

**COVID-19 Tribal Leadership Session Minutes
August 6, 2020**

Angie Gorn, 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
Amos Brown, White Mountain		

*Over 30 participants attended today's meeting.

AGENDA ITEMS	DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATION
Introduction to Meeting – Angie Gorn, NSHC CEO	<p>Today's Reminder:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Please keep phone muted unless speaking or asking a question - <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>
Updates	<p>Angie gave the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Late last evening we did share a press release regarding a new case - We were able to share that the patient was currently in Stebbins and is a non-resident of Stebbins and tested according to the Stebbins travel/testing/quarantine mandate - We are thankful that folks are following through with the testing and the quarantine - We did reach out to the Stebbins leadership last evening, Norton Sound, and the community leaders held a teleconference - We are not concerned about community spread at all in the city of Stebbins - The case was caught and very low risk situation - We can not reiterate enough how important it is for people that are traveling in to follow the testing on arrival, quarantine, and testing again - This is a case where everything went right and happy that we identified it and the patient is isolating <p>Glen Steckman City of Nome update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The City of Nome is now requiring any individual that is coming from the lower 48 and coming through Anchorage to Nome and anywhere coming from the state into Nome and even passing through Nome to the villages is now required to fill out a travel activity form - It does not have to be approved by any city staff - The form must be filled out and signed - Anybody traveling through Nome into the villages, if they are waiting to board any Bering Air or Pathfinder flight, is not allowed to come into the city while they are traveling; If they have to catch a later plane because they missed the flight they may come into town and stay at a hotel; They need to wear a mask and not to go into stores or restaurants - We are recognizing that there is more travel spread and obviously we want to protect the City of Nome directly itself - We didn't require a form be sign when people were traveling through Nome, but we are now requiring that and hope everyone will understand and corporate with us - Spoke with Alaska Airlines and Alaska Airlines is now mandating that masks be used and that anybody coming into their terminal in Nome must wear a mask

	<p>and can not take the mask off when going into the terminal</p> <p>Sean Lee update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We just got word that the dispenser buckets are arriving at Lynden - We will be shipping them out to communities; mostly focusing on unserved communities for hand washing - We are requesting that all the communities that have pipe water and sewer to submit several houses that are not connected or don't have service that would like to get a bucket - Will get with the original contacts from the need assessment and will get an email out
<p>Medical Staff Briefing – Dr. Mark Peterson, Medical Director</p>	<p>Dr. Peterson gave medical staff update on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alaska: 3,484 total resident cases, yesterday 40 resident and 6 non-resident cases • The last three days we have had under 100 cases a day • This is hopefully a trend and a positive trend; we will have to wait to see on Monday what the weekend brings • 34 hospitalizations, 8 individuals in the hospital and test are pending • 25 deaths • 2 people on ventilators with COVID-19 • ICU beds, ventilators are still strong number, the overall capacity still looks good and see the numbers coming down • ANMC: 6 inpatients, 400+ outpatient, middle 30's for employees who have tested positive • NSHC: We continue to test aggressively • Had an additional case that appears to be kind of an isolated situation and they are in isolation and no significant contacts and situation is looking there • There was a concern in the past where non-residents coming up from the lower 48 through the airport not being able to test; They will be able to test and will have to pay \$250 out of pocket for the test
<p>Question and Comments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Are you going to share the forms with the local village entities, so they have access to the forms? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ GS: We will work with the village. We do inform that when people are traveling to the villages through Nome, we are letting them know that the villages have their own requirements and that the villages are following those who are traveling in and making sure they follow those requirements. ○ Tom Okleasik shared with the group that he is working with the Rasmuson Foundation and the University of Alaska Anchorage College of Health and Kawerak on a Bering Strait Region personal protective equipment survey. That survey was emailed out by Kawerak to their email list that is also available on their facebook page and their webpage. The survey is to invite community leadership from the city, tribe, village corporation, and the school to engage the availability of PPE in your community. We are hoping to get a survey from each community. Organization can submit together or separately. This will help us identify community need for PPE. Responses are due August 18th. The survey will take about 10 minutes. If people have

any questions, they can contact Tom at 907-301-4976 or by email which is in the introduction of the survey.

- **Sherri Anderson with BHS wanted to let everyone know there is a native connection project. They have a “beat at your own” challenge. The gear is for ages 14-24 but anyone can participate. If you have down time this would be good to do at home and with your family.**
- **Did anyone find out about the announcement that Alaska Airlines made that if you don’t wear a mask you will be band from future flights?**
 - **Dr. P:** My suggestion would be this. If somebody has a known disorder that makes it difficult for them to wear a mask they can get a letter from their provider that indicates that this person has difficulty with a mask and they can carry that with them and think it will be helpful. Can not guarantee because Alaska Airlines makes their own rules but I think that if they have a legitimate reason to not wear a mask I think they should test a head of time before traveling and bring that negative test with them and a letter from their provider with them on why they are unable to wear a mask. If somebody is a child and they are having a bad day and not wearing a mask I don’t think Alaska Airlines will keep them from flying. I wouldn’t be to be worried about the children acting up. Alaska Airlines will understand that. I am thinking about adults who can not wear masks for medical reasons should just have a letter with them and a negative test.
 - **MM:** Alaska Airlines did post on their website that for in state Alaska people who are traveling for medical that have issues they were going to have some sort of medical line where it would be approved by their medical team so having that letter will be helpful but I would plan to contact Alaska Airlines a head of time to make sure you have time to see that medical team. Also encourage people that maybe if a standard mask is uncomfortable to try a bandana, scarf, or something of that sort. For kids it’s not to introduce a mask before the plane. Make sure to have them practice wearing it before you travel. It will be a whole lot easier before you do travel.
- **With this travel form be required for people that are traveling from the village to Nome?**
 - **PK:** do think that the you will need the form traveling to and from Nome to the villages.
 - **GS:** Travelers into Nome intrastate or interstate can either 1) arrive in Nome and be tested at the airport and stay in quarantine for 7 days including essential and critical workers must go home and to work and cannot go into public places until they get the test results from their 7th day test. 2) if you don’t want to be tested then you must quarantine for 14 days and if you are not sick at the end of the 14 days you are free to come out of quarantine. There is not a travel form for leaving the area from Nome and from the villages. So, if you travel from the villages on Bering Air or Pathfinder and pass trough Nome to go to your final destination a form is not required. The form is only required if you are flying to Nome.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Have there been any letters sent in concern of testing in the Anchorage Airport prior to travel to the hubs from the Norton Sound Region? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dr. P: From the medical staff standpoint we have some new physician that travel. We have not run into any major difficulties. There critical infrastructure. They will be testing when they get to Nome when they come and have not been any issue not having the test in hand when passing through Anchorage. My understanding is what we plan to do is give them a letter from Dr. Peterson indicating that they have a work shift and that they will be testing and quarantining in Nome. I have been told that it should not be a problem. I don't know about residents of Nome coming up from the lower 48 into Anchorage if they have had difficult getting a test or being delayed at the airport for any reason. ○ Discussion was held about mask wearing in the store and where to get masks from. ○ How many of the clinics have maintenance personal working for them? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AG: I would have to go and look at our list. We do have an approved position for every single village clinic, and it sounds like you are asking what villages have a vacancy and can get that to you. ○ Requested the City of Nome to make it a mandate to wear mask in public places.
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