

**SHISHMAREF EROSION AND RELOCATION COALITION
SERVING THE COMMUNITY FOR A BETTER FUTURE
P.O. BOX 72100
Shishmaref, Alaska 99772
Karen Sinnok, Chairperson**

**Public Meeting
Shishmaref High School Gym
April 29, 2003
1 p.m.**

Meeting called to order at 1:40 p.m. by Chairperson, Luci Eningowuk.

Roll Call.

Shishmaref I.R.A. Village Council present:

Reuben Weyiouanna, President
Kelly Eningowuk, Vice President
Luci Eningowuk, Secretary
Stella Havatone, Treasurer
Stanley Tocktoo, Member
Darlene Turner, Member
Edwin Weyiouanna, Member

Shishmaref City Council present:

Curtis Nayokpuk, Mayor
Stanley Tocktoo, Vice Mayor
Mary Huntington, Secretary-Treasurer
Fred Goodhope, Member
Leonard Kuzuguk, Member
Baker Ningealook, Member
Edwin Weyiouanna, Member

Shishmaref Native Corporation Board of Directors present:

Percy Nayokpuk, President
Karen Sinnok, Vice President
Darlene Turner, Secretary
Fred Goodhope Jr., Member
Curtis Nayokpuk, Member
Reuben Weyiouanna, Member

Shishmaref Native Corporation Board of Director absent:

Johnson P. Eningowuk, Treasurer – Excused

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Quorum established.

Staff present: Julianne Baltar, Kawerak Transportation Program Director
Tony Weyiouanna Sr., Shishmaref Transportation Planner
Nancy Kokeok, Shishmaref Tribal Coordinator
Katherine Nayokpuk, Shishmaref Native Corporation
Sharon L. Nayokpuk, Shishmaref Native Corporation
Anna Kuzuguk, Acting City Clerk, City of Shishmaref

Introduction of Guest: Lt. Governor Loren Leman – Stanley Tocktoo, artist, presented the Polar Bear Reading to its cub Ivory carving to the Lt. Governor. Governor stated that the carving would be placed at his office. Chairperson mentioned that it would remind him that the community of Shishmaref needs his assistant on its erosion situation every time he looks at the carving. Shishmaref t-shirt from Nayokpuk General Store presented.

Introduction of Guests:

Lt. Governor Loren Leman
Jeff Staser, Denali Commission
Al Ewing, Denali Commission
Marie Becker, AVEC
Christy Miller, DCED
Eileen Norbert, Kawerak Inc.
Albert Kowchee, Kawerak Transportation Program
Julie Baltar, Kawerak Transportation Program
Chris Allard, Summit Consulting
Jimmy Carlisle, BSNC
Fred Tocktoo, NPS-Nome
George Olanna, CED-Kawerak
Steve Becker, USDA-NRCS
Pierre Costello, ANTHC
Mellissa Boeckman, Kawerak
Dave Sanches, ADOT
Lori Rictor, USDA-NRCS
Joe White, USDA-NRCS
Ed Lilly, BSSD
Jeanette Pomrenke, Kawerak
Meera Kohler, AVEC

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Meeting 1:00 p.m.

Agenda review

Addition to agenda to have Vincent Tocktoo Sr. give the invocation. Motion made by Fred Goodhope to approve the agenda as revised, seconded by Edwin Weuiouanna.

Over view of up to date accomplishments, floor turned over to Julie Baltar by Luci Eningowuk. Some accomplishments as follows:

- Senator Stevens appropriates \$1,000,000.00 for relocation project, project currently moving forward.
- Lorretta Bullard was in Washington D.C. Advocating for more funding.
- Section 14 funds tentatively approved for beach protection of the school property.
- Shishmaref submitted a resolution to AFN concerning providing matching funds of federal grant programs from agencies such as the ARMY Corps of engineers.
- Job Applications available her at the Transportation office for the seawall project.
- Kawerak will be replacing the seawall from the school property boundary west protecting the portion of the front street approximately 450-500'. This area has about 5-6' of undercut and has lost 15-20' in places. Riprap rock will be used for this project.
- Significant regional project nomination for a road from Tin Creek to Ear Mountain submitted to Representative Don Young's office in Washington D.C.

Rich Stasenko asks if there is any effort in procuring funding for the protection of the cottage building? Julie, the school protection project is the first project and the tannery protection project is the second project. Julie explained the section 14 projects.

Question: Have you contacted the Department of Defense? Answer- Tony is currently in contact with the IRT Coordinator for Alaska to apply for assistance.

Vincent Tocktoo Sr. the store warehouse was built 100' away from the beach in the 1950's, last summer we lost 10-20 feet of shoreline.

