

**COVID-19 Tribal Leadership Session Minutes
June 08, 2020**

Angie Gorn, CEO, NSHC	Reba Lean, NSHC	Mark Peterson, MD, Medical Director, NSHC
Kelly Bogart, NSHC	Megan MacKiernan, NSHC	Cameron Piscoya, NSHC
Kristen Timbers, NSHC	Carol Charles, NSHC	Megan Alvanna-Stimpfle
Joleen Oleson, Kawerak	Opik Ahkinga, Diomede	Shirley Bell, Bering Straits Regional Housing Authority
Joanne Keyes, Wales	Tracy McGarry, Kawerak	Tiffany Martinson, Nome Eskimo Community
Charles Swanson, Native Village of Koyuk	Howard Weyiouanna, Shishmaref	Axel Jackson

*Over 40 participants attended today's meeting.

AGENDA ITEMS	DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATION
Introduction to Meeting – Angie Gorn, NSHC CEO	<p>Reminder to keep phone's muted.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Blessing 2) Medical Staff Briefing 3) Changes with Governors mandate for travel 4) Comments and Questions <p>Note- Any questions may be sent to Reba Lean at rlean@nshcorp.org anytime or text to 907-434-1927 and they will be answered during the 11:00 am call.</p>
Prayer	Prayer was given
Medical Staff Briefing – Dr. Mark Peterson, NSHC Medical Director	<p>Megan MacKiernan gave medical staff update on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alaska: since we last meet on Thursday, on Friday there were 12 new cases, Saturday there were 8 new cases, and Sunday there were 9 new cases, giving a total of 563 cases, 169 are active, 384 are recovered, 10 deaths, 7 patients in the state that are currently in the hospital and has been steady for the last couple of days, 46 non-resident cases with a majority in the seafood industry • A large number of those cases are coming from the Kenai Peninsula Bureau with a couple of cases in Juneau, and then 10 or so in Anchorage as well • ANMC: • NSHC: 3 recovered cases, over 5,500 tests, 2,459 unique patients, region wide we have tested about 23.5% of our patients • We will be providing percentage of testing completed in each village once a week <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nome: 35% - Brevig: 17.7% - Elim: 16.8% - Gambell: 13.9% - Golovin: 26.9% - Koyuk: 16% - Little Diomede: 21.6% - Saint Michael: 19.4% - Savoonga: 16% - Shaktoolik: 9.6%

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shishmaref: 14% - Stebbins: 10.9% - Teller: 19.8% - Unalakleet: 15.9% - Wales: 20.9% - White Mountain: 25.1% • The state of Alaska has listed testing centers on their website places where travelers can receive testing under the state’s new testing program for travelers both essential and non-essential website • Nome’s testing sites are on the website and we have been working with the state
<p>Updates</p>	<p>Angie gave the following updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Peterson is unavailable for today’s call as he is currently flying in - Dr. Peterson did state that there is testing in the Anchorage Airport and will give more information tomorrow on that - We have been told that we will be receiving 3 more Abbott ID Now analyzers so thank you so much to ANTHC and they are doing whatever they can to field requests for the rural areas <p>Deanna Stang gave an update on Health Mandate 18:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The interstate travel was revised on June 5th - Communities off the road system can travel - However communities can put into place local travel restrictions of their own - The revision was made to provide flexibility for our local communities of the road system to make their own decisions of when they wanted to open up for travelers - As far as the state you can travel within the state of Alaska now however we still need to make sure we are following the local travel restrictions that local communities have in place <p>Deanna Stang also gave a Public Service Announcement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - With a lot of the cases we are seeing on the Kenai Peninsula they were associated to a couple of large of private gathering events - We just want people to be very cautious - As people are starting to move about more throughout the state it’s still so important to make sure you are social distancing with people outside your household, continue to wash your hands, and don’t touch your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands - If you are feeling any mild symptoms or illness go into your local hospital or clinic for testing - Make sure you are disinfecting high touched surfaces - Keeping your social circle or ball small, if you are getting to the point where you do not remember who you were around then maybe it’s time to tighten back up your circle <p>Angie gave information about the Airport Testing in Nome:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It’s going well from our perspective

- Since May 29th we have performed close to 100 test
- About 67% of testing taking place are locals
- 17% are people traveling up from Anchorage or Alaska
- 16% are people traveling up from outside of Alaska
- Norton Sound participated in what we call the table top drill where we really talk through what happens when we get a positive through airport testing so we put together a package that is given to every person that is tested, it has a mask, education, passengers are informed to wear that mask if they are going to be going to the store or heading out any place in public because they are not going to have their test results back right away
- We also made sure we had a log to record anyone’s phone number and back up phone number because we know that we have a lot of people traveling up to our region that is either visiting someone or maybe here for gold mining and maybe heading out somewhere out in the control and we want to be able to locate them and having a way of doing so, we have a log that records their physical address and phone number
- We also talked about someone that may be traveling from Anchorage to the village and how we would get a hold of that someone as soon as possible
- We have talked through it and if you are following facebook or reading press releases from other organizations you probably are aware that through airport testing they have identified other people in other regions who have tested positive
- We are prepared for that and are expecting it to happen at some point

Dr. Peterson was able to join and gave the following update on Airport testing in Anchorage:

- It’s pretty clear when you go in they have sign’s up that states if traveling from out of the state you go to this line here you need to show your state travel declaration form, you need to show proof of testing within 72 hours, you need to go to this line to get tested
- They had about 6-7 people that were doing the testing with their PPE on and it looked pretty professional
- It’s all set up and looks efficient and official and making sure people are doing what they are supposed to be doing
- I just came to the airport in Nome and tested at the tent and if you are coming from the lower 48 they check your form and direct you to the tent if you want to be tested
- Everything went smoothly when I went to the tent

Angie gave an update on employee travel:

- NSHC has guidelines for employees that travel
- Any employee that is traveling into Nome from the lower 48 is still required to quarantine for 14 days and that is our goal to continue that until July 1st
- On July 1st Norton Sound will move towards a test upon arrive, quarantine for 7 days, and then test again and if you have a negative test can return back to work
- Employees who choose not to do the testing strategy will be required to

	<p>quarantine for 14 days</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We are making sure people are safe - Right now any employee that travels within the state we are still requiring they test upon arrival and quarantine for 7 days and test or quarantine for 14 days - When we move towards a change we are not going to ease up or let our guard down for the nursing unit, and anybody traveling outside the region and travels back into Nome and works in the nursing home they are going to have to quarantine for 14 days - We are still testing employees; QCC is every 7 days; at NSHC it's 14 days for employees working with patients; at the village level we are going to move towards testing of every 7 days for village based employees - Staff who travel to the villages to provide care will first be accepted by that's community leadership; Once approved they need to test shortly before traveling so within 24 hours of traveling and show that they have a negative test; Again those staff will be tested every 14 days as well - Any village staff that would like to travel within region for example, staff from Teller, Brevig, White Mountain, or Golovin wanting to come to know, What we would be doing there is that staff would need to test before returning home to their community and 24 hours after, and then again we are testing staff in the village every 7 days - Again those are additional safety precautions to make sure that our employees are still quarantine even if the mandate changes at the state level or locally - Norton Sound will have its own guidelines to keep our workforce safe - At Norton Sound we have also asked employees to disclosure if they are moonlighting any other place; So that means an employee that may have a second job somewhere; So even if at Norton Sound employees are coming to work wearing a mask and practicing safety precautions, we're also concerned about maybe one of our employees who has a second job and they are exposed to a larger number of people and we're more at risk at bringing the virus to Norton Sound; We have asked employees to disclose that and taking a close look at where those employees are working at and being mindful and keep a close look at those
<p>Survey</p>	<p>Reba announced the winner for the survey:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Our testing survey and drawing is going really well - We have received 639 responses so far - For Friday our winner was Trish Zerha - Today's winner is Benjamin Linschoten - If you have been tested and have not submitted a survey you can test COVID to 833-321-0166
<p>Question and Comments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o From the last two Nome cases do you still think there are asymptomatic cases going around in Nome? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ MM: That's a really good question. At this point I am going to give a defiant answer of we don't know. We have done the contact tracing of the last two cases and the contacts have all been tested and quarantined and we think we have done a good job on tracing those two cases, although those cases were listed as community contacts. We have not

been able to narrow it down to determine who or how those individuals became infected. At this point since we cannot say how they got infected it's a big we don't know. We are acting and in all of our facilities still using masks presuming that there are people that could be spreading the infection. We recommend acting like the virus is in your community to help prevent that spread.

- **With bad weather in the villages, and if they are concerned about someone in the village, would they test them daily until the plane came in?**
 - MM: So if the patient is in the village and is symptomatic they would be tested and go into isolation and then we will try and get that test into Nome as quickly and get it down to Anchorage on the very next flight.
- **If a person is coming back from the lower 48 is the quarantine process still for 14 days?**
 - AG: Yes it is here in Nome until they make any revisions here locally. They have not published anything yet so if they are traveling to Nome they still have to quarantine for 14 days.
- **Are the new testing machines going to be sent out to the village or kept in Nome?**
 - AG: We were just informed today that we were getting the additional machine so tomorrow I can share what the plans are for those three machines. I do know that villages with machines are currently Unalakleet, Savoonga, and one either has been or will be sent to Teller. We will start with those three communities first and then we have three more machines and I can share tomorrow where those will be heading.
- **In Wales they are only allowing testing on Monday's and Wednesday but today we do not have good weather. Can that be changed?**
 - MM: As long as we get that test into Nome within 2 days of it being out of the patients nose then that works. We were encouraging clinic's not to test close to the weekend, we did not want to miss the chance on getting those tests into Nome, but we are allowing the clinics to set up their testing days for asymptomatic patients. For symptomatic patients we will test them on whatever day that they come in.
- **Wales has had a tri-meeting and did change their requirements a little and will be getting the update version to NSHC sometime today.**
- **Angie wanted to share that NSHC has a lot of masks so if you are traveling in and maybe traveling somewhere and don't know where to pick one up just let the front desk know that you are needing a mask.**
- **Norton Sound did send white cloth masks to every clinic so if you need a mask please call your clinic.**
- **Someone had asked a question about making cloth mask where they had the equipment to make them, did anyone look at that?**
 - MM: We did look at that the factory that BSNC does own. That organization is making PPE for distribution for around the country. We haven't been able to find out if it is being distributed here.