

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Mack called the Regular Assembly meeting to order by teleconference in each community on March 1, 2017 at 1:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Stanley Mack	Present
Chris Babcock	Present
Carol Foster	Present
Warren Wilson	Present
Alvin D. Osterback	Present
Ken McHugh	Present (arrived late)
Paul Gronholdt	Present
Brenda Wilson	Present

Advisory Members:

Chris Emrich, False Pass	Absent
Angela Simpson, Cold Bay	Present
Justine Gundersen, Nelson Lagoon	Present

A quorum was present.

Staff Present:

Rick Gifford, Administrator
Roxann Newman, Finance Director
Tina Anderson, Clerk
Anne Bailey, Administrator Assistant
Laura Tanis, Communications Director
Ernie Weiss, Resource Director
Don Eubank, Maintenance Director

Adoption of the Agenda:

MOTION

Paul moved to adopt the agenda with the additional agenda items below:

- Assembly Comments, Supreme Court Amicus Brief.
- Assembly Comments, AEB Land Entitlements.
- Assembly Comments, Discussion of Doctrine, Incompatibility of Office.

Second by Alvin.

Hearing no objection the Agenda is approved as amended.

Community Roll Call and Public Comments on Agenda Items:

The communities of King Cove, Sand Point and the Anchorage office were participating by teleconference. There were no public comments.

February 9, 2017 Assembly Meeting Minutes:

MOTION

Warren moved to approve the February 9, 2017 Minutes as presented and second by Brenda. Hearing no more, MOTION PASSED.

Investment Report, January, 2017:

In packet.

Public Hearing Ordinance 17-04, Amending the Operating and Capital Budget for FY17:

MOTION

Brenda moved to approve Ordinance 17-04 and second by Carol.

Mayor Mack opened for Public Hearing.

City of King Cove Mayor, Henry Mack, recommended the Assembly support the budget amendment which includes the Memorandum of Agreement budget amount.

Hearing no more, Public Hearing closed.

DISCUSSION

Paul said, in the past, we discussed how the funding to King Cove was to displace the anticipated revenue from the sale of the hovercraft. He asked for clarification how this amended budget ordinance relates to those discussions about disbursement of revenue from sale of the hovercraft.

The Administrator said the funding is slated to come out of the permanent fund earnings. When the hovercraft is sold, the Assembly would have the option at that time, to put it back and replenish the funds if they wish.

Alvin said his understanding is that we are forward funding to King Cove out of the hovercraft sale prior to it being sold. When the \$825,000 to King Cove was discussed prior, it was part of payment after sale of hovercraft. Since it hasn't sold, the Assembly agreed to \$412,500 in budget amendment and the same in FY18 budget. He supports reimbursing AEB once the hovercraft is sold. He also suggested, once hovercraft is sold, sending communities a letter requesting capital projects funding requests. The Administrator said that can happen if that is the intent of the Assembly.

(Ken arrived.)

ROLL CALL

Chris B.-yes, Carol-yes, Paul-no, Warren-yes, Ken-yes, Brenda-yes, Alvin-yes.
Advisory: Angela-yes, Justine-yes. MOTION PASSED.

REPORTS AND UPDATES

In packet.

Cold Bay Dock Repairs:

The Administrator, Rick Gifford, said when the state did some major repairs, it was determined that in the next 5-10 years the dock will need to be replaced or more major repairs done. He is waiting for the State to produce documentation on that and a report on concepts on how to fix it. Then AEB will look for funding.

ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

U.S. Supreme Court Amicus Brief, Fishery Issue:

The United Cook Inlet Drift Association (UCIDA) vs. National Marine Fisheries Resources (NMFS) Lawsuit involves salmon net fishing areas outside of the State-waters 3-mile limit in three regions: Cook Inlet, Prince William Sound and the Southwestern District of Alaska Peninsula. UCIDA objected to Amendment 12 of the North Pacific Salmon Fishery Management Plan (FMP), as it related to Cook Inlet Fishery. The Ninth District Court agreed. Amendment 12 was formed to allow State management to continue in these three areas within the 200 mile Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

Weiss said the three areas outside of state waters has been managed by the State since 1953 and in 2011 they updated their FMP to make it legal. UCIDA created a lawsuit and challenged the FMP. The district court sided with NMFS and the appeals court sided with UCIDA. On Monday the State of Alaska filed to be heard by the U.S. Supreme Court. Cook Inlet is not happy with State management of their area, but this will also affect other two areas, the Alaska Peninsula south of Unimak Bight and Cordova. He hopes things go status quo. An amicus brief allows AEB to be a friend of the court providing information.

Mayor Mack said our area can be directly affected. If fishing outside 3-mile limit, it could be considered fishing illegally. He recommended weighing in if no opposition on Assembly.

Paul said, ADF&G Commissioner supported the idea of AEB getting involved and he encourages the administration to move forward with an amicus, if case is accepted by U.S. Supreme Court.

AEB Land Entitlements:

Paul said there is an Alaska Legislature bill (HB 85) to increase land entitlements to recently formed Petersburg Borough. He said AEB has less than 1/10 of one percent of the amount of land in AEB. He suggested AEB look into being added to the bill to increase AEB land entitlements. Title 29 allows 20% so he supports exploring further. Mayor Mack agreed and will work with Weiss.

Doctrine of Incompatibility of Office: Public offices which cannot be held by one person at the same time:

Paul believes doctrine of incompatibility of office pertains to AEB and feels we're obligated to review and determine if it applies to AEB. He supports an ordinance to clearly address what we can and cannot do under this common law provision. Mayor Mack will have AEB attorney review.

