Reduced insurance claims.
4. Improved property or service
5. Lowered cross-contamination risk.
6. Lower risk of tenant misdemeanors.



The *Methalarms* device provide early warning of contamination, so properties can be assessed and cleaned at reduced cost. There are sprays which neutralize methamphetamine particles and can be used easily by maintenance teams.

GRANTS ADMINISTRATION

Tribal Executives recently have implemented a new process for applying for grants. Moving forward any applicant applying for funding will now meet with our new Grants Administration Team, who consists of: Grants Administrator, Comptroller, CFO Trainee, Planning Director, Budget Specialists, Sr. Accountant and Executive Director.

In this process, applications will be reviewed to ensure proper information will be shared and requirements will be practiced with the future planning of programs while ensuring reporting will be done in timely manner from Lead Staff. This will also assist our Planning and Finance Departments in updating reports and ensure there is no duplications of services within future plans. This process will allow Program Managers to be as effective as they can for Tribal members when applying with no obstacles in the future once funding is approved. The grants dashboard in the new accounting software will support this work.

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AUDITS & INDIRECT COSTS

SWO recently completed FY2021 Financial audits. REDW has signed and committed to complete fulfilling FY2022 and FY 2023 audit contracts, after following the Procurement and Legal processes. Our Finance department has completed year-end closeouts and are working alongside contracted consultants. Now that FY21 audit is completed, we may begin moving forward with FY2024 Indirect Cost negotiations.

FOOD SOVEREIGNTY & SECURITY

SWO hosted a bus Food Tour visiting SWO food sources, which included Partnerships with Native Americans (PWNA), Ni'sto Inc., Feeding SD/ America, and South Dakota Representatives for USDA Rural Development, NRCs, and RCPP to better understand how they can align with our needs and possibly fund more SWO Food projects. Places that were visited: Buffalo Herd, Tado Tipi, Fish Hatchery, Orchards (open to the public at all times), and Farmland. A huge thank you to Tiospa Zina School and Natural Resources for the assistance of the tour.



With that, PWNA invited our SWO team to an Indigenous Food Tour to discuss resources from Dreams of Wild Farms, Indigenous Food lab, and Sioux Chef Sean Sherman of Indigenous Food Systems to assist in improving the nutrition, health and food education of Tribal members.

All resources collected will be shared through our new Food Sovereignty & Security Program with booklets and classes. Open house, renaming of program, and monthly classes will be announced within upcoming weeks with the assistance of community members as collaborators.

Indigenous Food Lab



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SWO Orchards are maintained by our Natural Resources Department and we encourage SWO members to take full advantage of free apples. The orchard is typically opened in early fall to pick your own apples and will be advertised.



SWO FARMING PILOT PROJECT

YEAR 1 - 40 ACRES+
YEAR 2 - 500 ACRES+
YEAR 3 - 1,100 ACRES+

FY2023 was Year 1 for the Farming Pilot Project under the Realty Department with an increase of 2x the lease amount that would have been received. Realty is harvesting for Year 2. Tribal Council recently approved new farming equipment that will better assist Year 3 inputs for additional acres. The increased revenue will be used towards priorities of Natural Resources/ Fish & Wildlife, Realty, and the Buffalo Farm. such as: land purchases, land improvement, or conservating/growing healthy environments.

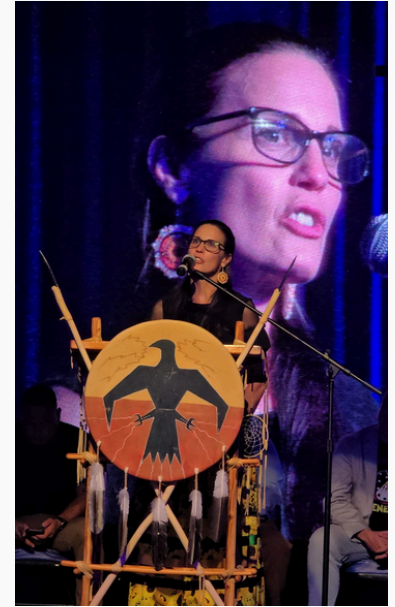


SWO's new meat processing facility, *Tado Tipi*, is currently under construction and will begin advertising for new positions in the weeks ahead. Under the supervision of our Natural Resources/ Fish & Wildlife Manager, Charlene Miller, we are grateful to be nearly ready for the opening of our new facility. *Tado Tipi* will also have the opportunity to become a For-Profit entity in the future, once operational with compliance milestones fully obtained. With the opening of *Tado Tipi*, we are supporting our tribal members with new job opportunities, educational training, and more options for food security. This unique facility has already assisted SWC and Dakota Language Institute with their recent Buffalo Harvest, open to community members and students to attend and assist.



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SWO REPRESENTS AT THE SOLAR FOR ALL 14-TRIBE FLAG CEREMONY AND INAUGURAL STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING AT UNITED TRIBES



The EPA Northern Plains Tribal Coalition, composed of fourteen (14) Tribes, received \$135.6 million. The Group partnered with Indigenized Energy to develop a solar program for Tribal communities. SWO is finalizing the funding agreement and will begin design of SFA program for SWO.

SWO Executive Director, Tina Jennen, was Lead Staff for the SWO application. Once SWO was named a recipient, Indigenized Energy invited Executive Director Jennen to speak on behalf of this Tribal collaboration at the UTTC Tribal Leaders Summit as part of an Opening Flag Ceremony for the Inaugural Steering Committee Meeting. During the Tribal Leaders Summit, Tribal Chairman Renville also gave remarks for the opening of the conference.

Post event, the Solar For All Project will be led by the Housing and Planning Departments, as the SWO Council-appointed Steering Committee Delegates, to support solar for residential homes.



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Please join in the renaming of the Warming House and placement of new sign in honor of Russell Smith. A dinner will be provided by the family.

SWO WARMING HOUSE RENAMING DEDICATION CEREMONY & DINNER

WHEN: November 9, 2024

WHERE: 410 2nd Ave. E.

TIME: 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm



We are at the beginning stages of planning for the Wellness Center. Anticipated designs of the future building.

105 (L) PROJECTS: POLICE STATION/ WELLNESS CENTER/ TREATMENT CENTER

The 105(l) lease program is an important mechanism that allows federally recognized tribes and tribal organizations to lease their facilities to the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and Indian Health Service (IHS) to support services that would otherwise be provided by federal facilities. Named after Section 105(l) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (ISDEAA), this program aims to empower tribes to operate facilities that provide essential services, such as healthcare, education, and social services on their own lands.

Leases are typically negotiated based on fair market value, including expenses like operation and maintenance, property insurance, and other related costs, making it financially feasible for tribes to sustain these facilities.

This funding enables tribes to cover the costs of running their facilities, such as building maintenance, utilities, security, and staffing needs associated with the program.

105(l) leases give tribes greater control over the operations of their facilities, enabling them to tailor services more effectively to meet community needs.

The program provides financial resources that contribute to sustaining tribal economies by funding locally managed facilities and potentially creating jobs.



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FRONT ENTRY



Progress is being made on the new SWO Police Station with renderings of the front entry, staff entry and interior design pictured here.

Anticipated budget: \$ \$19,809,434

With Tax Credit Savings of \$700,000

Planning will begin the bidding process within this month.

Anticipated Construction Duration:

15 month April 2025- June 2026

STAFF ENTRY



INTERIOR RENDERING

