

Kivalina Interagency Working Group-Meeting # 3

Meeting Date: February 10, 2016

Project: DCCED Strategic Management Plan- Kivalina

Meeting Time: 1:00 to 3:00pm

Location: Robert B. Atwood Building, Conference Room 1270

Attendee List:

	Sally Russell Cox, DCCED/DCRA	T	Dean Westlake, NANA
	Laurie Cummings, HDR	T	Deanne Stevens, DNR DGGS
	Karen Murphy, Western Alaska LLC	T	Kathy Christy, Northwest Arctic Borough School District
	Amy Holman, NOAA	T	Verna Westlake, Red Dog Mine
	William P. Jones, City of Shishmaref	T	Kim Weibl, DHS&EM
	Reuben Weyiouanna, Shishmaref IRA	T	Alexa Green, DOT&PF Area Planner
	Johnson Eningowuk, Native Village of Shishmaref	T	Alex Fonteyn, DHS&EM
	Jeff Nelson, NANA	T	Erin Dougherty Lynch, Native American Rights Fund
	Robin Bronen, Alaska Institute for Justice	T	Janine Bedford, Red Dog Mine
	Nikki Navio, HDR	T	Clement Richards, Northwest Arctic Borough Mayor
	Isabella K. Booth, Kivalina IRA	T	Brad Reich, Northwest Arctic Borough
	Jackie Schaeffer, WH Pacific	T	Pat Savok, Northwest Arctic Borough
	Rosie Barr, NANA		Ann Gravier, State of Alaska DHS&EM
	Millie Hawley, NVK		Jay Farmwald, Denali Commission
	Leroy T. Adams, Kivalina City Council		Jane Stevenson, Native Village of Shishmaref
	Dollie A. Hawley, Kivalina IRA		Fred Eningowuk, Shishmaref Community Coordinator
	Chris Allard, Denali Commission		Julie Jessen, HDR
T	Ida Swan		

MEETING SUMMARY

T – participated via teleconference

1. Safety Moment and Introduction – Sally Russell Cox, DCCED

- Sally introduced herself, thanked everyone for coming to the meeting, and reviewed the emergency and safety procedures in the event of a building evacuation.

2. Ground Rules and Agenda Review – Julie Jessen, HDR

- Julie thanked everyone for the turnout, and reviewed the agenda. The purpose for the meeting is to identify the top five projects to improve resilience within the community and narrow possibilities to what can be accomplished within the next five years.
- There was a brief interlude with an update on the ongoing road and school projects. Julie reiterated that this particular focus was on the immediate life and safety needs of the community.

3. Meeting Purpose – Sally Russell Cox, DCCED

- Sally reviewed the purpose and essential components of the project:
 - Strong Community Leadership
 - Agency support and collaboration
 - Careful, effective planning
- Sally went in depth into the meeting's purpose and provided more information on what the group will be setting out to accomplish in the next two hours:
 - Prioritization – Identify critical projects that, if not completed in the next five years, would negatively impact the community's safety.
 - Objective – To increase community sustainability and resilience to impacts of natural hazards.
- Sally emphasized that the meeting will focus on potential life and safety issues, using Newtok as an example. Newtok's power generator broke down and a replacement generator arrived days after the initial broke down. Without having electricity for days, the residents anxiously waited to have the new generator come in and were worried about maintaining warmth without a heating source.
- Sally reiterated that this project's goal is to have plans in place so that similar problems could be avoided in other communities. Sally stated the importance of identifying the issues in Kivalina and what is most critically needed in the next five years. She thanked delegates from other affected villages for attending and being able to learn from each other.

4. Kivalina Message – Delivered by Dollie Hawley and Millie Hawley, Community Representatives

- The community representatives thanked everyone for wanting to help Kivalina.
- Dollie mentioned that there is an effort to update the hazard mitigation plan and there have been teleconference meetings. They would like to have NANA and the Borough involved in the process.

- Millie would like to see more community members from the village to come to the agency working group meetings, or it might be possible to have having the meetings in Kivalina so that people will be more involved and informed of the process. Sally mentioned that there is travel funding available for additional community representatives to attend future SMP meetings in Anchorage. Sally also has funding to make trips to Kivalina if they would be useful.
- Dollie outlined some of the problems that still persist in the community. The rock revetment is currently eroding and the washeteria is not working. The community still uses honey buckets. The whaling captains from the community have to go further up north to search for whale. The weather is always different – August was stormy but December is rain and snow mixed because of climate change. Last year the community barely got any bearded seal because of the ice melting away so quickly. It hurts to see people go without food. The store is very expensive so not everyone can afford to buy food.
- Millie stated that Kivalina has had really warm temperatures this winter and wondered about the permafrost under the village possibly thawing because the temperature hasn't been cold enough. There was discussion on the possibility of a sinkhole occurring in Kivalina. It is a legitimate concern as the water table is only 20-30 feet below ground level (as the community found out from the construction of the washeteria tanks) and a sinkhole developed up river that was larger than the size of Kivalina.
- The City passed a resolution to change the evacuation road project to a relocation road. There will be a meeting on the evacuation road on Friday February 12, 2016 to outline the results from three studies – cultural, wetlands, and geotechnical updates on the road project. Dave Williams from USACE will provide some guidance on changing the project from an evacuation road to a relocation road at the meeting.
- Millie stated that the community is happy to have the attention of the whole nation and that it is encouraging to know people care about their community. She invited everyone to come to Friday's relocation road meeting.

