

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Alvin D. Osterback called the Aleutians East Borough Assembly meeting to order by teleconference on February 11, 2021 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	Absent

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

Adoption of the Agenda:

MOTION

PAUL moved to adopt the February 11, 2021 agenda with an addition and second by CHRIS.

- Old Business, Cold Bay Clinic.

Hearing no more agenda will stand as amended.

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.

PRESENTATIONS (*workshop and meeting*)

Jennifer LeMay, Hazard Mitigation Planning Process:

Jennifer LeMay provided a presentation on the AEB Hazard Mitigation Plan being updated. Last approved plan was adopted in 2010. She reviewed the hazards and AEB top three hazards are earthquake, tsunami and volcano. Some local concerns are Nelson Lagoon erosion and False Pass flooding. She requested people do the survey on the AEB website. She encourages any point of contact or resident that wants to contribute, to review the presentation (in packet) and identify hazards in their neighborhood. Don't assume that anyone has offered the information and wants duplication of hazards. Also include any mitigation that needs to happen.

Ms. LeMay said tsunami plans were done for King Cove, Akutan and False Pass in 2019 and will be included in this plan. The last presentation page has mitigation goals for the plan to be prepared for all the natural hazards that could occur.

Mayor Osterback encouraged people to fill out the survey documenting the concerns and mitigation needed.

Conflict of Interests:

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

Minutes, January 14, 2021:

MOTION

BRENDA moved to approve the January 14, 2021 Assembly Meeting Minutes and second by JOSEPHINE.

Hearing no more **MOTION CARRIED.**

December 2020 Financial Report:

MOTION

BRENDA moved to approve the December Financial Report and second by DENISE.

Administrator Anne Bailey said December financials tracking along. Some administration salary line items less due to offsetting with COVID funds for staff hours spent on COVID issues. Raw Fish Tax, 5-year average is at 51%. Revenue at \$1.46M, which is 41.61% of budgeted amount, and is lower than average.

ROLL CALL

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

MOTION CARRIED

December Investment Report:

Administrator Bailey said Permanent Fund balance value presently is \$45,245,000 so has increased from what is in the December Report in packet.

MOTION CARRIED

CONSENT AGENDA

- Resolution 21-30, relating to disposal of real property (*for housing equipment*).
- Resolution 21-31, relating to disposal of real property (*for vending machine concessions*)
- Resolution 21-32, relating to disposal of real property (*Cold Bay school bldg. for temporary lodging for a military exercise scheduled*)

MOTION

WARREN moved to adopt the Consent Agenda and second by DENISE.

Administrator reviewed the Consent Agenda items. All resolutions are in relationship to disposal of real property. All resolutions are regarding leases which require Assembly approval in the form of resolutions.

PAUL pointed out that the resolutions are really leases and not actual disposal of real property.

ROLL CALL

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

MOTION CARRIED

ORDINANCES

Introduction Ordinance 21-09, authorizing the Mayor to negotiate and execute a sublease within Cold Bay Terminal for air transportations services:

MOTION

WARREN moved to accept Ordinance 21-09 and set for Public Hearing at the next regular meeting. Second by CAROL.

Administrator said ARINC Inc. is interested in storing air-to-ground communications equipment and ground support in the Cold Bay terminal since the old Ravn building is no longer available. The

Resolution 21-30 on Consent Agenda was just approved so now authorized to dispose of this property. If Ordinance 21-09 receives final approval, it authorizes the mayor to negotiate and execute a sublease agreement with ARINC, Inc.

PAUL asked if they get money from FAA for the use of that equipment. Bailey did not know the answer to that question.

ROLL CALL.

Yeas: Warren, Carol, Denise, Josephine, Chris, Paul, (no Brenda). Advisory: Dailey, Samantha.
Nay: None

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 21-33, Assembly approving the projects and initiatives identified on the Borough Strategic Plan:

MOTION

JOSEPHINE moved to approve Resolution 21-33 and second by CHRIS.

Administrator said AEB held a strategic planning session on December 10 and Resolution 21-33 approves the projects on the draft AEB Strategic Plan for March 1, 2021 – February 28, 2022. The Vision Navigational Chart is in the packet. If the Assembly wants to add or remove something they can do that.

ROLL CALL

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

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution 21-34, Assembly authorizing the mayor to enter into a short-term sublease with the military for the use of the Cold Bay School by negotiation at less than fair market value:

MOTION

WARREN moved to approve Resolution 21-34 and second by CAROL.

Administrator said the U.S. Airforce is interested in entering into a short term sub-lease for the Cold Bay School. Resolution 21-32 was just approved on the Consent Agenda. Draft of short term agreement is attached and a price will yet to be determined. This can be done by resolution and can be done less than fair market value.

ROLL CALL

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

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution 21-35, authorizing the mayor to negotiate and execute a contract with DOWL to perform a feasibility study, 10% conceptual design, 35% design and construction manager-general contract, contractor solicitation and selection in an amount not to exceed \$100,000:

MOTION

DENISE moved to approve Resolution 21-35 and second by BRENDA.

