



Denali Commission
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Buckland Meeting Notes January 6, 2009 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 January, 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 January, 2009

Wastewater Lagoon Project

We are 100% complete with the bulk fill component and the berms are all @ elev. 28.5 ft. The exterior slope riprap work is about 70% complete. The southern half of the lagoon is fully armored and the northern half is armored to 25.5 ft. We believe that this amount of rock will be sufficient to protect the berms during the spring flood. The remaining lagoon work will include the intake structure, the outlet structure, and the honeybucket cell.

Fuel Spill / Fuel Tank Farm

Fuel Farm agreements were signed by Summit, the City, and the IRA.

Design Activities

VSW and the City expressed concerns about the River Intake Project, and are asking for a meeting with the Corps. The concerns are:

- Potential cost overrun impacting city/VSW project
- Potential freeze-up of intake resulting in use of river water
- It is not feasible to put the intake deep enough into river bed or horizontal drill below the river for improved water quality

Remaining issues related to the DAR include lift station design details, fire hydrant details, and questions about the force main creek crossing, and other technical issues. We plan to discuss these items with Summit and resolve them this month.

Land Issues - Easement and ROW

Summit is working with Maniilaq to obtain appraisals for 19 BIA restricted easements.

Permitting

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

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

Due to recent changes in the availability of VSW funds, the project scope phases are being reorganized to keep the project moving forward within funding limitations.

2009 Scope

A scope of work for 2009 was developed, considering funding constraints, public health issues, and construction requirements. The scope of work includes all items needed to decommission the downtown lagoon, beginning with constructing an ice road and hauling gravel from an upriver source for pipe bedding, constructing a sewer main from the school and washeteria to the downtown lift station, and constructing the downtown lift station and force main; as well as lagoon completion and decommissioning the old lagoon. The estimated cost for this work is \$4.1 million, with \$1.8 million needed between now until July 1, 2009. The city passed a motion supporting this scope of work on January 5, 2009. Work is expected to begin in early February, pending grant documents and contract amendments.

FY10 Scope

VSW and Summit are developing a scope and cost for FY10 (starting in July 2009) of project elements needed to keep the piped water and sewer project moving forward and addressing critical construction items.

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

- Greg Magee from VSW reported that a new grant agreement for \$1 million was in the works and ready for signature. Debra Addie from VSW added that the current schedule was driven by the funding and briefly discussed the 2009 and 2010 scope of work.
- Debra reviewed the FY09 budget and project scope and the existing needs at the beginning of FY10.
- Steve Boardman and Dave Williams from the U.S. Corps of Engineers updated the group on COE activities. Steve reported current status on waters intake and informed Buckland that they had received the letter dated 12-31-08. A meeting was forthcoming to discuss this letter.
- Greg Magee discussed the current state capital budget and the VSW project list for 2009. Greg reported that the project list in the budget looks very similar to the three year project list defined by VSW. Greg reported that there were numerous rural communities on the list. Greg also reported a change in reporting guidelines that allowed continued funding of projects without the stipulation of reapplying every year.
- Of current budget \$91 million – 75% was federal and 25% was state. Funding would be designated for those communities on the three year list. Greg reported this was an increase from the prior year and that at this time, there was not a specific dollar amount designated to Buckland.
- Greg discussed the OMB methodology of community designation in the budget for VSW. When asked if he thought it would be helpful for community members to visit legislature regarding the budget for Buckland, Greg replied that yes, he thought that would be helpful and educational.
- General discussion on the budget, scope of work and the overall project followed.
- The community thanked VSW for the scope of work on the downtown lagoon.

City of Buckland

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December 31, 2008

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Alaska District
ATTN: PM-C (Dave Williams)
P.O. Box 6898
Anchorage, AK 99506-0898
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SUBJECT: Raw Water Intake Structure Project

Dear Mr. Williams

Under the executed MOU (June 2008) between VSW, CEOPA, and the VSW, all parties to this agreement agreed to work together to successfully develop a sustainable raw water intake structure and related appurtenances for the City of Buckland with the remaining funds available from CEPOA. Per the agreement, we agreed the facility should be realistically feasible (low risk), cost effective and affordable.

Based on the results of the design charrette and the current selected alternative, the City of Buckland and VSW have grave concerns about the risks and costs of Alternative 4B, as compared to the potential benefits. Please halt the design process until we can meet to discuss this matter. We are interested in exploring other work that the Corps of Engineers could complete that would benefit to the Buckland water and sewer project, and ask that you work with us to amend the MOU by replacing the existing "Project" with another "Project" of the overall water and sewer system; a project that can be designed and constructed with the current remaining CEPOA funds. We suggest that all parties meet as soon as possible to discuss these requests and the replacement "Project".

Sincerely,

Glenna Parrish
Glenna Parrish

Mayor

Buckland Meeting January 6, 2009



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|-----------------------------------|---------------------|----------|----------------------------------|
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| Greg Kaplan | Senator Murkowski | 271-3735 | greg-kaplan@murkowski.sen.ak.gov |
| GREG MAGEE | VSW | 269-7613 | GREG.MAGEE@ALASKA.GOV |
| Steve & Dave Boarchan Williams | Corps | | |
| Tim King | USUSA | | |
| City of Buckland | | | |
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