5. Work Breakdown Structure (WBS) Exercise – Group

- Laurie stated that the purpose of this project is to make the community more resilient. Many action items have been identified based on previous meetings and existing plans for the community. The WBS helps identify responsibilities for different tasks and refine costs and scheduling. There may also be opportunities for projects to work together, i.e. barging materials together or using the same equipment for two projects. Laurie stated that all these action items can't be done all at once so the question to the group is, which strategic projects are most essential to keep the community safe in the immediate (five years) future?
- Julie asked the group to identify what needs comprise "core safety" The group came up with a variety of answers, including:
 - Food safety

- Personal Safety – the community doesn't have a VPSO
 - Water
 - Education
 - Shelter from the elements – have them be adequate and appropriate
 - Communication
 - Energy –fuel
 - Public Health
 - Transportation – having an evacuation center on the mainland
 - Land Stabilization – sink holes are occurring
- After the discussion, the group took a ten minute break for the WBS exercise. Each person walked around the room to look at the enlarged version of the WBS on the posters and identified their top five action items with colored dots. Residents used green dots while agency representatives used orange. When the group in the room was finished, those who participated in the meeting via teleconference were called upon individually to identify their preferred action items.

6. Prioritization Outcome and Discussion – Group

- Julie reiterated the considerations of the exercise:
 - Does this action item address immediate priorities?
 - How does it reflect community priorities?
 - Is there funding available?
 - Can it be fully implemented?
- Representatives from the Denali Commission gave an update on the potential funding from the commission that may be given to Kivalina for FY16 and encouraged representatives to participate in the February 18, 2016 Denali Commission teleconference to share how the community can benefit from the proposed \$400,000. The Board will vote on the budget on March 31, 2016. There was also discussion on President Obama's proposed Climate Change budget of \$400 million for FY17, which will need to be approved by Congress.
- The top chosen action items among agencies and the community members were as follows, with discussions on funding and feasibility of the implementation process:
- Evacuation Plan/Emergency Drills
 - Is there funding? – No funding available through Alaska Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHS&EM), but technical assistance is available. The Denali Commission's potential funding for Kivalina can be allocated for evacuation plans and emergency drills. The Borough is currently finishing up the community's emergency response plan. The Red Dog Mine volunteered training and potential funding. They would like to continue fostering a good relationship with Kivalina.
 - Is this implementable in the next five years? – General consensus of yes within the group.

- Evacuation Center
 - Is there funding? – Community Development Block Grants (Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)), Imminent Threat Funding (HUD), Rasmussen Foundation, Rural Community Assistance Corporation.
- Family and Personal Emergency Kits
 - Is there funding? – DHS&EM can provide technical assistance. Funding may be available depending on the implementation process, i.e. select items for community, etc. Project may be scalable depending on funding.
- Hovercraft for evacuation purposes
 - Is there funding? – Possibly through private foundations, but the action item may be better suited for long-term action.
 - The group discussed the 2007 evacuation process via four-wheeler brigade and how a hovercraft might be safer for people to get off the island and onto the mainland.
 - Deciding on a rallying point and drills need to be done and this may still require some funding.
- Washeteria/Water/Wastewater
 - Was not discussed due to time constraints but issues were brought up in conversations earlier in the meeting.

7. Closing Comments and Next Steps – Laurie Cummings and Julie Jessen, HDR and Sally Russell Cox, DCCED

- The group was asked to provide input on the WBS document, which will be mailed out to the group.
- The next agency working group meeting will focus on the priority projects including funding sequencing and potential synergies.

Other upcoming meetings: Denali Commission meetings on February 18 (public testimony) and March 31 (Board deliberation). Information on how to participate in both meetings will be posted on the Denali Commission's website. There is an evacuation road project meeting on February 12 in Anchorage.

Kivalina Interagency Working Group Meeting
Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development, Division of
Community and Regional Affairs

February 10, 2016

Location: Atwood Building, Conference Room 1270
550 W. 7th Avenue

1-800-315-6338/ Access Code: 45881#

1:00—3:00 PM

	Name	Organization	E-mail	Phone
1.	<i>Dean Westlake</i> <i>Westlake</i>			
2.	<i>Dianne Stevens</i>			
3.	<i>Cathy Christy</i>			
4.	<i>Everna Westlake</i>	<i>Reddog</i>		
5.	<i>Kim Weigel</i>			
6.	<i>Alexa Green</i>			

	Name	Organization	E-mail	Phone
7.	Alex Fountain			
8.	Erin Dougherty			
9.	JANINE Bedford	Red Dog		
10.	Laurie Cummings			
11.	Karen Murphy	Western AK LCC	Karen-Murphy@Fws.gov	
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16.	Jeff Nelson	NANA		265-4135
17.	Robin Brown	AIJ		
18.	Nikki Naino	HDR		
19.	Isabelle K. Booth	Kivalina IRA	Isabelle.booth@marilac.org	645-2217(4)

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