The Administrator reviewed saying due to COVID-19, the existing terminal doesn't allow social distancing. Cold Bay has been made a primary hub due to the pandemic, and AEB is interested in expanding to accommodate the increased passenger count. DOWL has submitted a draft Scope of Services to perform a Feasibility Study/10% conceptual design, 35% design and Construction Manager-General Contractor Solicitation and Selection for \$96,460. If Assembly approves AEB will issue a notice for Phase 1.

This proposal does not include 65% design, construction drawings, and costs of State of Alaska building permit. Funds are available in maintenance reserve, project contingency line item and COVID funds can be used.

PAUL said the costs are too high and recommends we go out to bid. The sooner the better to make the terminal more usable, as it is right now, it is not real great.

ROLL CALL

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

Nay: Paul

6 –YEAS 1-NAY MOTION CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS

Cold Bay Clinic:

PAUL said while in Cold Bay he looked at the new clinic lot location and feels there is a way around the confusion on the fill for the project.

MOTION

PAUL moved we go out to bid immediately with the clinic but removing references to bringing in fill from off sight or local site. Second by WARREN.

PAUL said he took a lot of pictures of the one acre lot for the proposed new clinic. The lot is at a reduced level, however, the clinic is a small footprint and feels that fill can be moved around on the acre in order to construct the clinic. Feels we can have a clinic this year by fixing the fill portion of the bid documents.

CHRIS said if we start changing what is already engineered feels we may complicate the project and create more problems.

DAILEY agrees with Paul and feels contractor won't need as much fill as originally determined.

BRENDA asked if an engineer had made the determination as to what is needed.

Bailey said the Cold Bay clinic bids were way over the anticipated bid amount. We were unable to see break down of bids so we don't know what caused the increase but assume some was fill related and some may have been shipping and lumber increases. We are in the process of reassessing to re-bid. There are also other location options on AEB property. She is not opposed, but doesn't want to remove the language without discussing with an expert.

CAROL agrees with Bailey. Feels it is not in our best interest to change something without expertise input.

CHRIS agrees with Bailey also. A new clinic is needed but feels if we rush it without expertise, we might have more problems and cost.

BRENDA feels supporting this motion without expertise opinion may be a setback.

WARREN said it was the construction companies that determined the amount of gravel needed and you have an entire acre. I'm sure the contractors would put gravel in the bid again and he does not support bringing in gravel from outside.

PAUL said, if the motion passes, could still talk to engineers or architect. Not taking any risk except it allows us to get a much needed clinic.

Mayor Osterback said he has been working with administration on finding other avenues. He has looked at other gravel sources, one is in Cold Bay; looking at other locations; and having an engineer look at what could eliminate the gravel the bidders felt they needed. We are reviewing all options including a modular to keep down construction costs and less time having people onsite.

DAILEY asked if each bid had an engineer look at everything prior to bidding. Bailey can't speak to the contractor so does not know.

Bailey said when we go out to bid, the project outlines everything. It doesn't necessarily say how much for each and we are not able to see what line item is high.

PAUL said if the motion passes the staff still has to do what they feel comfortable doing. The motion only moves the process along.

BRENDA requested the MOTION be read.

Mayor Osterback said the MOTION is to go out to bid immediately and to exclude bringing in fill or getting fill locally.

CHRIS asked what happens if we go out to bid excluding fill and the contractor comes out and says we need to get fill.

The Mayor said that would be an add-on and those get expensive.

WARREN supports having a different site reviewed. He also is not sure what grade the gravel is, at the present site to move onsite.

PAUL said if the motion passes the staff can review including the other lot, we have a little time, and bidders are familiar with the project.

ROLL CALL

Yeas: Paul, Warren. Advisory: Dailey.

Nay: Chris, Josephine, Brenda, Denise, Carol. Advisory: Samantha.

YEAS: 2 NAY: 5 MOTION FAILS

NEW BUSINESS

2021 Advisory Appointments:

The Clerk explained that there is one advisory for each community that does not have an elected Assembly Member residing. The term is one annual year. The communities of Cold Bay, False Pass, and Nelson Lagoon do not have an Assembly Member. A posting was sent out to those communities and three letters of interest were received.

Nelson Lagoon – Samantha McNeley
Cold Bay – Dailey Schaack
False Pass – Tom Hoblet

MOTION

JOSEPHINE moved to appoint the three as Advisory Members for 2021 and second by BRENDA.

ROLL CALL

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

MOTION CARRIED

REPORTS AND UPDATES

Administrator's Report in packet. Highlights below:

CARES Act Funding:

AEB received \$3.72M in CARES Act funds from the State of Alaska, AEB has expended \$2.68M. The AEB CARES Act funding Program allocations is in the packet. Looking for different options to expend the unexpended funds. Deadline extended to December 31, 2021.

Cold Bay Terminal:

Terminal is now in TSA compliance.

