

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Alvin D. Osterback called the Aleutians East Borough Assembly meeting to order by teleconference in each community on March 12, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Alvin D. Osterback	Present
Chris Babcock	Present
Carol Foster	Absent-excused
Warren Wilson	Present
Josephine Shangin	Absent-excused
Paul Gronholdt	Present
Brenda Wilson	Present
Denise Mobeck	Present

Advisory Members:

Dailey Schaack, Cold Bay	Present
Samantha McNeley, Nelson Lagoon	Present
Tom Hoblet, False Pass	Absent
Justin Mobeck, Student Representative	Present

A quorum was present.

Staff Present:

Jacki Brandell, Assistant Finance Director
Tina Anderson, Clerk
Anne Bailey, Administrator
Mary Tesche, Assistant Administrator
Ernie Weiss, Resource Director
Glennora Dushkin, Administrative Assistant
Laura Tanis, Communications Director
Emil Mobeck, Maintenance Director

Adoption of the Agenda:

WARREN moved to adopt with the amendments below and second by PAUL.

Additions:

- New Business - Board of Fisheries Appointment Nominee.
- New Business - Cod Fishery Season.

Hearing no more, the agenda is adopted as amended.

Conflict of Interests:

Mayor Osterback asked for any potential **Conflict of Interests** to discuss. There were none.

Community Roll Call and Public Comments on Agenda Items:

The communities of Sand Point, King Cove, Nelson Lagoon, False Pass, Cold Bay and the Anchorage office were participating by teleconference. Also broadcast on KSDP radio.

Public Comments: None

Minutes, February 13, 2020 Assembly Meeting Minutes:

MOTION

DENISE moved to approve the February 13, 2020 Minutes. Second by CHRIS.

Hearing no objections, **MOTION CARRIED.**

Financial Report – January:

MOTION

BRENDA moved to approve the January Financial Report and second by WARREN.

Administrator said January Financial Report is tracking along. Nothing out of the ordinary in expenditures and revenues.

ROLL CALL

YEAS: Warren, Denise, Brenda, Paul, Chris. Advisory: Justin, Samantha, Dailey.

NAY: None

MOTION CARRIED

January Investment Report:

The Administrator said as of January 2020 we did have \$47M in Permanent Fund. \$5,018,335 was transferred out of the permanent fund, into the Alaska Municipal League Investment Account (AMLIP) account for already appropriated funds that have not been expended yet. Transfer occurred prior to the unprecedented stock market drop. APCM said there was a 10% drop in value, which is within the modeling parameters and does not derail the permanent fund distribution planned. As of today, Permanent Fund is \$37M, with a \$5M loss. APCM will come in April to provide more details on investment.

PAUL suggested getting in writing any advisement from APCM we receive.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Resolution 20-53, Assembly authorizing the Borough Mayor to execute a contract with Moffatt & Nichol to assist the Aleutians East Borough with preparing a 2020 MARAD (Maritime Administration) Port Infrastructure Development Grant Application for the Sand Point and Akutan Harbors Floating Docks Project in an amount not to exceed \$34,000.00.
- Resolution 20-54, Assembly authorizing the Borough Mayor to negotiate and execute a time and materials contract with Moffatt & Nichol in an amount not to exceed \$15,000 to assist the Aleutians East Borough with preparing two Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities 2022 Harbor Facility Grant Applications for the 1) Sand Point Harbor Floating Dock Project and the 2) Akutan Harbor Floating Dock Project.
- Resolution 20-55, Assembly authorizing the Mayor to negotiate and execute a contract with DOWL to conduct Phase 1: Condition Survey Services for the Sand Point School Door Replacement Project in an amount not to exceed \$14,205.

MOTION

PAUL moved to approve the Consent Agenda and second by DENISE.

Administrator reviewed Resolutions 20-53 and 20-54. She said harbors are incomplete due to lack of funding. There is a need and an economic benefit to complete both harbors. The project will entail completing Akutan Float B with finger floats, electrical and lighting; Akutan Float A finger floats; and Sand Point Harbor Float A, which is 100% shovel ready and permits complete. Since AEB does not have funding to complete would like to pursue the grants. Better opportunity to receive the funding for the projects if combined, which is suggested by MARAD and amounts would be paid out of contingency line items.

Mayor Osterback said the grant opportunity surfaced at the annual Harbor Masters Association annual meeting. He feels the conferences are beneficial for Harbor Masters and/or Administrators to attend for networking and hearing about opportunities.