Presentation by Steve Becker of USDA-Natural Resource Conservation Service. USDA-NRCS can and do provide land use planning assistance to Native organizations. Came to Shishmaref in September 2002 for one week accompanied by Lori Ricktor, Rob Sampson and Joe White to work on preliminary studies for five evacuation/ relocation sites, which are: Tin Creek, East Nunatuq, Igloot, Arctic River and West Tin Creek hills and flats. Tony Weyiouanna provided maps of the five sites selected by the Coalition and community for the areas to study. Discussed process used by him and the rest of the team to evaluate the five sites. Did profiles testing for each site and went through each site for consideration of rating factors based on soil suitability, slope of general area, surface

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texture, barge access, fuel storage suitability, proximity to gravel source, and impact to area by development.

- Site layout: West Tin Creek flats and East Nunatuq rated good as site layouts.
- Development potential: Igloot and West Tin Creek Hills rated good.
- Natural resources:
- Infrastructure: Tin Creek and West Tin Creek Hills rated good.
- Social and Cultural considerations: NRCS did not know what or where the Cultural and Native allotment sites.
- Overall ratings: 1. Igloot, 2. Tin Creek, 3. Arctic River and Tin Creek Hills, 4. West Tin Creek Flats, 5. East Nunatuq.

Community considerations:

- Social and Cultural factors: should list some facts that may carry more weight.

Next step:

1. Community decides on preferred sites.
2. NRCS will return during the summer of 2003 to work on a more intensive soils study for the selected preferred site. When is a good time to come? During the month of September.
3. Community can use the basis of the study to help select a site for evacuation or relocation site.
4. Geologist to come with the team and look at the sites, also to take a look at Ear Mountain.
5. Review Site hydrology.

Question by Julie Baltar: Are you looking at one site at a time? The more sites that are looked at the less detailed study will be done due to limited staff time. Julie also mentioned that the Coalition has come up with a strategic plan 2 years ago to help follow or plan for the relocation.

Public comments: Delano Barr concerned about studying only one site. Bessi Sinnok, What about providing beach protection for our tannery and cottage building? Also, the tannery has a grant to construct a new tannery building, but has no matching funds to continue with construction. Understands that the Denali Commission has approved funding for the construction of a new health clinic and the funds have been frozen due to the decision of the community to relocate. Has the Denali Commission decided what to do on the funding of the clinic? Jeff Staser: The Commission has decided to award \$150,000.00 for the renovation improvements to the existing clinic. Once the decision by the community has been made for the relocation of the community to a safe location on the mainland the Commission will construct a new clinic.

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Break at 3:17 p.m. Door prizes given. Coalition gave various gifts to agency representatives attending the public meeting.

Jeff Staser mentioned that the Denali Commission would be having a meeting in Nome on April 30, 2003. Meera Kohler- AVEC mentioned that \$480,000.00 was received to construct new fuel tanks for use by Nayokpuk General store because of the proximity of the existing tanks to the beach. The tanks are under the ownership of the City of Shishmaref. Funding was initially received by AVEC to replace all existing fuel tanks in Shishmaref, but the Denali Commission due to the community voting to relocate froze the funding.

Jeff Staser:

- Jeff would like to ask Meera what might be available. Meera has ordered 27, 000 gallon tanks, and she may be able to send them here (Shishmaref). Washington D.C. has limited resources for the State of Alaska, both Shishmaref and Kivilina have similar situations/problems. Decisions need to be made ASAP. We can't depend onWe need a lot of teamwork.
- Washeteria Funding – The Denali Commission is asking the community to submit proposals. Senator Stevens was very clear for the intentions of funding for Washeteria. Denali Commission does not fund for operations.
- Pool of money put aside for maintenance on bulk fuel tank farms for each community building new tank farms. Jeff Staser discussed the business plan. If you have questions please contact Jeff at Denali Commission office.
- Darlene Turner said she has concerns for the neighboring Villages; they always run out of gas and tend to travel to Shishmaref for gas for subsistence purposes. Is there any way their concerns may be brought up? Jeff Staser said that they might do it regionally as support. Need to hear from communities of these local issues.
- Luci Eningowuk asked about the Clinic, since the IRA received a letter from Denali Commission regarding a new clinic. Would it be possible for Denali Commission to build a new clinic? Yes, if it is cost effective. (If Shishmaref used a triodetic foundation.)
- Jeff Staser mentioned about putting all the resources together. If we need all these things from Denali Commission, would it be possible to get all the new projects?

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- LT Governor Loren Leman said that it's good to come back to Shishmaref after so many years. He is currently the Co-Chair for the Commission. The Governor has made many changes; the last 25 years have been good for the State. Talk about all the important issues for the next year. Be able to use resources wisely.
- Stella Havatone – How much is appropriated for Denali Commission? Same as last year \$90 million.
- Curtis Nayokpuk – asked about budget cuts for the State Revenue 25% Budget cuts.
- Christy Miller – Flood insurance is available to homes. There is a \$100.00 insurance policy fee. Contact Christy @ 907-269-4567 for more information.

Motion to adjourn made by Albert N., Stella Havatone seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 4:41pm.