RESOLUTION 17-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE ALEUTIANS EAST BOROUGH ASSEMBLY REQUESTING THE ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES ACCOMMODATE WESTERN GULF OF ALASKA FISHERMEN BY ADJUSTING THE BOARD’S MEETING CYCLE SCHEDULE

WHEREAS, the Alaska Board of Fisheries has held the Alaska Peninsula Finfish meeting beginning in February, on a rotating basis within the three-meeting cycle, for many years; and

WHEREAS, since 2011 the Board has removed Pacific cod issues from the regular Alaska Peninsula finfish February meeting and discussed cod issues in a separate meeting held in October or November; and

WHEREAS, February and March are critical months for the South Peninsula Pacific cod fishermen; and

WHEREAS, most South Peninsula Pacific cod fishermen also participate in the Alaska Peninsula salmon fisheries; and

WHEREAS, discussing Alaska Peninsula area salmon or other finfish at Board of Fish meetings in February or March serves to disenfranchise local Pacific cod fishermen from participating in the Board’s public process regarding salmon issues; and

WHEREAS, the Borough, through the Natural Resources Department, has previously submitted comment letters and provided public testimony to the Board regarding the problem of holding the Alaska Peninsula finfish meeting in February; and

WHEREAS, local fishermen have suggested that a December Alaska Board of Fisheries meeting would be the most convenient time to discuss all Alaska Peninsula finfish matters including cod and salmon.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Aleutians East Borough Assembly respectfully requests the Alaska Board of Fisheries adjust their Three Meeting Cycle Organization to accommodate the needs of Alaska Peninsula Pacific cod and salmon fishermen; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Assembly requests the Board consider the month December for future meetings to discuss all Alaska Peninsula finfish issues for the benefit of local fishermen and the fishery resource.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Aleutians East Borough on this 7th day of September 2016.

Stanley Mack, Mayor

ATTEST: Tina Anderson, Clerk