The Mayor feels it is very important for us to finish the projects with the amount of vessels out that way. Part of our fleet went to Akutan and other part went to Kodiak. Fishermen appreciated having a safe haven in the Akutan harbor. Also, with the amount of boats on the pad in Sand Point right now, there won't be a place to put them, when they all go in the water for salmon season.

In reviewing Resolution 20-55, the Administrator said AEB determined the doors and hardware need to be replaced. Have discussed with DOWL, and their subconsultant will travel to Sand Point to assess the condition of doors, hardware and components and determine the hardware and door costs.

ROLL CALL

YEAS: Paul, Chris, Denise, Warren, Brenda. Advisory: Dailey, Samantha, Justin.
NAY: None

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

Strategic Plan, Quarter 4:

Administrator said staff worked hard to accomplish projects, to date. Tool extremely useful for projects.

WARREN asked about the Akun Dock Project next phase and type of vessel being considered for the marine link.

Administrator said looking at Corps of Engineers (COE) Section 107, Harbor Act. Working with Akutan Tribal Council to pursue a partnership. Recently the tribe submitted an approved resolution to the COE. So, a feasibility study will be done. Less expensive going through the tribe, and funds are available to fund the project. No information on vessel type, at this time.

WARREN asked about the location chosen. The Administrator said the feasibility study will look at the conceptual design at location.

WARREN asked what kind of timeline on boat harbor, how much AEB will have to pay, and whether it will be to finish or a partial finish. Bailey said majority of funding will be through federal grant. The State grant could also be used as a match for a federal grant, to offset. AEB will owe something, State grant is a 50-50% match, federal grant, approximately 20% match contribution.

Mayor Osterback said combining harbor projects is new to us. In the past, USDOT has always worked on large projects. They have been instructed to spread money around more. Bundling projects is new for them also. We will bring engineers on board to do it right and hoping to get the projects completed.

Board of Fisheries Appointment:

Mayor Osterback said there are three Board of Fisheries seats open. We have interest from Resource Director, Ernie Weiss, and has no problem with him serving on the Board. No letter of support has been submitted yet and sked Assembly on suggestions.

MOTION

PAUL moved to direct the Clerk to draft a letter, on Assembly's behalf, endorsing Ernie Weiss for an appointment to the Board of Fisheries. Second by BRENDA.

PAUL said Weiss knows our fisheries, and he would be a good addition on the Board.

Mayor Osterback said, in the past, we've had someone from our area on the Board of Fisheries that got conflicted out. Weiss and family members do not own permits so conflict shouldn't be an issue.

BRENDA said Weiss has a lot of knowledge in the region. Weiss doesn't have a reason to be opted out and can educate the other board members on the region.

WARREN said we need to have our foot in the door, at all times. Only drawback is Weiss works for AEB.

CHRIS said Weiss will be an asset on the Board.

ROLL CALL

YEAS: Brenda, Denise, Paul, Warren. Chris. Advisory: Dailey, Justin, Samantha.
NAY: None

MOTION CARRIED

Codfish Fishery Options:

Mayor Osterback said this is on codfish options due to the decline in the codfish fishery and the absence of current surveys that need to be changed to be more in line with how the fisheries operate.

PAUL said in workshop we discussed a lot and requested Weiss to summarize to reflect his comments also.

Resource Director, Ernie Weiss, said based on the cod assessment last year, the federal fishery closed with enough for bycatch fisheries and a state season only. There are six surveys every year, but the main survey is every other year so won't happen this year, so

season may not open next year either. Supports getting an extra survey. He has been attending meetings through the Council, discussing ways to help NMFS find additional funds. There have been discussions with industry on ways to supplement NMFS abilities to do more surveys.

Weiss feels fishery is changing and during the State fishery, the fish are there in the Dutch Harbor subdistrict State-waters fishery and doing good in the South Peninsula State-water fishery that recently opened.

He suggested going to the NPFMC and introduce a discussion paper on looking at some other options, possibly finding some funding for another survey. Can also consider legal action. He suggested the Resource Dept. put together a white paper on cod and look at consultants and other options. He fully supports changes to the survey, as soon as possible. We have cod fish that go back and forth between Western Gulf and Bering Sea and consider looking at that as its own fishery area.

Mayor Osterback suggested using our Washington D.C. delegation so when they do declare fishery disasters, to put into the bills funding to go towards altered surveys that are more in line with what is needed.

PAUL said by April Assembly meeting, after Council meeting end of the month, we can have a more concrete plan in place and decide the best place to put AEB resources. Without fisheries, AEB is missing out on revenue and people's incomes are less, due to lack of surveys.

