

Environmental Steering Committee

Meeting Minutes
September 29, 2011

Opening

The regular meeting of the Environmental Steering Committee (ESC) was called to order at 1:02 pm (EDT) on September 30, 2011 by Gordon Delchamps.

Roll Call

Present:

Steve Aoyama

Steven Breithaupt

Kevin D'Amanda, Chair

Gordon Delchamps

Roger DeRoos

Burke Helmer

Kelly Leseman

Dave McMahan

CJ Means

Dale Mossefin

Keith Shortall

Deanne Waconda

Michael Weaver

Absent:

N/A

NOTE: voting members are shown in bold type.

A. Old Business

1. Environmental Audit Process

- Notable events and milestones in the last six months include the following:
 - Provided technical support for eight audits in Navajo and Alaska Areas
 - Provided kick-off orientations for additional Navajo Service Units
 - Based on feedback, the SAQ and Audit Protocol were substantially revised
 - Four Environmental Audit Coordinator teleconferences were conducted
- There was discussion regarding which facilities were required to have an environmental audit. The Technical Handbook chapter 75-1 – *Environmental Audit Process* requires that audits be performed on "...all facilities that IHS owns or leases regardless of who operates them and all facilities that IHS operates

regardless of who owns them.” However, the Area Director is the responsible, accountable official and it is ultimately their decision which facilities will receive an environmental audit.

- During the call it was incorrectly stated that all audits should be completed within four years. Technical Handbook chapter 75-1 – *Environmental Audit Process* states that “Facilities shall be audited on a five-year cycle. All facilities must have their initial audit completed by September 30, 2014.”
- Next actions include:
 - Document is complete but needs Section 508 compliance review before it can be posted on the DFO Web page.
 - The audit SharePoint site should be more fully developed into a useful work area for audit-related materials, copies of completed SAQ’s, etc.

2. Guidance Document Update

- The *Guidance Document for Managing Hazardous Materials in IHS Buildings* has been revised and updated to include the following:
 - Asbestos and lead O&M plans;
 - Asbestos point counting;
 - Asbestos cement pipe;
 - Underground storage tanks;
 - Aboveground storage tanks.
- The previous version was available only in electronic format. The updated version will also be available electronically but a small number of copies will be printed to use as handouts.
- Document is complete but needs Section 508 compliance review before it can be posted on the DFO Web page.
- We need to better market the documents/processes to the Areas and service units.

3. Safety Guide

- The *IHS Safety Awareness Guide* has been revised and updated to include the following:
 - Life/Fire Safety
 - Safety Program Management
 - Lockout/Tagout
 - Welding
 - Walking Surfaces

- The Guide will be available electronically but a small number of copies will be printed to use as handouts.
- Document is in final stages and will need Section 508 compliance review before it can be posted on the DFO Web page.

4. Previous Projects

a. Pine Ridge – Old Hospital Demo

- Funds were decommitted after the last ESC meeting. The Area will submit updated PSD when the project is ready for funding.

b. Kananak – Eroding Graves (\$61,000 ER)

- \$61,000 of Environmental Remediation funds were Allotted to the Area in May 2008. The Area has been holding the funds (just in case) until such future date as they will be required.
- Michael provided an update to this project.
- The T-1 contract has been developed and ES-Seattle is waiting for the Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation to sign and return it.

ACTION ITEM: Michael will work with the Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation to get the funds obligated.

c. Kananak Environmental Cleanup

- \$253,000 in Environmental Remediation funds were awarded in September 2007 for the construction phase. An additional \$753,000 was awarded in 2010 for the three-year monitoring and testing phase and also to address additional state requirements.
- Michael provided an update to this project.
- ES-Seattle will work with Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation to develop a T-1 contract to obligate the funds within the next few weeks.

ACTION ITEM: Michael will work with the Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation to get the funds obligated.

d. Tanana Environmental Remediation and Demolition

- The Area was awarded Environmental Remediation funds of \$618,000 for Phase 2 that was anticipated to be needed in 2009 and \$805,000 for Phase 3 anticipated to be needed 2010-2015.
- Michael provided an update to this project. There were savings from Phase 1 that will be used to fund the beginning of Phase 2.
- The T-1 contract has been developed and the Area and ES-Seattle are awaiting the tribe's signature on the modification. The funds should be obligated within the next few weeks.

ACTION ITEM: Kelly will work with Michael to get the funds obligated.

e. Environmental Remediation of YKHC Quarters (\$139,789 ER)

- Funds were withheld pending receipt of a final report on a previously completed project within the Area. The report has been received and funds will be Allotted this round.

ACTION ITEM: Gordon will prepare request to Allot the \$139,789 in Environmental Remediation funds to the Area.

5. Cleanup of FEDS and BEMAR

- This has been an ongoing issue. We hope it will be resolved during audit cycle
- We still don't know how we can get Areas to update FEDS items with proper coding and accurate cost estimates and also to correct environmentally-related FEDS items.
- Rob Ziegler and Gordon corrected all environmentally-related FEDS items that were in HFDS but subsequent ones have introduced more incorrectness. The Areas need to assure they are accurate and current.

6. BEMAR Reduction

- There is currently have just under \$20M in environmentally-related BEMAR and 116 excess buildings. We still have trouble getting PSD's submitted. This round there were only 11 projects submitted – 5 for Environmental funds, 3 for Demolition funds, and 3 requesting both.

