

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Mayor Alvin D. Osterback	Present
Chris Babcock	Present
Carol Foster	Present
Warren Wilson	Present
Josephine Shangin	Present
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	Present

A quorum was present.

Staff Present:

Roxann Newman, Finance Director
Jacki Brandell, Finance Assistant
Tina Anderson, Clerk
Anne Bailey, Administrator
Mary Tesche, Assistant Administrator
Ernie Weiss, Natural Resources Director
Charlotte Levy, Assistant Natural Resources Director
Glennora Dushkin, Administrative Assistant
Laura Tanis, Communications Director
Emil Mobeck, Maintenance Director

Oath of Office: Newly elected Assembly Member Warren Wilson was sworn into office.

Adoption of the Agenda:

BRENDA moved to adopt the agenda and second by WARREN.

MOTION

WARREN moved to amend the agenda, removing Consent Agenda, Resolution 21-21 from agenda.
Second by BRENDA.

Hearing no more the agenda is approved **AS AMENDED**.

Conflict of Interests:

Mayor Osterback asked for any potential **Conflict of Interests** to discuss. There were no conflicts on agenda items.

Community Roll Call and Public Comments on Agenda Items:

All Assembly and staff were participating by teleconference from their individual locations, for the purpose of following the mandates of social distancing and protecting the public health. Also broadcast on KSDP radio.

The Communications Director, Laura Tanis, will read any Public Comments submitted by e-mail.

There were no public comments.

Minutes, October 8, October 20, 2020:

MOTION

BRENDA moved to approve the October 8 and October 20, 2020 Assembly Meeting Minutes and second by DENISE.

Hearing no more **MOTION CARRIED.**

Financial September:

MOTION

WARREN moved to approve September Financial Report and second by BRENDA.

Administrator Anne Bailey said financials tracking along as normal. Administrator, Assistant Administrator and the Communications Director is less than usual because their time spent on COVID issues are being covered by CARES Act funding.

Revenues, AEB Raw Fish Tax only at \$658,000, which is 57.8% of the normal 5-year average. 5-year average is \$1.13M.

PAUL said there was a brief discussion about the shared revenues and requested an update on the status at the next meeting.

ROLL CALL

Yeas: Paul, Warren, Denise, Chris, Carol, Josephine, Brenda. Advisory: Samantha, Dailey, Tom.
Nay: None

MOTION CARRIED

September Investment Report:

Administrator Bailey said Permanent Fund balance presently is \$41,886,221.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Resolution 21-20, authorizing the mayor to negotiate and execute a contract agreement between the AEB and Hickey & Associates for lobbying consulting services for FY2021.

MOTION

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

ROLL CALL

Yeas: Denise, Chris, Josephine, Warren, Paul, Carol, Brenda. Advisory: Tom, Dailey, Samantha.

Nay: None

MOTION CARRIED

ORDINANCES

Emergency Ordinance 21-06, issuing a declaration of disaster emergency in response to Covid-19.

MOTION

CHRIS moved to approve Emergency Ordinance 21-06 and second by **JOSEPHINE**.

Administrator Bailey said the emergency ordinance. This extends our declaration of disaster on the pandemic. In effect for 60 days, expiring January 10, 2021.

ROLL CALL

Yeas: Carol, Paul, Brenda, Denise, Chris, Warren, Josephine. Advisory: Dailey, Tom, Samantha.

Nay: None

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 21-22, approval of Peter Pan-Port Moller Land Use Permit, OSP: 2020-01:

MOTION

CAROL moved to approve Resolution 21-22 and second by **WARREN**.

The Clerk reviewed Resolution 21-22 saying this is a resolution to approve the AEB land use permit for Peter Pan Seafoods onshore seafood processing plant, Port Moller facility. The Assembly acting as Planning Commission met on October 8 approving PC Resolution 21-01 recommending approval of the land use permit. All required documents have been filed with the Clerk and before the Assembly is Resolution 21-22, authorizing approval with stipulations (in packet).

