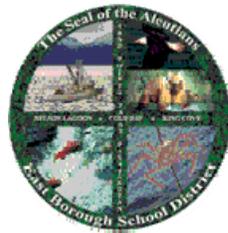
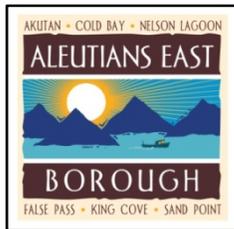


# In the Loop



Bringing the Aleutians East Borough, the AEB School District and Eastern Aleutian Tribes together by sharing common goals.

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## **Gas & Oil Workshops Are a Success in Sand Point and Cold Bay**



Recent public meetings in Sand Point and Cold Bay were well-attended and resulted in successful workshops. On December 11<sup>th</sup>, more than 30 Sand Point residents attended a gas and oil update workshop. The following night, 14 residents in Cold Bay attended the same workshop, despite the fact that many of the community's adult residents were

taking part in first aid/CPR training that evening.

AEB Administrator Bob Juettner provided an update of gas and oil activities undertaken by the Borough staff and the U.S. Minerals Management Service (MMS), which oversees the offshore oil and gas efforts.

A couple of the high points:

- Next State of Alaska (onshore) lease sale will be held on February 27, 2007.
- The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for offshore seismic activities is underway.
- The Environmental Impact Statement for the offshore lease sales will get underway soon.
- First offshore lease sale is scheduled for 2011.
- A memo of agreement (MOA) has been drafted by AEB and MMS and is close to having signatures from both government organizations.
- The MOA requests that AEB have a “cooperating agency” status with MMS, which allows us to be a partner during the development of the EIS documents, rather than just reviewing drafts and making comments.
- Offshore lease sales may include a liquefied natural gas plant to be constructed in Balboa Bay near Sand Point.
- Air support for the 4-6 drill rigs in the offshore waters near Nelson Lagoon may be based in Cold Bay.
- The possible impacts or lack of impacts of seismic activities was described in general terms.

For more information contact the Anchorage office of AEB at (907) 274-7555.

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## **Hovercraft Back in Service After Repairs Completed on Bow Thruster**

The Suna-X, the hovercraft serving the communities of King Cove and Cold Bay, is back in



service after needing repairs for more than a week. The bearing for the bow thruster needed replacement, so the Borough decided to take the hovercraft out of service for safety reasons until

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In the Loop

Published by the Aleutians East Borough

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the needed repairs could be completed. The part had been on order with the manufacturer in the United Kingdom for 18 months. After several emails and phone calls, the new bearing finally arrived last Saturday. The hovercraft maintenance crew jumped on the job and spent several hours replacing the part. The Suna-X went back into service on Sunday.



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## **Akutan Gets Congressional Appropriation Funding for Airport Runway Project and Large Boat Harbor**

Congress unveiled details of an end-of-the-year package to wrap up work on annual funding bills, and Akutan is getting a slice of the pie. The Congressional Committee on Appropriations has released its Fiscal Year 2008 Omnibus Appropriations Bill which includes \$2,625,000 for the Akutan airport runway – funding that will help to solve the city’s looming transportation access problem. In three years, PenAir is expected to retire the Grumman Goose, an aging World War II amphibious aircraft which has served as the community’s main access link to the outside world for decades.

The airport runway project consists of a lighted, 4,500-foot long paved runway on nearby Akun Island with a marine link to City of Akutan. The remote location and the expense require a financing strategy consisting of multiple funding sources. Two months ago, Aleutians East Borough residents voted in favor of Proposition A, which represents a local contribution for the federal project. Altogether, that measure designates three million dollars in local general obligation funds for the Akutan airport runway project. The Borough is hopeful the State of Alaska will come up with a match.

The omnibus appropriations bill also includes \$468,000 in Army Corps of Engineers general construction funds for a large boat harbor at the head of the bay to accommodate the many

fishing vessels that deliver product in Akutan. This represents the first increment of funding for the construction of the 12-acre mooring basin, which would serve one of the busiest fishing ports in the country. Currently, Akutan has a 200-foot dock and a small boat mooring basin available.