7. Other Old Business

- None

B. New Business

1. New Members

- Need replacements for Dale Mossefin; Deanne Waconda, and CJ Means as their terms have expired. Kelly Leseman and Marc Fleetwood were nominated and need concurrence for appointment. Concurrence is also needed to reappoint Burke Helmer for an additional term.
- The committee concurred with the appointments.
- One more candidate is needed and should come from the Environmental Health Program. Dave will provide a name and the vote will be held by e-mail.

ACTION ITEM: Dave will forward the candidate's name to Gordon.

ACTION ITEM: Gordon will notify the new members and forward pertinent materials.

2. Funds Available Recap

- We discussed the funds balances in the Environmental Remediation fund and the Demolition fund.
- The following funds are currently available:
 - \$9,607,949 – Environmental Remediation.
 - \$1,578,000 Committed to Tanana;
 - \$7,489,949 if Committed but not Allotted funds are subtracted.
 - \$1,210,095 – Demolition.
 - \$714,000 committed to Tanana;
 - \$496,095 if Committed but not Allotted funds are subtracted.
- In the 2010 budget, we told Congress “Demolition funds may be augmented with environmental compliance funds as available for demolition of Federal buildings to the extent that the proposed action reduces hazards, environmental concerns, or liability to the Indian Health Service.

3. PSD Review and Project Award

- A total of 12 PSD's were submitted, 5 for Environmental Remediation, 4 for Demolition, and 3 for both Environmental Remediation and Demolition.
- Each PSD was reviewed and scored by the ESC.
 - a. Environmental Remediation Projects

- **ACTION ITEM:** The ESC **recommended funding** the following eight (8) Environmental Remediation projects:
 - Mt. Edgecumbe (Sitka) Hospital Building 00211 Demolition Study – \$43,000
 - Environmental Remediation of Asbestos at Bethel Federal Quarters (08B001) – \$308,000
 - Environmental Remediation of Asbestos Flooring at Yukon Kuskokwim Delta Regional Hospital Inpatient Suite (AN1YK003H6) – \$451,000
 - Environmental Remediation and Demolition of Buildings 00334, 00335, and 00336 at Santa Fe Indian Hospital (AQ1SF004) – \$36,000
Note: See same project under Demolition Projects.
 - Environmental Remediation and Demolition at Laguna Health Station – \$103,000
Note: See same project under Demolition Projects.
 - Environmental Remediation and Demolition of Fort Belknap Building 00001 (BI11FB205H6) – \$55,000
Note: See same project under Demolition Projects.
 - Comprehensive Environmental Surveys for Asbestos and Lead Based Paint at Gallup Indian Medical Center and Crownpoint Health Care Facility – \$681,000
Note: The ESC recommends that O&M plans for ACM and LBP be deliverables for the project.
 - PIMC Underground Storage Tank Removal and Soil Remediation (PH11PH002H6) - (Reimbursement) – \$151,000

b. Demolition Projects

- **ACTION ITEM:** The ESC **recommended funding** the following seven (7) Demolition projects:
 - Hope Lodge Demolition (AB10RC91H7) – \$75,000
 - Federal Quarters Demolition at Bethel (08B002) – \$864,000

- Environmental Remediation and Demolition of Buildings 00334, 00335, and 00336 at Santa Fe Indian Hospital (AQ1SF004) – \$266,000
Note: See same project under Environmental Remediation Projects.
- Environmental Remediation and Demolition at Laguna Health Station – \$303,000
Note: See same project under Environmental Remediation Projects.
- Environmental Remediation and Demolition of Fort Belknap Building 00001 (BI11FB205H6) – \$70,000
Note: See same project under Environmental Remediation Projects.
- Demolition of Building 00306 at Whiteriver, AZ (PH1WR001H6) – \$35,000
- Demolish Three Government-Owned Buildings - Bylas, Jeddito, and Parker (PH11AO001Z6)

4. Other New Business

- Technical Handbook Chapters
 - 75-2 – *Environmental Steering Committee*
 - Name changed from *Guidelines for the Environmental Remediation Funds Steering Committee* to *Environmental Steering Committee*.
 - Chapter has been updated to reflect sustainability projects and funding.
 - Will be released as a working draft.
 - 75-7 – *Reporting Requirements for Activities Funded Through the Environmental Steering Committee*
 - Name changed from *Reporting Requirements for Environmental Remediation Projects and Demolition Projects* to *Reporting Requirements for Activities Funded Through the Environmental Steering Committee*.
 - Chapter has been updated to reflect sustainability projects and funding.
 - Will be released as a working draft.
 - 78-3 – *Prioritization and Funding of Sustainability Activities*
 - Trying to finalize chapter with scoring criteria and guidelines.
 - Number may change as 78 was a new section Lee wanted to create.
 - Will be released as a working draft.

- *75-5 – Prioritization and Funding of Environmental Remediation Activities and 76-1 – Prioritization and Funding of Demolition Activities*
 - Will be updated to reflect funding levels. If there is sufficient funding to award all projects submitted, there will be an up or down vote rather than criteria based scoring.

C. Date and Agenda for Next Meeting

Environmental Steering Committee meetings should be held two times each year. The next meeting will be scheduled for sometime in late March 2012. The agenda will be developed and distributed to all members prior to the meeting.

D. Adjournment

Gordon Delchamps adjourned the meeting at 2:05 PM EDT.

Minutes submitted by: Gordon Delchamps

Approved by: Kevin J. D’Amanda