Mayor Osterback said Weiss has clear marching orders from the workshop and on how we want to proceed. Will get something drafted up for the next Assembly meeting, outlining our goal and how to reach it.

REPORTS AND UPDATES

Administrator's Report in packet. Highlights below:

Nelson Lagoon Dock Repairs: Contract has been executed. Posting in the communities to close dock use, May 1 through July 31.

Akutan School Repairs:

Mechanical improvements completed. Training was conducted with school employees by Long Building Technologies.

Cold Bay Terminal:

Ravn and Grant signed subleases for terminal, but have not moved in. Grant wants to move in but logistical issues on moving passengers. We have been billing Ravn and Grant since February and have received one payment from Grant.

Limited Entry Salmon Permit:

Mayor Osterback said Anchorage Representative Tuck introduced HB 252, Senator Hoffman introduced SB220, on senate side. The limited entry permit proposal has been re-written to something more acceptable in Juneau. It will be a lot simpler and protect a permit holder to sell

permit over time. At this time, once you sign that permit over, they don't have to make payments to you and permit is no longer yours. Since bill already introduced, House Speaker wants to have an introduction and at that time, new language will be put in.

King Cove Road Update:

State of Alaska filed their brief. Plaintiffs have opportunity to file a brief. An estimate on when the Judge will ~~now~~ make a decision is 3-4 months.

Samantha asked if there any exceptions for Nelson Lagoon dock use. Administrator said exception is for fuel only.

Coronavirus Update:

AEB attended a state teleconference. There seemed to be a lot of disconnect in what is happening in the area and what the State perceives is happening, regarding processor workers. So very little being done. Tesche contacted City of Unalaska Manager, to see what they were doing. They are creating a command group that includes seafood processors and others impacted. We requested to be part of that and that the City of Akutan Mayor, Joe Bereskin, should also be included.

Also, American Seafoods, Alan Davis, is the acting chair of the fisheries industry infectious disease working group. There are around 90 participants looking for ways to address the seafood industry concerns. AEB will also participate and will get that information out to the communities. Dutch Harbor did help fund screening fish processor workers only, at the Ted Stevens International Airport by taking temperatures, no tests.

Internally, working on a staff plan. Things are being taken seriously and places are beginning to close down. State has a health alert with precautions to follow that will be distributed around.

Mary contacted the helicopter operation for their plan to help mitigate and avoid spreading the virus.

PAUL said one of the major seafood processors has their own coronavirus expert and the oil companies are taking lazer temperatures of their workers. All the mitigation measures slow down the virus, not prevent it. Hopefully we won't have a problem.

CHRIS said, as EMS Coordinator. Met with EMS squad, clinic and Peter Pan Seafoods. Clinic implemented a questionnaire and if concern, a mask is put on them. There are only a couple labs in the State for tests. He voiced his concern about Coronavirus tests needing to be tested within two days and the lack of airplanes into King Cove, False Pass and Nelson Lagoon. King Cove already had 1 ½ weeks without a plane while Grant was broke down. He added people can be asymptomatic and be spreading the virus, not knowing you have the virus. CHRIS requested City of King Cove be included in the command group also.

BRENDA noted that with the closing of colleges soon, a lot of students will be heading home from in-state and out-of-state colleges.

CHRIS stressed the importance of taking care of and protecting our elder population.

DAILEY said in working at Ravn, they have been having daily meetings, discussing cleaning procedures of airplanes while on the tarmac, requiring all staff to participate in cleaning procedures.

FY21 budget:

Will be presented in May and hope to do a financial session in April.

U.S. Census:

Please fill out questionnaires, the more population the more federal funding is received.

Assistant Administrator Report in packet. Highlights below:

False Pass Harbor House:

Have received final concept design from LCG, reviewed by the city of False Pass and AEB. Two story building. First floor with large lounge base. The second floor will have the harbor master apartment and office space. Cost estimate no later than May.

Cold Bay Clinic:

Still working on the permitting documents. Submitted many required permit applications this week.

Will go out to bid end of March, and contract to Assembly at May meeting.

Akutan Harbor:

Corps of Engineers mitigation projects are completed.

Communications Director Report in packet. Highlights below:

King Cove Road Project:

Monitoring road articles.

Coronavirus:

Posting links on AEB Facebook as information becomes available on the Coronavirus, on news and useful resources.

SWAMC:

Many topics from conference will be highlighted in the next In-the-Loop.

False Pass Airport White Paper:

Fine tuning report and will submit final once she receives comments from False Pass Mayor.