King Cove Road Update:

Opponents filed their Answering Brief. Filing deadline has been extended to March 8, 2021. So now we anticipate the Court timeline to be in the summer instead of spring, 2021.

Assistant Administrator Report in packet. Highlights below

Cold Bay Clinic:

Moving forward with the clinic, reviewing a few scenarios as discussed earlier in meeting.

Strategic Planning:

New projects added. Assisting staff with the new online strategic planning portal.

Communications Director Report in packet. Highlights below:

E-News:

In-the-Loop and Fish News have gone out.

Marine Highway Narrative:

Continuing working on the discussion paper and online petition regarding the importance of the Alaska Marine Highway System.

Website Improvements:

Working on RFP to solicit quotes from website designers to improve navigation and design on website.

Natural Resources Director Report in packet. Highlights below:

Board of Fisheries:

Decision has been made to continue our Board of Fisheries cycle as scheduled. February, 2022 for Area M Salmon and October, 2021 for Pacific cod. They will also try to fit in meetings that have been postponed this year. We are preparing and will emulate the 2019 Board of Fisheries, working with Advisory committees.

NPFMC:

Council meeting finished yesterday.

International Pacific Halibut Commission:

Halibut catch limits for Area 3B (King Cove, False Pass, Sand Point) stayed the same as 2020. Area 4A increased (Akutan, Dutch Harbor) to 2.05M lbs.

Alaska Marine Highway:

The AMHS teleconference on the ferry summer schedule went well. AEB staff supported prioritized deck space for Aleutian Chain trips, communities west of Kodiak.

The Tustemena is getting federally funded upgrades in Seward shipyard and hopefully on schedule to return to service April 15.

Re-design work to comply with regulation changes for Tustemena Replacement Vessel at 60%. Received an extra \$8.2M for re-design. A major contemplation for redesign is solace or no solace, and will also be wider for stability. The Marine Transportation Advisory Board meets next month.

Limited Entry:

Link to limited entry white paper in packet.

Assistant Natural Resources Director Report in packet. Highlights below:

Electronic Monitoring – WGOA2/EFP:

Held pre-season meeting January 21 to review the major changes from 2020 to 2021. Created a YouTube training for eLog system to be used for 2021. Fishing expected to open on February 5th for Western Gulf vessels that went over to Kodiak

Alaska Fisheries Science Center (AFSC) Cod Tagging Project:

We were awarded the funds from AFSC so have been working with the Science Center preparing for the field work beginning March 5, in Sand Point. A RFP has been posted for the vessel charter to go out and do the tagging work, applications due tomorrow at noon. The AEB will be responsible for the vessel charter cost, up to 10 days. The AEB NRD and Administration will review the RFPs and select the vessel for the charter service.

Kelp Mariculture:

Working on Bond requirements for Alaska Dept. of Natural Resources. Will also work on a gear list for the project while in Sand Point.

NGA Fishermen's Data Portal:

Portal project moving along really well. We received good feedback from fishermen. As soon as we get some data from fishermen during Pollock season we will review how it's working.

PAUL said there are articles in newspapers regarding a mask mandate that Coast Guard will be enforcing on fishing vessels.

Mayor Osterback said he saw an article on an oyster farm in Kodiak, which was very interesting and is good to see more mariculture expanding. Charlotte Levy said the oyster farm is Eric O'Brien and he will be doing a presentation at SWAMC.

Maintenance Director Report:

Schools Repairs:

Working on school boiler repairs and pump replacements.

LONG under contract to do work at Akutan School in March, and will be following COVID protocol.

Staying on top of maintenance to keep our good standing for the State grant program.

Akutan helicopter hangar:

In the process of getting a new generator and door hardware replacement.

Upcoming Projects:

Projects in the works are King Cove School maintenance, King Cove-AEB office exterior painting, and Cold Bay terminal addition project, which a determination will be made to bid out or build in-house.

MAYOR'S UPDATE

Representative Louise Stutes out of Kodiak was elected Speaker of the House so they are organized and getting on with work in Juneau. She is someone we can work well together with.

ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

CAROL asked where the Pacific State Marine Fishermen CARES Act funds given to ADF&G for fishermen are at. Feels that CARES Act money should have been distributed by now. She also asked about the cod fishery disaster money distribution. Weiss will follow up on those.

DAILEY asked if Cold Bay will receive the community education grant again. She said Cold Bay has 11 kids, 5 school age and hopes to get the school open again and a building for a school. She also said the church is needing a building or meeting location and wants to consider a partnership with AEB. Mayor Osterback said when we area accepting grants, the City of Cold Bay can submit for the grant again. He also suggested the church submit a letter regarding the use of the school.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments received.

NEXT MEETING DATE

March 11, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT

JOSEPHINE moved to adjourn and second by WARREN. Hearing no more, the meeting adjourned at 3:43p.m.



Mayor Alvin D. Osterback



Tina Anderson, Clerk

Date: 3/11/21