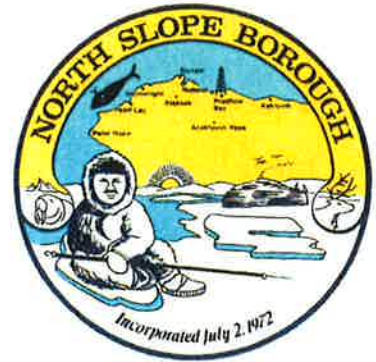


North Slope Borough

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

P.O. Box 69
Barrow, Alaska 99723
Phone: 907 852-2611 or 0200
Fax: 907 852-0337 or 2595



Charlotte E. Brower, Mayor

MEMORANDUM

TO: North Slope Borough Assembly

FROM: Charlotte E. Brower, Mayor

Charlotte Brower

DATE: August 4, 2015

SUBJ: July Status Report

Good evening Assembly Members and listening audience.

I am pleased to report on following accomplishments achieved by my dedicated staff during the month of July:

Assemblyman John Hopson, staff and I traveled to Washington, D.C. last week for meetings with senior government officials. One key item of discussion was the possible implementation of a quota on the take of Chukchi Sea polar bears at the beginning of 2016. We met with U.S. Fish and Wild Service Director Dan Ashe to request a delay in the quota's implementation until better data is collected on the current population. Borough concerns about the proposed quota were also shared with our Congressional delegation.

Another important issue addressed was the need for Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) revenue sharing legislation and the Borough's support for Senator Murkowski's recently proposed bill. A group of us met with a key member of the House of Representatives, Rep. Rob Bishop (R-UT), Chairman of the House Committee on Natural Resources, to explain how important OCS revenues would be to the continued strength of the Borough and its significance to future Borough residents.

The Mayor also met with Admiral Bob Papp and other senior Arctic officials about the importance of the Borough's involvement in various working groups organized through the Arctic Counsel that have a role in the formulation of Arctic policy. The Mayor communicated the Borough's willingness to partner with the U.S. delegation and to contribute the Borough's vast amount of local knowledge and scientific expertise to help these working groups to make better-informed decisions. This same message was also conveyed to Raina Thiele, White House Associate Director of Intergovernmental Affairs and Public Engagement who advises President Obama on issues of importance to Native Americans and Alaska Natives.

The **Department of Administration and Finance** has been concentrated on completing the year end close. This effort required cooperation from Grants, Accounting, Purchasing, Budget and all of the NSB Departments and I am pleased to report that it was accomplished in a timely manner. Focus has shifted to preparation for the annual audit, which will start in about 45 days. Administration and Finance are also preparing for the upcoming bond rating presentations and subsequent bond sale later in the year.

The **Department of Inupiat History, Language & Culture** in partnership with NSBSD and Ilisagvik College had a very successful Inupiaq Language Summit with over 125 participants from our communities across the slope as well as special visitors from Kotzebue and the University of Alaska Fairbanks. We also had attendance and representation from major organizations and are very thankful for their support. We are excited to have furthered the commission's goal of Inupiaq language revitalization efforts we're looking forwards to the implementation of action steps to keep our language alive and vibrant.

The **Department of Search and Rescue's** aircraft were utilized a total of 118.4 hours. There were 9 Personal Locator Beacon (PLB) or Search & Rescue Activities. Many of the activities involved overdue hunters and hikers or boats breaking down. All of the cases were closed out with no major injuries and no casualties. We would like to thank our volunteers for all of their assistance in keeping our residents safe, and would like to remind people to check out PLB's.

The **Department of Wildlife Management** is continuing caribou health related research, particularly body condition and health assessment of subsistence harvested caribou during the summer/fall of 2015. This research work is particularly relevant in light of the jointly agreed harvest restriction of Northern Alaska Caribou Herds during 2015. A few hunter concern animals, for example abscess and muscle tape worm animals, have been submitted and further diagnostics are pending. Analysis of 2012-2014 samples is being completed and preliminary results of the caribou project will be presented at the fall 2015 Fish and Game meeting.

In addition to its normal workload, the **Department of Public Works** has been hard at work on the roads and on summer projects. The village of Wainwright voiced a concern regarding street lights, 110 have been ordered and received for that community. Approximately 30% have been installed and Public Works is working to complete installation for the remainder. Phase 2 (Feasibility and Concept Design) for the Wind-Diesel Generation projects in Wainwright, Point Hope, and Point Lay have been completed. Phase 3 is for Final Design and Permitting, and is estimated to begin in October 2015. Grant funding from the Alaska Energy Authority for these three projects have been secured through Phase 3. Phase 4 (Construction and Commissioning) is yet to be funded.

The **Police Department** responded to 2,674 calls for service during which 93 incident reports were filed. 130 of the calls were alcohol related. 1,267 calls were dispatched and 1,407 calls were officer initiated. There were 47 traffic related contacts during which 8 citations were written. A total of 70 criminal cases were submitted to the District Attorney. Officers seized a total of 17.25 liters of alcohol, 275 grams of marijuana, 108 grams of heroin and 907 grams of methamphetamine. Officers across the slope participated in community activities. The Department also assisted with the Alaska Youth Academy at Ilisagvik College to give youth an opportunity to learn about forensics,

policing techniques, firefighting, survival, gun safety, and martial arts.

The **Department of Health and Social Services**, in partnership with other programs will plant an outdoor tundra garden behind the Senior Center in Barrow with a walking path. It's hopeful this will help with the ATV traffic behind the Senior Center also. Integrated Behavioral Health hosted over 20 campers from all over Alaska from Ilisagvik's first ever Behavioral Health Summer camp for students. It was a valuable experience for all. The Barrow Early Learning Center is almost complete and we are beginning to move furniture in. Unfortunately, State of AK Licensing will not be able to come for an inspection until mid-August, so we are looking at an opening date of September 1, 2015.

The **Human Resources Department's** Training & Development Division offered 22 Trainings this month. 13 of the trainings were held in Barrow and the other 9 were held in Nuiqsut. The Mayor's Job Program cycle has begun and 16 individuals have been hired so far.

The **Department of Planning and Community Services** recently received the deliverables from the Community Mapping Project. All data will be uploaded into the Geographical Information Systems (GIS) program, and then GIS will start updating maps. After the maps are updated new maps will be printed and distributed.

The **Fire Department** held Heavy Rescue, Firefighter I, and began Basic Firefighter trainings in Barrow this month. In total there were 33 participants in these trainings. Across the North Slope there were 285 ambulance calls and 10 fire calls this month. The Fire Department is still looking for new volunteers in every community so if you are interested please contact the Fire Department.

This concludes my summary report for the month of July. Thank you!