

Shaktoolik Interagency Working Group-Meeting # 2

MEETING SUMMARY

Meeting Date: October 14, 2015

Project: DCCED Strategic Management Plan-Shaktoolik

Meeting Time: 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Location: Denali Commission

ATTENDEE LIST:

T	Michael Sookiayak, Sr., Community Coordinator-Shaktoolik		Jimmy Smith, DCRA
	Fred Eningowuk, Community Coordinator - Shishmaref		Aaron Cooke, CCHRC
	Jane Stevenson, Native Village of Shishmaref		Erin Dougherty Lynch, NARF
T	Deanne Stevens, DNR	T	Carol Piscoya, Kawarek
	Jackie Schaeffer, WH Pacific (CCHRC SNC)	T	Jon Rosales, St. Lawrence College
	Sally Russell Cox, SOA/DCCED/DCRA		Tami Fordham, EPA
	George Wilson, ADEC/VSW		Laurie Cummings, HDR
	Sally Russell Cox, DCRA		Bill Griffith, ADEC
	Julie Jessen, HDR		Dollie Hawley, Community Coordinator - Kivalina
	Chris Allard, Denali Commission		Millie Hawley, Native Village of Kivalina
	Deb Alston, HUD		Richard Sage, Native Village of Kivalina
	Stan Hawley, Native Village of Kivalina		Dolly Foster, Native Village of Kivalina
	Daniel Don Foster, Sr., Native Village of Kivalina		Joel Neimeyer, Denali Commission
	Diane Sam, DCRA		Jack Hebert, CCHRC
	Denise Pollock, Alaska Institute for Justice		Edna Savetilik, Native Village of Shaktoolik

T – participated via teleconference

1. Introduction and Meeting Purpose – Sally Russell Cox, DCCED

- Sally reviewed the objective of the project which is to increase community sustainability and resilience to the impacts of natural hazards.
- She then reviewed the three essential components of the project:
 - Strong community leadership
 - Agency support and collaboration
 - Careful, effective planning

Shaktoolik Interagency Working Group-Meeting # 2

MEETING SUMMARY

- Next, Sally reviewed the importance of the Inter-Agency Working Group. The Group will provide coordinated assistance to community to identify and achieve resilience actions, based on conventional funding channels of agencies. It will also help with identifying policy/funding obstacles to a smooth efficient process (*i.e. disinvestment due to relocation*)
 - Sally summarized the work to date including a literature review, community surveys, elder interviews, a community gathering, and the development of a background planning report.
 - Next, a summary of Agency Meeting #1 was provided. Topics discussed at the previous meeting included the role of agencies, community welcome, summary of work to date, a discussion of other area projects, and a discussion of potential issues and solutions.
- 2. Safety Moment and Agenda Review – Julie Jessen, HDR**
- Julie provided a review of safety procedures in the event of need to evacuate the buildings and a review of the meeting agenda.
- 3. Community Message – Michael Sookiyak Sr., Community Coordinator**
- Michael expressed his appreciation to the agencies participating in the meeting.
 - Michael described some of the recent projects in Shaktoolik including the AVEC project being wrapped up, some tanks are being replaced at the tank farm, and the water tank is getting a new cover.
 - Edna spoke about the berm which was completed in 2014 which gives the community a sense of protection. However, it has not Mayor Jackson spoke about how the focus in Shaktoolik 30 years ago was on subsistence so there was little to no planning for protection of the community from natural hazards and the aftermath. He said that the village has moved three miles but the water is now deeper and the storm surges are more extreme. He noted that the ice movement is much stronger than the storm movement.
 - A video was played showing a storm in Shaktoolik.
- 4. Background Planning Report– Laurie Cummings, HDR**
- Laurie summarized the Background Planning Report (BPR) that was distributed to attendees with the meeting invitation. The BPR contains the results of the literature review, previous erosion-related projects, draft Vision Statement and guiding principles, and resilience related issues. The BPR is a living document and will be updated as new information becomes available.
 - Meeting participants were asked to review the BPR and submit comments to Sally and Laurie by the end of November.
- 5. Preliminary Planning Schedule – Group**
- Julie began by asking participants what community means to them. Responses included:
 - People and place
 - Home
 - Happiness
 - Potential future funding
 - Healthy home
 - Where we grew up
 - Familiar
 - Sense of unity

