



MERTARVIK RELOCATION PROJECT

Steering Committee #5

Meeting Notes

January 12, 2017

10 AM – 12noon

866-866-2244

1949418#

Participants: Newtok Village Council, Denali Commission, State of Alaska, DOWL, BIA

1. Introductions – Jill Furbish, SOA; Glen Price, NNC Atty; Chris Allard & Don Antrobus, Denali Commission; Romy Cadiente, NVC; Mike Walleri, NVC Atty; Sally Russell Cox, SOA; Stewart Harford & Julie Stoneking, BIA Roads; Duane Cooper, BIA Housing; Jolene John & Colleen LaBelle, BIA; Adison Smith & Randy Romenesko, DOWL.
2. 2017 Housing Construction
 - Discuss proposed 2017 housing narrative (attached).
 - AVCP-RHA has expressed concerns about building the houses this summer due to late start of construction. Specifically the issue is housing pads will not be available until early August and construction time is 5 months therefore completion is late Dec/early Jan. AVCP-RHA is concerned about homeowners being able to move in at that time; don't want to allow houses to freeze because of damage; worker safety is a priority and access to Mertarvik during freeze up is tenuous; lack of distributed power and fuel storage is a high risk to the project success. AVCP-RHA recommends start of construction in June 2018.
 - JPT funding ("Bruce Grant" A16AV01004) – BIA will have to reprogram the funding. The \$450,000 for housing training is likely doable; the only issue is that there is a cap. The \$450,000 is a training program for development of construction housing skills. Need some sort of a certificate from an approved training source; could be CCHRC? Equipment operator training. Stuart H. is the contact. Reprogramming could take a couple of weeks. **Provide validated figures to Stu.**
 - Don A. FMEA – Demolition plan – traditional method for moving to the site. Dewayne mentioned. Make sure to run the Demolition plan through Steering Committed. Space Camp could be used for the transition of the demolition of homes.
 - BIA HIP Funds: Dewayne needs to talk to AVCP about the Cat D. The Cat D. grants then it needs to be some type of mortgage. Newtok is the highest on the list in the region. HIP forgives the mortgage payment each year the family lives in it. Get the deed to the home up-front.
3. Electricity
 - Romy, on behalf of NVC, stated there needs to be 365/24/7 power at Mertarvik to support folks who move to the community. Each house and MEC needs power.
 - This is not in current scenario and is a large gap that needs to be addressed.
 - Can the man-camp generator serve as a short term solution?
 - Power supply and storage needs to be part of the move plan.



- Need to get viable solution and cost.
- Need a near term energy analysis.
- Have the conversation with AEA about getting an energy analysis on near term solutions.
- Newtok Power Company – Have they been asked to help? Romy says that they have a loan right now to help energy solutions. Maybe they can partner with Chenga power group.
- Current River Electric, electrical contractor, has done work in Newtok and other communities in the delta region the delta. CRE has talked with Romy about a possible short-term solution.
- Homes that are in Mertarvik now have portable generators in the summer and are wired.
- If the Power Company gets involved there will need to be a long lead to get an amendment. The community will need to involve in the notice of shut down. There will be some legal implications.
- Need to have health and safety measures in place for the traditional housing.

4. MEC

- Section 221 Integral Determination Report is being edited by UASCE Ak Division; the document has yet to receive approval from HQ. The impact to Newtok from this delayed action is any expenditure that pre-date the amendment signing will not be eligible as in-kind services that are creditable to the non-Federal sponsor (Newtok) cost share. This delay could potentially negate millions of dollars in expenditures of eligible funds for roads that support the MEC.
- Need to pursue the waiving the requirement for 35% local match based upon the ability to pay.
- USACE has been very slow to respond to requests for information and direction regarding construction of the MEC shell. 116/117/221 language says “Alaska District to proceed under section 116 to enter into construction contract or modify existing construction contracts to complete the work under the existing agreement.”
- Construction of the MEC shell in 2017 is not very likely given the lack of response and action from USACE on this matter.
- Get Sally paragraph on the MEC history and urgency.
- MOA between ANTHC and NVC for use of ANTHC term contracts is being prepared by ANTHC. MOA will allow NVC to access services of LCG Lantech for MEC shell design completion. A limited NTP has been issued for LCG to prepare final scope and fees for the design work.
- Strategic plan for interior design to follow shortly after completion of shell design. LCG will need to work with the community on various programs that may be housed inside the MEC.

5. Roads & Quarry

a. Discussion

- i. Gravel – Is the royalty issue needs to be resolved.
- ii. Lots of examples of what entities of what companies have charged in the past – BIA ANTHC.



Discussion

- Need budget for housing pads
- Need to get gravel royalty.

6. Financial Issues

- a. Master Budget
 - i. BIA Grant A16AV01004 Administrative Budget – Add energy costs to the budget. Take housing out of housing budget.
 - ii. Can open up the remaining 638 funds and reprogram them into housing funds. Need to get approval for budget.
- b. Payment for 2016 Demonstration House is being handled internally by NVC.
- c. Financial Services Consultant Selection
 - i. Selection Committee has chosen Quik Pro Accounting.
 - ii. Contract negotiations set for 1/16; Quik Pro to make site visit as soon as possible to assess work and start setting up work to support the project(s).
- d. Legislative Priorities – Mike W. will get with Lyman Hoffman to talk about priorities. Main issue that they are concerned about.

7. Closing Comments

- a. Sally will reach out to Bob Walsh to see about communications. Short term solutions – Repeater antenna that could be incorporated into the MEC. 116 Agreements.
- b. YKHC and LKSD could provide telecommunications.
- c. Sally stated that Jane Sullivan is the bulk fuel loan person and stated that the fuel receipts state that the fuel that was delivered to Mertarvik is unleaded.
- d. Stu stated that the environmental – DC is negotiating with the USACE to complete the EIS for the entire relocation effort. The EIS will not impact any of the existing environmental work. Turning over the old village site will not be included in the EIS.
- e. A discussion regarding when the school in Newtok will not operate due to environmental/health concerns needs to take place with the LKSD advisory school board.
- f. Need to get with DOT&PF to get a definition of what point the airstrip will close in Newtok.
- g. Next Meeting is 2-3pm on Friday, Jan 27th for the purpose of reviewing draft site development plans prepared by ANTHC.
- h. February 9th – 10am.