



Denali Commission
510 L Street, Suite 410
Anchorage, AK 99501

907.271.1414 *tel*
907.271.1415 *fax*
888.480.4321 *toll free*
www.denali.gov

Buckland Meeting Notes December 2, 2008 Meeting Denali Commission

Sharon Lind opened the meeting and introduced everyone either present or on line and quickly reviewed the agenda for those present.

Debra Addie from Village Safe Water provided an update on current activities and handed out a December, VSW Monthly Report and updated the group on work for this project.

Update from Debra Addie - Report was as follows:

Buckland Water and Sewer Project

VSW Monthly Report December, 2008

Wastewater Lagoon Project

Summit's contract was amended October 18 for completion of lagoon berms. Work on the berms will be about 90-95% complete when the project shuts down December 18. The remaining lagoon work will include the intake structure, the outlet structure, and the honeybucket cell.

Fuel Spill / Fuel Tank Farm

Fuel facility upgrades are completed, with the exception of a light at the IRA tank farm, which will be installed the next time the electrician is in Buckland (2009). Both tanks farms are now in compliance with the Coast Guard. The City and IRA are now members of Alaska Chadux. The water/sewer project has \$1 million dollars of pollution insurance.

Equipment Maintenance Building

The electrical punch list is 50% complete, and will be completed when the electrician is mobilized to Buckland (2009).

Design Activities

VSW provided comments on the DAR and 35% design. Summit consulted with EDC, EEIS, and Duane Miller & Associates and responded to comment on VSW November 21. The Final DAR, 35% design, and mining plan are being updated and are approximately 80% complete.

Laydown Pads and Materials

Three of the five laydown pads have been roughed in, and final grade will be established next season. The material and equipment that was purchased this spring is onsite, organized, inventoried and stored on the new laydown pads.

Land Issues - Easement and ROW

The DAR identified 50 total required easements, of which 19 are on BIA restricted lots. Maniilaq is now preparing the request for appraisals that will be submitted to the Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians.

Permitting

Recent permitting activity has been related to a river gravel source. Permits are required from ACMP, DNR, ACOE, and EPA.

NANA Pit

Mining plan was completed and submitted to Nana.

Capital Budget

The updated overall project cost is \$37.5 million. The following is the current funding projection for 2009:

Spring 2009 - Potential \$1,454,000, consisting of:

Anticipate \$948,000 from ANTHC winter 2009

Possible \$200,000 remaining from 2008 construction

Possible \$306,000 City direct RD funds

Possible VSW supplemental funds

Fall 2009 - anticipate \$4 to 9 million from VSW three year list, depending on state and federal funding levels.

Scope and Schedule

VSW and Summit are developing a scope of work for 2009, considering funding constraints, public health issues, and construction requirements. Cost estimates from Summit are expected mid-December for a scope of work including commissioning the new lagoon, force main and lift station, and decommissioning the old lagoon downtown. Schedule for this work will depend on cost and available funding.

Discussion items during and after Debra's report as follows:

- The DAR was discussed and the required easements. It is unclear how long it will take to complete these land appraisals, however, the process has been started.
- The Nana pit was discussed. It was mentioned that the material sales contract was still unresolved at this time. In the meantime, use of the current gravel has been continuing knowing that this will be resolved soon.
- Debra reviewed the capital budget and the spring funding available. Debra pointed out the use of the ANTHC was very restrictive and limited to a component of design/construction only of this project. Completion of the paperwork for this grant was currently being done.
- Greg Magee discussed the state budget and current VSW funding from the state. Greg also pointed out the need for continued EPA funding for the VSW projects. It was discussed whether Senator Murkowskie's office was aware of this need, and if so, the projected budget amounts for FY10. Sharon Lind discussed the Denali Commission's current budget situation saying more will be known in the February/March time frame.
- Greg Magee also discussed VSW's budget review mentioning that all projects are being closely reviewed and any budget variances are being assessed for use in the next budget cycle.
- Greg mentioned the state's historical treatment of the EPA funds which has, in the past, been matched dollar for dollar budget wise. It was suggested that a short white paper be written for use of Buckland community members who visit Juneau to discuss future funding needs with the legislature. It was mentioned that Donny Olson was the Senator for that area and Reggie Joule was the representative.
- Debra from VSW brought up the desire to close the downtown Buckland sewage lagoon, bringing up the spring flood issues with that downtown lagoon. Use of existing funding for closing that lagoon is proving to be problematic as dollars are currently designated for the new lagoon and the new sewage system construction.
- Community discussion followed on the required land easements, the flooring in the equipment maintenance building and the inquiry into the possibility of the community utilizing a consultant for investigating future funding opportunities for the community.
- Greg Magee stated that the flooring was not a funding priority at this time, that current use of dollars must be designated toward the water sewer project at this time. Sharon Lind mentioned the importance of the council exploring other funding opportunities and/or lobbying efforts by the community. Greg pointed out

that the speed of the project lies with the amount of funding determined and received for this project both from the state budget and from the EPA. Greg stated that more would be known on budgets at the next meeting including VSW budget review and identification of existing project variances and reallocation of any funds available.

- Steve Boardman from the Corps of Engineers reported to the group that CH2MHill had been contracted to handle the water intake design. Steve added that construction will be out for bid in the spring. Timelines were discussed and alignment of projects for all funding utilization.
- It was reported that existing contractors in the community would be shutting down and leaving the community for a break on December 7th. Debra reported that the berms being worked on currently are at least 90 – 95% complete. Debra concluded that the redesign of the berms was at a higher elevation.
- Next meeting was scheduled for January 6, 2009. Meeting closed.

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Name	Agency/Organization	Phone	Email
Debra Addie	VSW	269-3085	debra.addie@alaska.gov
GREG MAGEE	VSW	269-7613	GREG.MAGEE@ALASKA.GOV



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Name	Agency/Organization	Phone	Email
Tim Krug Mairaine Tim f	USDA		
Steve Boardman			
Darlene	City of Buckland		
Doriman Ticeoff			