ROLL CALL

Yeas: Warren, Carol, Denise, Paul, Josephine, Brenda, Chris. Advisory: Dailey, Samantha, Tom.

Nay: None

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution 21-23, authorizing Administration to determine and implement the best approach to spend the remaining AEB CARES Act Funds by December 30, 2020:

MOTION

CHRIS moved to approve Resolution 21-23 and second by DENISE.

Administrator Bailey said Assembly approved resolution 21-10 approving CARES Act funds, and Ordinance 21-05 amended the FY21 budget re-appropriating \$50,000 to the AEBS. In the packet outlines how the CARES Act funds are currently appropriated so far. \$648,634 of the CARES Act funds have been expended through October out of \$3.7M. Does not anticipate spending all the funds in the Emergency Assistance & Economic Stimulus Grant Program (EAES) or the Non-Profit/Civic Organization Program funds and a few other line items that won't be expended in their entirety. Funds must be spent and used by end of December, 2020, following U.S. Treasury guidelines.

At workshop there was a lengthy Assembly discussion on how to use the funds not used, suggesting the following:

1. Round two EAES, short 2-week grant program, and possibly include dependents on application; and simplify the application further.
2. Meat boxes to all AEB households with gift cards for household needs;
3. Utilities support. Funds credited to household accounts for electricity, heating, and/or water/sewer.

Currently reviewing how the other entities have spent their CARES Act funds so there is no duplication. There was no support in using funds for special projects that do not directly help AEB residents. Will research further how funds can be spent meeting guidelines.

PAUL said City of Sand Point paid water/sewer. Supports dispersing more funds to individuals and to utilities. Feels food boxes might be difficult logistically.

Mayor Osterback said for the EAES, census numbers were used to determine how many people over age 18, and did not figure dependents into the formula.

CHRIS supports food boxes for all, and noted that community members that don't belong to a tribe did not qualify for heating oil and electricity that tribal members qualified for. Suggested the easiest options to move on this before deadline.

CAROL said everyone has different needs and supports gift cards so they are able to meet their needs. She added there was some confusion on applying for the EAES when multiple people share expenses, preventing some from applying. Mayor Osterback said Administration will look into whether gift cards are allowed.

JOSEPHINE said we re-appropriated \$50,000 to the School District. She asked if there is a way to also give funds to the School District to distribute to families for increased internet costs due to school being shut down and for possible other shut downs. The Mayor said all funds have to be

expended, not held for later. Bailey said once we give money to the School District the AEB does not have a say on how they use the money.

Mayor Osterback said the School District may already be geared up with repeaters for student homes, if school closes again. Suggested contacting the School District for further information.

Bailey said City of Sand Point submitted a comment saying they only paid September-December for sewer/water, so could reimburse for March – August. Entities have done different things so would look at each community to see what would work for each, making it equitable amongst all households.

BRENDA feels we need to get monies into the communities, meeting their individual household needs.

CAROL suggested leaving resolution as is, since staff understands direction.

ROLL CALL

Yeas: Josephine, Brenda, Denise, Paul, Warren, Chris, Carol. Advisory: Samantha, Dailey, Tom.
Nay: None

MOTION CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS *None*

NEW BUSINESS

Strategic Planning Discussion:

Administrator said due to Covid-19 there will not be an in-person meeting. The strategic planning work session will be on December 10, 12:00-3:00 p.m. via phone. AEB administration will provide the Assembly a packet with the initiatives. Assembly will also have an opportunity to comment to John at Professional Growth Systems.

Public will have opportunity to submit comments similar to what we do for Assembly Meetings.

REPORTS AND UPDATES

Administrator's Report in packet. Highlights below:

Covid-19 Update:

CARES Act funding: As of November 6, AEB has received 170 Sand Point EAES applications, 150 King Cove, 14 Nelson Lagoon, 8 Cold Bay, 5 Akutan. There were six denials, due to not being 18 at the time, or not residents in the region, during that time.