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## City of Akutan Moves into New Building Next Month

The City of Akutan will soon take control of a 3,200-square foot, two-story building. The lower floor has an office space for the mayor, administrator and the clerk, a conference room and a general waiting area room. The second floor has a one-bedroom apartment for visitors who are in Akutan on city business. The second floor also has storage space.



The building was built by Byler Contracting who got the contract from CYS Management and came in with the lowest bid. Byler started late but still got the building completed in the time frame originally set. The City of Akutan is very happy with the results.

The City of Akutan should be in their new building by January 2008. The city will move out of the Akutan Corporation's office space, which had been leased since 1982. The city is excited to have its own building and wishes the Corporation good luck with other options.



Aleutian Housing Authority is in Akutan building a 4-Plex which will be available for lease when it is completed. The construction job is scheduled to be finished in the summer of 2008. The City of Sand Point lent its assistance by issuing a bond for AHA for 4-Plexes in Sand Point. The bond also included funding to help pay for the building in Akutan. The Akutan Traditional Council is grateful to the City of Sand Point for helping AHA with the bonding.

For more info call AHA at (800) 478-5614.

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## Akutan Corporation Celebrates Completion of Several Projects; Makes Progress on Others



Figure 1 - Bayview Hotel

The Akutan Corporation's 4-year restoration of the Bayview Hotel is almost completed. The corporation also built a new cafe in the center of town and has been fortunate to find Twin Tran who operates the airport cafe and lounge in Dutch Harbor. The Trans have a family business. Lisa and Dewey Tran have come to Akutan to run the



Figure 2 - Akutan Bayview Cafe

Akutan Bayview Cafe. The cafe opened at the end of May and is a great addition to the community and a huge success.

The corporation is also working with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's conservation and EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentive Program). The purpose of this 5-year program is to fence off salmon streams, lakes and potable water supplies on Akun Island. The first year, six miles of fencing were completed. An important ancient village site was sealed off from the 1,000 head of cattle that occupy Akun Island.

One of the biggest and most exciting events for the Akutan Corporation and its shareholders was the completion of ANCSA 12a and 12b land selections with BLM (Bureau of Land Management), U.S. Fish & Wild Life Service and the Department of Interior. During the four years it took to finally finish the project, the corporation had traded some of its conveyed land from the first ANCSA (Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act) land selections, including bird sanctuaries, in order to acquire all of Tigalda Island and some valuable subsurface land on Akutan Island.

## **Possible Leases for Second Floor of Cold Bay Airport Terminal Building**

The Aleutians East Borough (AEB) is exploring possible leases for the second floor of the new Cold Bay Airport Terminal Building. Likely tenants are the United States Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service (NWS) and the United States Department of Transportation and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).



As of mid-December, the AEB has had preliminary discussions with the FAA and extensive discussions with the NWS about leases. It appears that:

1. The shell of the building should be completed around January 31, 2008.
2. If we can reach agreement with the prospective tenants, the tenant improvements may be complete by June 30, 2008.
3. The NWS is interested in leasing about 1,360 square feet on the second floor.
4. If all goes as planned, the NWS may be moving into the new facility around July 1, 2008.
5. The NWS has asked for tenant improvements which may cost nearly a half million dollars. Once we have agreed on those improvements, their cost will be incorporated into the lease rate.
6. The FAA has expressed interest in leasing about 2,400 square feet on the second floor.
7. Because our discussions with the FAA have not reached the detailed stage of our talks with the NWS, we aren't sure what the FAA's move-in date may be.
8. Our preliminary discussions with FAA indicate the tenant improvements they require may exceed three-quarters of a million dollars. As with the NWS, once we have agreed on the improvements the FAA wants, their cost will be incorporated into the lease rate.
9. The AEB is moving ahead to obtain financing which will allow us to begin construction of the tenant improvements soon after the shell of the building is complete.