Carol commented there is a memorial fund set up to benefit the families of the F/V Destination crew lost at sea. She suggested that the Borough consider making a donation to the fund to assist the families of the crew. Ken added Trident is matching dollar-to-dollar donations made by Trident employees.

Carol commented she was offended how City of King Cove Manager, Gary Hennigh, talked to the Assembly at the last meeting. She felt it inappropriate and suggested employees not talk to board members like that in a public meeting. She added it is not that some Assembly members do not understand the cost reimbursement to the City of King Cove for the efforts to get a road built through the refuge, but many people of the public do not understand why King Cove is receiving the funding.

Alvin said, to help clarify the Akutan and King Cove projects that cost a lot of money, he suggests a directive to the AEB Mayor to write a "white paper" on Akutan and King Cove projects, laid out from beginning to present. He feels it will give a better understanding to the public since AEB revenue comes from raw fish tax.

Mayor Mack said AEB has a website, In-the-Loop E-news and public meetings to inform the public. He said AEB can write a "white paper", but those that ask don't always attend meetings or read information available.

Carol commented that people elected the Assembly and feels it is our duty to get them information. Many residents haven't read the packets to see the breakdown of reimbursements and supports a box holder newsletter.

Angela expressed concern that smaller communities are feeling neglected. She suggested asking communities what other priorities they have, not necessarily what AEB scored as a priority years ago or ongoing. She said communities have changed, needs have changed, identifying those needs and working together as communities in the Borough, making sure they get funded. Mayor Mack commented that we have been compiling a list yearly and assessing the present infrastructure making sure those needs are met.

Ken said he realizes the expenses involved in the Akutan transportation link to the airport on Akun. He commented Akutan operations are a good part of the revenue for the Borough. He feels once a dock is completed at the Akun airport, along with the Cold Bay hub, economic development in the region as a whole will open up, but transportation needs to be completed. He appreciates the support in Akutan for the link and wants to get the transportation completed so money can be spread to other communities.

Alvin said over a year ago the Governor held a meeting with a goal of preventing the outflow of people from rural communities. At the meeting, Alvin pointed out the "graying of the fleet" and the concern of salmon fishing permits being sold outside. He proposed to the committee duo names on a permit so permit owners can mentor someone locally building up their credit line, with hope of selling operation to mentor. He also noted the concern, that in the event of a permit holder death, the widow loses their annual income after the three years of allowable emergency transfers. Often those permits are then sold. The permit issue is now listed as a priority and he plans to continue working toward a solution.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

City of Cold Bay Mayor, Candace Schaack, gave her condolences to the City of Sand Point for the loss of the F/V Destination crew.

Schaack commented she is attending SWAMC, to hear what is happening in other regions. She had hoped there would be a presentation from the Borough on the agenda as to what AEB is doing for our people and for the wellness of our people. She encouraged leaders and representatives to be mindful of the people for the betterment of our communities. She suggested the Mayor do a report in In-the-Loop to inform people on what the Borough is doing. She also recommended an Assembly Member report, to better know those representing us. She also advocated discussions with our youth and supports having youth representatives on Assembly. Schaack said Cold Bay has been working on strategic planning. She expressed concern that she hasn't seen strategic planning from the Borough. She suggested community surveys and strategic planning with everyone.

The Akutan Administrator, Tuna Scanlan, expressed appreciation for what the AEB has done for Akutan community. He understands the airport transportation link has been draining revenues and hopes the solution in the works with AEB will help alleviate some of that. He added that there are other projects the city has and hopes we can complete the transportation project and move on to other projects.

City of King Cove Mayor, Henry Mack, thanked the Assembly for passing Ordinance 17-04. He responded to Carol and the rest of the Assembly saying he respects Assembly comments and questions even when he might not agree on everything and believes we all have the interest of our community at hand.

Henry Mack said their drug dog is preventing drugs from coming into King Cove. The City of King Cove received a grant for another police officer. His goal is to train young people and educators to know what to look for with the goal of getting our families back together and having a productive community again. He thanked the Assembly for the funding to purchase the drug dog.

City of Sand Point Administrator, Andy Varner, said the City of Sand Point has hired a new chief of police and a couple new officers. He is very concerned about substance

abuse issues as well. He encourages people to talk to Eastern Aleutian Tribes Director, Jennifer Harrison about the new Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP).

Brenda explained that the IOP is an intensive outpatient program for drug and alcohol use in our region. She commented that Suboxone, used to treat heroin addiction, may also be available soon through the new Behavioral Health Director, Dr. Melody Iscrow. Brenda also said Narcan kits, used to prevent opioid overdose, will soon be available to those that want them. Brenda added that Eastern Aleutian Tribes is having tremendous successes with people coming in voluntarily and going to various treatments. She commented that if they qualify for Medicaid, treatment is fully paid.

Varner added that Peninsula Airways is possibly working towards getting a drug dog in the Anchorage Pen Air terminal with several entities willing to split the cost.

Varner asked about the percentage of the Permanent Fund earnings allowed to be used. The Administrator answered that the AEB can appropriate an amount not to exceed 8% of the five-year average fund market value, but APCM recommends 4-5%. Last year AEB used 4%, which was approximately \$1.3M. Getting ready to bring earnings forward again for new fiscal year.

Varner asked about the TDX wind energy project schedule for the Sand Point School. The Administrator answered that AEB is ready to move forward with that project, waiting for the School District to sign the agreement.

NEXT MEETING

April 13, 2017.

ADJOURNMENT

Warren moved to adjourn and second by Ken. Hearing no more, the meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Mayor



Clerk



Date: _____

4/20/17