AEB has received 10 non-profit/civic organization applications for the \$100,000. AEB entered into a contract for air purification systems for King Cove and Sand Point Schools.

Cold Bay Community Center Conversion: Entered into grant agreement with city, work will be done prior to December 30.

Cold Bay Terminal:

TSA Security Requirements: New security locks for doors have been ordered to meet TSA requirements. Working with Alaska Airlines on the security area and the ability to scan passengers faster.

Ravn: Has received keys to facility. They begin flying charters to Sand Point and Unalaska soon.

King Cove Road Update:

The King Cove Group and State of Alaska has appealed the District Court Decision. Opening Brief due November 23, 2020. Oral argument to be scheduled spring or summer, 2021.

Section 1110(b), ANILCA Application: State of Alaska filed on behalf of the City of King Cove and AEB for King Cove to Cold Bay access road.

CHRIS asked about the vending machines authorization in terminal. Bailey said recently received permission from the State. Tesche is starting the RSVP, to go out to the public soon.

CHRIS said TSA has a body scanner and asked when a hand carry scanner will be there. Bailey said that will be part of the re-model they do, taking up a majority of that area. CHRIS said the terminal is very crowded, making it a hazard. Bailey said in regards to the lack of space, will be working on a long term solution.

GCI Fiber Optic:

False Pass is concerned that fiber optic plan does not include False Pass and Cold Bay. Bailey had thought those communities would be included. Jennifer Samuelson with GCI said needed the support of Rural Utilities Service (RUS) and to reduce the scope of the project, doing in phases. They are planning to extend to additional communities on route, branching off to False Pass and to reach Cold Bay from King Cove. AEB will write a letter of support to extend to False Pass and Cold Bay.

TOM noted the importance of fiber optic to the community of False Pass.

PAUL suggested watching for Starband satellite internet, which seems to be growing.

Assistant Administrator Report in packet. Highlights below:

Cold Bay Clinic Update:

Over 20 companies on the Q & A call, prior to submitting a bid.

CHRIS said there is some local interest and asked if they would have to be bonded also. Tesche said yes, and information went out to local interests.

Sand Point School DEED Grant Application:

Application ranked high, 13th out of 108 for FY2022 funding cycle, so real promising. Will review further to see if we can get ranked higher, to get funded.

#MaskupAleutiansEast:

Face masks have been shipped out to all box holders. Contest going on to post photos wearing AEB mask. Participants will be entered to win \$50 gift cards.

Communications Director Report in packet. Highlights below:

Alaska Marine Highway System:

YouTube: Created a YouTube channel for testimonial videos from community members on importance of ferry system and the impacts of reduction of service, to be submitted to YouTube to be shared with State Legislature prior to decisions being made on service.

Change.org Petition: Petition regarding the importance of the ferry system to rural Alaska communities, draft in packet. To be circulated online for signatures.

Website new design:

Working to create a better flowing website.

Power Cost Equalization (PCE) White Paper:

PCE reduces the high cost of electricity in rural Alaska. In 2019 the governor recommended to reduce, however, received full funding. White paper will have the history and importance of the program.

E-News:

Fish News and In-the-Loop continue to go out.

2021 Calendar: Working on the 2021 calendar.

PCE: CHRIS said King Cove has not received PCE in years.

Natural Resources Director Report in packet. Highlights below:

NPFMC: Next virtual meeting is November 30 – December 11. Agenda link in report.

Groundfish Plan Team meets next week.

On December Council agenda is BS/AI P-cod rationalization initial review. Want to insure community protections are put in place, having onshore deliveries. Of interest is importance of side boards for Gulf of Alaska (GOA) fisheries.

Rationalization for GOA is not too far behind.

Council mandated by court to take final action on Salmon FMP for Cook Inlet, waters outside of three miles.

Weiss' last meeting on the Advisory Panel (AP) is December.