The terminal is scheduled for first floor completion by the end of January, 2008. The second floor construction will continue next month and we anticipate the second floor will be available for tenants this summer.



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## **Two Large Projects Scheduled to Bring Construction Crews to False Pass This Summer**

Two major projects in False Pass will bring construction crews to town this summer. Kelly-Ryan Inc. is expected to be in town to complete its work on the new False Pass harbor. Another project would entail building a 2/3-mile-long road extending from the Beach Road near the new harbor to the proposed new landfill site. The mostly-single-lane gravel road would include a 103-foot-long bridge over Ungaman Creek. The Alaska Department of Transportation recently put the project out to bid. Five bidders responded. The apparent low bidder is Brice Inc. with a bid of \$2,097,570.

If you have available housing in False Pass this summer and you're interested in renting it out to construction crews, please contact City of False Pass Treasurer/Clerk Melanie Hoblet. You can provide your name, phone number, e-mail and mailing address to Melanie at [cityoffalsepass@ak.net](mailto:cityoffalsepass@ak.net), and she will provide that information to companies looking for lodging for their employees.

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## **King Cove Takes Major Strides Forward with Several Exciting Projects**



Much of this past year has been focused on King Cove's strong desire to achieve the Izembek land transfer and eventual road to Cold Bay. The city has worked closely with its valued partners in this endeavor – the King Cove Corporation, Agdaagux Tribe, and Aleutians East Borough. This has truly been a team effort!

On the King Cove waterfront, the city's newest harbor ("Robert E. Babe Newman" Harbor) is finally starting to flourish now that the community has three-phase power available. This photo was taken on 12-19-07. We have also initiated the design and planning process to rehabilitate our original harbor that we anticipate to have completed by 2009.





All sorts of good things are happening on the community's power front. King Cove's new diesel plant will be completed and brought on-line this spring. The Delta Creek hydro facility, which continues to provide more than half of the city's annual energy demand, is also being upgraded. But, even more exciting is the prospect of adding another new component to King

Cove's hydroelectric facility using Waterfall Creek, which is adjacent to Delta Creek. Our current vision is to have this new hydro facility on-line by fall 2009.

The city is being very aggressive and creative in working to keep our \$.24/kWh (kilowatts) as the lowest, single-site cost of power for over 160 communities that receive the power cost equalization (PCE) subsidy.

Finally, King Cove's other big project is the City Streets Project. Working in conjunction with the Agdaagux Tribe and Western Federal Lands, the final phase of this \$10 million project will culminate this summer (and possibly into 2009) with about 5 miles of paved roads in "downtown" King Cove.

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## **North Pacific Fishery Management Council Proposes Lower Pollock Limit**

During its December meeting in Anchorage, the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) recommended lowering the commercial catch limit in the Western Gulf to 17,602 metric tons of pollock for 2008. That's down from 25,012 metric tons in 2007. Pollock is divided into four seasons.

The NPFMC also proposed a total allowable catch (TAC) of 19,449 metric tons of Pacific cod for next year. That compares to 20,141 metric tons this year. The Pacific cod TAC is reduced by 25% for the state waters fishery, and 10% is allocated to the offshore sector. The remainder is divided into two seasons, A and B, per the SSL (Steller sea lions) protection measures. The NPFMC recommended a TAC of 1,890 metric tons of sablefish for 2008, compared to 2,470 tons this year.

In addition, the council lowered the commercial catch limit on the Bering Sea pollock next year to one million metric tons. That's a 28 percent reduction from the previous year. Scientists say the cut is a response to the downward trend in the fish population following several years of high catches of nearly 1.5 million metric tons. In addition, the council recommended a total allowable catch of 170,720 metric tons for Pacific cod in 2008 and 225,000 metric tons for yellowfin sole.

Recommendations from the council must be approved by the U.S. Secretary of Commerce before they become effective.