PAUL said False Pass Airport might be able to be included in the process when Dutch Harbor is getting their Master Plan updated.

Natural Resources Director Report in packet. Highlights below:

Alaska Board of Fisheries:

Feels important to have somebody to advocate for our fisheries on Board of Fisheries, and had been requested to submit his name.

Provided a link on Boards supports draft summary on Upper Cook Inlet meeting, benefitting sport and personal use of commercial fisheries.

Statewide meeting, King and Tanner crab proposals of interest. Sent his summaries on Proposals 259 and 260 to Assembly, that were submitted by Chignik. 260 would have adjusted

their tanner fishery boundaries. Duncan Field submitted a compromise on overlap section, allowing Chignik or Kodiak to fish in that area. Other information in packet report.

NPFMC:

April Council meeting might be cancelled.

Cod Fishery Updates:

Updates are in packet report.

Dutch Harbor Subdistrict State-Waters Pacific cod ends tonight at midnight. As of this morning, 13% of the total poundage left.

South Peninsula fishery has 20 landings, and 565,000 lbs. landed.

Salmon Season:

Large salmon forecast for Bristol Bay. The model for prediction was changed, using genetics, which helped the quota prediction to be larger. Chignik forecast low. Salmon pinks predicted to be down, since even year.

Redistricting Planning Committee:

Attending meetings and following.

Kelp Mariculture:

Charlotte Levy has preliminary decision for the Zachary Bay kelp mariculture farm.

The Mayor said redistricting might be interesting, the bush area could actually lose one house and senate seat.

PAUL commented that the state might change the ferries and cruise ship schedules, due to the coronavirus.

Maintenance Director Report. Report not in packet:

Mobeck said getting things finished and transitioning over to new budget cycle.

Sand Point School:

Helping at school until the school fills the maintenance position. He has been talking to the School District personnel to see what they are hoping to achieve at school.

OSHA updates:

Almost complete.

Wind storm damage:

False Pass School siding repairs are needed.

King Cove School Maintenance Project:

Will have the deferred maintenance projects in King Cove this summer.

ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

CHRIS enjoyed SWAMC conference, said mariculture is getting more interest.

Also, CHRIS said, at the Alaska State ferry public hearing, he made suggestions that our communities have priority for vehicles and cabin space.

PAUL said due to virus people will be voting by mail.

DENISE enjoyed SWAMC and felt it was a good learning experience.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

City of King Cove Administrator, Gary Hennigh, said King Cove supports finishing the Sand Point and Akutan harbors. For the record, he mentioned that the C Float G in the new King Cove harbor never got completed as anticipated. Initially, did not worry about it and still not but does not want it to get lost forever. He said the entrance channel swell coming in, over time, can end of being a problem. At some time, suggests engaging the Corps of Engineers along with AEB to see what we can do with that. The city does not want AEB to lose sight of this information. Also, the occasional entrance channel swell, over time, is likely to cause problems to the stability of the A and B floats. He suggested that the COE, AEB and the city should eventually re-engage discussions about this issue.

corrected
at the
April 9,
2020
Assembly
meeting

Hennigh said City of King Cove is struggling financially. \$700,000 revenues down for the year so working on cutting the budget. One budget reduction casualty is the city no longer being able to fund the Aleutia king crab tax grant rebate, not able to do refund. If AEB paid King Cove share to Aleutia, King Cove would not have a problem with that. Hopes that Aleutia can succeed.

Hennigh said the U.S. Census for King Cove population will be about 670-residentspeople, the lowest-it U.S. Census count since 1990, it has been. Population is used in funding formulas so will impact funding. Decline due to lower number of processor workers and some out migration of community residents.

Hennigh is amazed at the articles on the road project in various newspapers. The judge is not making a decision on the road itself, he is making a decision on the land exchange.

Mayor Osterback said as this fisheries issues keep happening, there are going to be a lot of adjustments in every community. Sand Point processor hasn't been closed down in 100 years. So when the U.S. Census count is done in Sand Point, it is going to look small also.

AEB is trying to figure out what we have and the projects we have to do. And the fluctuation in the stock market isn't helping.

NEXT MEETING DATE

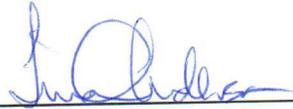
April 9, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

PAUL moved to adjourn and second by DENISE. Hearing no more the meeting adjourned at 4:33 p.m.



Mayor Alvin D. Osterback



Tina Anderson, Clerk

Date: 4/9/20