Alaska Marine Highway Reshaping Work Group:

Work group advocating to reduce service to Aleutian Chain run, one ferry in spring, one in the fall. Initially, group was advocating getting rid of completely.

AEB Fishermen's Zoom Meeting:

To keep fishermen informed on any relief programs available.

PAUL asked about Charlotte Levy applying for the AP.

WARREN asked about a State cod season. Weiss said that will depend on what happens at the Plan Team Meeting.

TOM said Bering Sea quota may be reduced by 30% and asked if that will play into the Western Gulf also. Weiss said that won't be decided until December meeting and does not impact the Gulf quota.

Mayor Osterback said over the years the Borough has had someone out of the Natural Resources Dept. involved with the AP. He has discussed with Administrator Bailey, Natural Resources Assistant Director Levy and Governor's office. The amount of work Levy has currently, and her involvement with the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC), feels our best use is having her there for the SSC. However, she can work with the AP. Have talked to local fishermen about this and they are trying to find a person to submit and can request AEB support.

Assistant Natural Resources Director Report in packet. Highlights below:

WGA2 Electronic Monitoring (EM)/EFP:

Submitted annual financial report for WGA2 project.

Pollock trawlers were able to clean up quota in 610.

Significant improvement in shoreside observer for data collection. Stock assessments have come out, while TAC is still low they didn't include an extra buffer, and decided not to reduce the TAC because additional data was collected from fishermen.

Still having issues in filling out the log books correctly. E-log books will be implemented soon, and will train fishermen to do that.

NGA Fishermen's Data Portal:

Wrapping up changes with Saltwater. Work is continuing and have received data from the plants for salmon hot spots mapping.

Will pilot the portal in 610 season if there is one, or in 620 season, if fishermen are participating.

AFSC Cod Tagging Project:

Have had several conversations with the team and Alaska Fisheries Science Center. Tagging study will move forward March 2021, if COVID protocol is worked out.

Mariculture:

Due to COVID decided not to travel into region. Project ready to go in the spring.

Maintenance Director Report in packet. Highlights below:

4-Plex Teacher Housing: There has been some water leak damage on window.

Akutan School Heating System: Repairs were necessary for circulating pump. Back up running now.

Fuel truck has leak issues.

False Pass School:

Circulating pumps repairs needed.

State Reimbursement Program Requirements:

Working with schools to ensure Work Orders and Maintenance Logs are being completed to get higher rating for projects reimbursement list with state.

Small sites training: Hope to get training for small school sites for better troubleshooting on building heating systems.

WARREN asked, in regards to the terminal, if there is room on the north side of building to put a pre-fab building for TSA screening, in instead of in the terminal. Feels terminal is congested. Mobeck feels there may be room to do something.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

COVID has made projects difficult to get done and not able to travel to get to communities. He thanked staff for all the hard work being done and for processing stimulus grant applications and getting checks out to residents.

ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

DAILEY asked about KSDP repeaters in Cold Bay, False Pass, and Akutan. Communications Director Tanis said they have everything done in Cold Bay and waiting for FCC approval. In Akutan, KSDP worked with the School District and Telalaska, for assistance. Hardware has been received and a tower is being shipped, arriving there this coming week. COVID has made travel difficult.

BRENDA thanked staff for their continued efforts of working hard, making sure everyone has what they need.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Tanis read City of Sand Pt Administrator, Jordan Keeler, public comments clarifying CARES Act funding paid for residents water/sewer and solid waste September through December only.

NEXT MEETING DATE

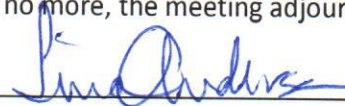
Planning Session for Strategic Plan and Assembly Meeting December 10, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

DENISE moved to adjourn and second by CAROL. Hearing no more, the meeting adjourned at 4:46 p.m.



Mayor Alvin D. Osterback



Tina Anderson, Clerk

Date: 12/10/20