[Read More](#)

[NPFMC Web site link](#)

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### **Other NPFMC Actions Taken:**

- Crab custom processing exemption was approved. Peter Pan Seafoods will be able to process Aleutia PQS (processor quota share) crab.
  - Adak (American Fisheries Act) AFA permit application denied. NPFMC took no action on the permit application resulting in Adak not getting pollock processing rights.
  - A draft letter to the Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Fish & Game is being circulated regarding concerns that the developing fishery on the south side of Unimak Island is cutting into the Area M state waters Pacific cod fishery.
- 

### **NPFMC Appoints Beth Stewart to Advisory Panel**

The NPFMC appointed Aleutians East Borough Resource Director Beth Stewart to a term on the advisory panel. The panel advises the NPFMC on issues that come before the council. Stewart and AEB resident Kylie Thompson recently testified before the council about the importance of decreasing pollock sideboard amounts if trawl recency regulations eliminate some of the AFA trawlers' GOA (Gulf of Alaska) endorsements.

Overall, the Borough has observed several positive changes in the North Pacific Fishery Management Council under the direction of Governor Sarah Palin. AEB residents have waited a long time for a council that responds to the concerns of Alaska's fishing communities.

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## Important Items of Interest on NPFMC's Upcoming Agendas:

Week of February 4, 2008 meeting in Seattle – at the Marriott Renaissance:

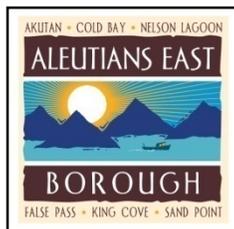
- BSAI/GOA (Bering Sea Aleutian Islands/Gulf of Alaska) trawl LLP (license limitation program) Recency.
- GOA (Gulf of Alaska) salmon/crab bycatch.
- Observer program amendments.

Week of March 31, 2008 meeting in Anchorage – at the Anchorage Hilton:

- GOA sideboards for crab vessels.
- Steller sea lion recovery plan.
- GOA Pacific cod/LLP Recency.
- *GOA Pacific cod sector split.*

Week of June 2, 2008 meeting in Kodiak:

- GOA sideboards on Bering Sea pollock vessels.



## Shakedown Cruise is a Success

The shakedown cruise, a cooperative research project between the Aleutians East Borough (AEB) and the National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS), is proving to be very successful. The project tests whether small boats such as local trawl vessels can perform the hydro-acoustic pollock survey. The winter survey determines the ABC (acceptable biological catch) for the Western Gulf of Alaska (WGOA) pollock. The trawl survey is not specifically designed for pollock. However, it provides NMFS with data about Pacific cod and other bottom-dwelling marine life. The trawl ABC calculations include the summer trawl survey and the winter hydro-

acoustic surveys, geared specifically toward pollock. Some trawling is required to verify that the sign on the screen is indeed pollock.

NMFS is facing declining budgets, and the costs of using their own vessels are high. Therefore, the agency has been exploring the possibility of contracting with local vessels to run the survey.

The AEB was able to get funding to outfit the F/V Temptation with ES60 hydro acoustic equipment, a standard for scientific hydro acoustic data. Data from the survey is transmitted directly to NMFS. Martin Dorn with NMFS, and AEB Consulting Scientist Vidar Weststad, traveled to Seattle recently for a test run and were very pleased with the results. They will return next month for more testing. A successful program means local vessels will be able to contract with NMFS for surveys.

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## **AEB Releases a Draft of its Mission Statement**

Members of the Aleutians East Borough assembly, staff, the mayor and employees from the AEB School District as well as the Eastern Aleutians Tribes met earlier this month at the Anchorage Hilton for a planning retreat. A number of ideas and goals were discussed, including drafting AEB's mission statement. AEB Director of Community Development, Sharon Boyette, wrote three different draft versions for the Borough to choose from:

1. The Aleutians East Borough is dedicated to bringing to its communities opportunities for responsible and appropriate economic development and growth while supporting the health, safety and welfare of all residents.
2. The Aleutians East Borough is a place of amazing beauty and abundant resources populated by people with a rich heritage. It strives to rigorously protect its beauty, appropriately share its resources and serve its people to continue their heritage for many generations.
3. The Aleutians East Borough will serve its communities and residents by rigorously protecting the environment and the Aleut culture, developing its resources in a sustainable and responsible manner and helping its communities and residents be successful in every way.