Shaktoolik Interagency Working Group-Meeting # 2

MEETING SUMMARY

- Where you feel safe
- Resources that sustain you
- Culture and heritage
- Next, Laurie explained the purpose of the preliminary planning schedule was to describe activities that could be undertaken by the community, agencies, or other organizations to help make Shaktoolik a more resilient community. Action items were divided in to the following themes; infrastructure, emergency preparedness, housing, jobs and economic development, social/cultural, leadership/governance, relocation, and other.
- Meeting participants were asked to identify additional action items as well as potential responsible parties, and funding sources.
- Due to time constraints, only the emergency preparedness theme was discussed¹. A summary of the discussion is below.
- Update emergency operations plan
 - Is it adequate to address utility needs?
 - City /Tribe are responsible, DHS&EM can help
- Practice emergency operations plan/emergency drills
 - City/Tribe is responsible
 - People with ISC training play an important role
 - DHS&EM can help with training and tabletop exercises
- Informational material regarding emergency preparedness
 - City/tribe are responsible
 - ANTHC has information that may be useful
 - DHE&EM can help with this task
 - It would be nice to see GIS scenarios that show what is expected inundated first, walking time to school, etc. This was done as a school project and the information will be sent to Sally
- Interim evacuation center
 - The community needs permission from school district to use as an emergency shelter. The community has permission.
 - IRA and City are responsible for operating/maintaining an evacuation center.
 - The problem with using the school as an evacuation center is that the school is close to the beach and is vulnerable to storms
- Evacuation plan
 - The community has a plan but it has not been practiced. Item should be update and practice evacuation plan.
 - City/Tribe are responsible and DHS&EM can help
 - Is there are way for the school help with evacuation efforts? This works in Kivalina.
- Establish early warning system
 - City/tribe are responsible for establishing
 - NOAA has a system that shows how big storm inundation is. Ann Stevens with DGGs is the person to contact regarding additional information
- Increase first response capacity
 - City and tribe are responsible

¹ Some of the items discussed as part of the emergency management theme are covered in other topic areas that were not discussed during the meeting.

Shaktoolik Interagency Working Group-Meeting # 2

MEETING SUMMARY

- Business continuity planning
 - Business owners are responsible but the city, tribe, and DHS&EM can help
 - The Alaska Partnership for Infrastructure Protection may have resources to assist
- Family evacuation and disaster communications plans
 - Individuals are responsible but DHS&EM may have resources that can help
- Install smoke and fire detectors
 - Individual, non-profit funding may be available
 - Red cross, DHS&EM, and FEMA have materials that can help
- First aid training
 - City/Tribe sponsored training may be an opportunity
- Outdoor education programs
 - Revise to refer to survival training
 - Shishmaref takes kids on survival training
 - Consider incorporating traditional skills into the classroom
 - Shaktoolik already sponsors annual elders and youth summer camp, teaches responsibility, awareness of outdoors, and has whaling camp
 - Potentially work with school on a winter survival class
- Emergency energy backup plan
- Update local hazard mitigation plan
 - Recently updated.
 - Can apply individually for grant through program
 - Can go through state's annual planning grant (contractor hired to help multiple communities)
 - Tribe can go directly to FEMA for planning grant
 - Can do joint city/tribe plan
- Village Public Safety Officer
 - Community is working on building VPSO housing and trying to get VPSO
- Participate in Local Environmental Observer (LEO) program
- Tsunami mound planning
 - Shaktoolik has sand resource, but it is surrounded by water with no place to run,
 - DOT&PF may have resources than can help
- There needs to be an alignment of plans such as the regional energy plan
- There is a housing shortage in the community. There are currently approximately 5-7 applications with housing authority.
- Equipment
 - Identify resources that are available for emergency response – need to do inventory of heavy equipment,
 - Need community shop or someway to protect equipment
- Emergency Volunteers
 - Identify emergency response volunteers
- Emergency Funding

Shaktoolik Interagency Working Group-Meeting # 2

MEETING SUMMARY

- Organizations and agencies need an emergency fund/just in case funds to pay for emergency actions
- There needs to be discussions with funding agencies to allow actions that prevent damage from occurring being reimbursable
- Agencies should include mitigation funds in their budgets, fund for mitigation/response activities
- Fuel
 - Does the community have adequate fuel for an emergency?
- Clinic
 - Does it have sufficient capacity? No, old and next to beach. Expand? Relocate? Had plan to replace clinic but the project did not advance because the community was considering relocation
- Multipurpose building
 - Is needed. Intended originally to be evacuation center but is also for other uses. Accommodate 280 people for 7 to 10 days. The cost was estimated at \$150,000
 - Is there a way to make it relocatable? In some cases, yes. In Shaktoolik, buildings need to be anchored to withstand storm and ballistic material. You can have buildings that float but that doesn't work well with ballistic materials.
- ICS training
 - Community leaders are part of system.
 - Training Need to be refreshed as leadership changes
 - EPA, Coast Guard, and DHS&EM (state training officer) sometimes offer ICS trainings. Training sometimes offered at preparedness conference but can be offered other times,
- Community needs to identify long-term safe location

6. Next Steps – Julie Jessen

- Provide input on background planning report by Nov. 30th.
- Homework Assignment: Review of other themes in the Preliminary Planning Schedule to identify additional action items, responsible parties, and funding sources. Due by Nov. 30th.
- Next Meeting: January 2016