If you'd like to provide your input on which version you prefer or offer additional feedback, you can contact Sharon Boyette at [sboyette@aeboro.org](mailto:sboyette@aeboro.org).

The AEB will keep you updated on this mission statement when it's finalized.

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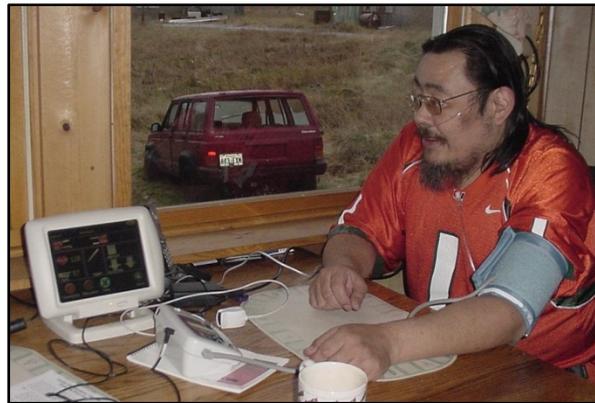
## **AEB Drafts New Policies on Hovercraft Daily Reports & Credit Card Use**

The AEB has drafted a new policy memorandum regarding the use of all AEB credit cards. In addition, the Borough has drafted a policy memorandum requiring daily reports from hovercraft employees on performance, maintenance, etc. If you'd like more information, please contact AEB Assistant Administrator Clark Corbridge at (907) 276-7580; email: [ccorbridge@aeboro.org](mailto:ccorbridge@aeboro.org).

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## **EASTERN ALEUTIAN TRIBES LAUNCHES HOME TELEHEALTH MONITORING**

For many residents in remote areas of Alaska, health care appointments can mean long drives, boat rides, or expensive airplane flights. But selected patients in Adak, Akutan, Nelson Lagoon, and St. George are now capable of monitoring aspects of their own health care while staying at home due to new technology that allows their health care providers to view their status on computers at local clinics.



Seven Community Health Aides with Eastern Aleutian Tribes recently passed competency exams, enabling them to deploy Home Telehealth Monitoring equipment which measures vital signs, weight, and even sets parameters for abnormal values and monitors trends in their patients' conditions. Tara Carr and Sandra Lopez, both of Cold Bay, Lorraine Loyd of Akutan, Senta Lockett of Nelson Lagoon, Michael Durfee of Adak, Kendra Eguia of King Cove, and Christopher Diaz of St. George demonstrated their skills on a combined video and audio conference with Joan Price, RN, Director of Clinical Implementation for VitelNet earlier this month.

[Read More](#)

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## **EAT, Communities Provide Holiday Goodies for Elders this Christmas**

The Elders residing in Eastern Aleutian Tribes communities will be feted this Christmas with fruit bags and other tasty goodies supplied by the good wishes of caring individuals. In some instances, community bazaars have been held with the proceeds donated to Elder fun programs. In addition to fruit bags, Sand Point is planning a special luncheon with Head Start children entertaining the community Elders as a Christmas event.

King Cove is planning a special Christmas tea and coffee gathering with their community Elders to enjoy tasty treats, memories, and friendship.

The communities of False Pass, Nelson Lagoon, and Akutan are busy preparing bags filled with fruit, vegetables, nuts, candy, and cookies to be presented to each Elder in gratitude.

It has taken many caring individuals to make these community events successful – a huge THANK YOU for their dedication to our most precious resource – our Elders.

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## **Check Out the School District's New & Improved Website**

Happy Holidays to all!

Check out our new and improved District website at [www.aebbsd.org/](http://www.aebbsd.org/). The Aleutians East Borough School District is in the process of making its website more inviting and user friendly. If you would like to have us add a link to your organization, please let Gus Perkins, District Technical Director, know. His email is [gperkins@aebbsd.org](mailto:gperkins@aebbsd.org).

Our **School Board Members** include:

Seat A

Jacki Bendixen

King Cove

Seat B	Tiffany Jackson	Sand Point
Seat C	Hillary Smith	Sand Point
Seat D	Shirley Brown	Sand Point
Seat E	Brenda Wilson	King Cove
Seat F	Demetri Tcheripanoff	Akutan
Seat G	Nancy Dushkin	King Cove

Our **Administrative Team** includes:

Superintendent	Phil Knight
Business Manager	Carl Warner
District Tech Director	Gus Perkins
Akutan Principal	Arthur Woodard
Cold Bay Principal	Ty DeVault
False Pass Principal	Ernest McKay
Nelson Lagoon Principal	James Rush
King Cove Principal	Ralph Lindquist
Sand Point Principal	Jeanne Perkins
Activities Director	Bruce Lee
Special Ed Coordinator	Carl Dirkers

We have a number of exciting programs and projects coming up but will wait to share them with you in upcoming editions of our newsletter.

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## **Job Openings:**

CITY OF FALSE PASS

DEPUTY CITY CLERK

JOB DESCRIPTION

APPOINTMENT	-	by City Council
SUPERVISOR	-	Mayor
WAGE	-	Range 7 (\$12.00/hr + housing allowance)
WORK SITE	-	City Office
HOURS OF WORK	-	M - F, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. , 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. (flexible), attendance at City Council and other meetings required, may work additional hours & days as deemed necessary by City Council
CLASSIFICATION	-	Permanent Full Time, the City Clerk however holds office at the pleasure of the Mayor, with approval of the City Council

### MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

1. High School graduate or equivalent (GED).
2. General knowledge of financial, bookkeeping and office procedures required.
3. Ability to type and experience with computers.
4. Ability to deal with the public.
5. Ability to work cooperatively with others.
6. Demonstrated ability to manage assigned projects.
7. Ability to draft and prepare correspondence with state, federal and non-profit agencies.
8. Ability to deal with state, federal and non-profit agencies.
9. Ability to follow budgets.
10. Ability to work with a minimum of supervision and carry out delegated duties.
11. Ability to act as Clerk in Clerk/Treasurer's absence.

### JOB DUTIES

Under the immediate supervision of the City Clerk/Treasurer and under the direction of the Mayor and City Council, the Deputy Clerk shall carry out all duties as directed: These include the assisting in the running of the City office, day to day maintaining progress of projects and such duties as delegated by the City Clerk. The Deputy Clerk shall, at the direction of or the absence of the City Clerk, assist or perform

any and all duties of the City Clerk/Treasurer: election duties, agendas, council packets, notices of the time and place of meetings to the City Council and to the public, attend meetings of the City Council and keep the journal; arrange publication of notices, ordinances, and resolutions; maintain and make available for public inspection an indexed file containing City ordinances, resolutions, rules, regulations and codes; attest deeds and other documents; perform other duties specified in Title 29 or prescribed by the City Clerk, Mayor, or City Council. In addition, the Deputy Clerk shall assist in the preparation of tax reports, financial reports, grant progress reports and shall insure that these reports are accurate and filed in a timely manner. The Deputy Clerk shall contact and deal with State, federal, and non-profit agencies to insure efficient provision of services to citizens. The Deputy Clerk shall assist in making application for grants and State and federal funding available. The Deputy Clerk shall process mail received by the City and insure the City Council and Mayor are aware of filing and other deadlines. In addition the Deputy Clerk shall be the billing clerk and reporting person for the Electric PCE company, as well as other utilities and city services. Performs other duties as assigned.

For a more detailed job description or questions please e-mail Melanie Hoblet, Clerk, at [cityoffalsepass@ak.net](mailto:cityoffalsepass@ak.net).

907-548-2319

907-548-2214

<http://home.gci.net/~cityoffalsepass/>

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**Got News?**



If you have news you'd like to share, please email [ltanis@aeboro.org](mailto:ltanis@aeboro.org) and [ccorbridge@aeboro.org](mailto:ccorbridge@aeboro.org).

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