

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Alvin D. Osterback called the Aleutians East Borough Assembly meeting to order by teleconference in each community on November 10, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

Advisory Members:

Dailey Schaack, Cold Bay	Present
Samantha McNeley, Nelson Lagoon	Absent
Tom Hoblet, False Pass	Absent

Quorum was present.

Staff Present:

Anne Bailey, Administrator
Talia Jean-Louis, Assistant Administrator
Laura Tanis, Communications Director
Ernie Weiss, Natural Resources Director
Charlotte Levy, Natural Resources Assist. Director
Glennora Dushkin, Administrative Clerk
Jacki Brandell, Finance Director
Beverly Ann Rosete, Borough Clerk

Others in Attendance:

Lorie Pierce
Paul Mueller

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

CHRIS move to Adopt the Agenda, seconded by BRENDA.

Hearing no objections, the Agenda will stand as Written.

PAUL commented he will ask about Canvass Committee on the Assembly Comments section
CHRIS will give an update on GCI Fiber Optic on Assembly Comments

COMMUNITY ROLL CALL AND PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

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

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

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

MINUTES

October 13, 2022 Assembly Meeting Minutes and October 17, 2022 Special Assembly Meeting Minutes

MOTION

BRENDA moved to accept the October 13, 2022 Assembly Meeting Minutes and October 17, 2022 Special Assembly Meeting Minutes, second by CAROL.

Hearing no corrections, the Meeting Minutes will stand as presented.

FINANCIAL REPORT

September 2022 Financial Report

MOTION

DENISE made a motion to approve the Financials Report and second by BRENDA

Administrator Bailey said on item to note is the Raw Fish Tax line item which both reflects August 2022 value with roughly \$627K and September 2022 value \$488K. In the future, we will be reporting the tax revenue for that month in that month for instance for October it will show the October fish tax revenue. For August, we are in about 114% over the 5-year average and for September, we are about 125% over the 5-year average. We are doing well so far and everything else is tracking well as they should.

PAUL asked how would everyone know that the financials for the fish tax revenue are different from the rest of the financial report.

Administrator Bailey said that will be accounted for in the financial reporting system.

Paul suggested to put a notation on the side. Commented that crab revenue will be a little higher on the Peninsula Bairdi and Bering Sea Bairdi, so there's some good news and not so good news in the revenue.

ROLL CALL

Yeas: Carol, Brenda, Paul, Warren, Denise, Chris, Advisory: Dailey

Nay: None

MOTION CARRIES

INVESTMENT REPORT

APCM September 2022 Investment Report

Administrator Bailey said she checked the value of the permanent fund this morning and what's in the packet for September 30th 2022 about \$40.5M but has increased to about \$42.5M.

CONSENT AGENDA

None

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

ORDINANCES

None

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 23-22, Resolution 23-22 authorizing the Mayor to negotiate and execute a contract agreement between the Aleutians East Borough and Hickey & Associates for lobbying/consulting services for 2023

MOTION

CAROL made a motion to approve Resolution 23-22, seconded by BRENDA

Administrator Bailey said The Aleutians East Borough is involved in numerous projects and issues that requires assistance from a State lobbyist. Mark Hickey with Hickey & Associates has provided lobbying/consulting services for the Borough with the Alaska legislative and executive branches since 1998. The FY2022 contract with Hickey & Associates ends on December 31, 2022 and can be renewed by agreement of both parties. The proposed 2023 contract would commence on January 1, 2023 and end December 31, 2023. The Borough would pay Hickey & Associates a retainer of \$3,500 a month and reimburse them for pre-approved extraordinary out-of-pocket and travel expenses. Hickey & Associates would pay the annual APOC registration fee and normal office overhead expenses.

PAUL ask if anyone heard anything if the Senate and House announce a coalition and who's the Speaker of the House?

BRENDA said election isn't finished yet.

CAROL asked if the amount listed was the same as we paid them last year.

Administrator Bailey confirmed yes.

ROLL CALL

Yeas: Brenda, Paul, Warren, Denise, Chris, Carol Advisory: Dailey

Nay: none

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution 23-23, Resolution 23-23 allocates the Aleutians East Borough's Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund (LATCF) Monies in the amount of \$2,038,800

MOTION

DENISE made a motion to approve Resolution 23-23 and second by BRENDA

Administrator Bailey said On September 29, 2022, the US Treasury launched the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund (LATCF) for eligible revenue sharing counties/boroughs. The American Rescue Plan

appropriated \$2 billion to Treasury across fiscal years 2022 and 2023 to provide payments to eligible revenue sharing counties/boroughs and eligible Tribal governments for use on any governmental purpose except for lobbying activities. The Borough will receive \$2,038,800 in LATCF funds. On October 6, 2022, Administration applied for the LATCF funds through the Treasury Submission Portal. On October 17, 2022, the Borough received the first tranche of money in the amount of \$1,019,400. This has been moved to an AMLIP portfolio for accounting purposes. Administration anticipates receiving the second tranche of funds in the amount of \$1,019,400 in January/February 2023. Administration has reviewed the expenditure guidelines for the LATCF monies. It has been determined that, the Borough has broad discretion on uses of the funds, similar to the ways in which they may use funds generated from their own local revenue sources. A non-exhaustive list of example activities that fulfill a governmental purpose is listed in the packet. Administration recommends allocating the Borough's LATCF funding for maintenance projects, grant match requirements or to pay for a portion of the 2nd 10% owed to the Army Corps of Engineers for the Akutan Harbor project. The Borough Assembly would approve any projects or uses of the funds before the money was expended. And a few examples of the grant match we have is in Sand Point School DEED Grants, also we will owe approximately \$3.5-3.8M for the 2nd 10% of the Akutan Harbor Project owe to the Corps. Anything we do will come before the Assembly.

PAUL requested for a summary of grant monies, what it is used for and what are still available.

CHRIS asked how much money we already put in Sand Point School over the last several years. Maybe we need to start looking at replacing that school.

Mayor Osterback commented that this is something that we can put in the Agenda to have a discussion again.

WARREN commented to prioritize this money for the school.

DAILEY said that is something we can talk about in the Strategic Planning.

ROLL CALL

Yeas: Denise, Chris, Carol, Brenda, Warren, Paul Advisory: Dailey

Nay: None

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution 23-24, authorizing the mayor to negotiate and execute a contract with Chordata LLC to develop a salmon fleet-management portal in an amount not to exceed \$25,900

MOTION

WARREN made a motion to approve Resolution 23-24 and second by DENISE

Assistant Natural Resources Director Levy said Commercial fisheries are the economic cornerstone of the Aleutians East Borough and its communities. Borough Administration and the Natural Resources Department have been directed to maintain, protect and strengthen our existing fisheries, and support strong fisheries advocacy. The Natural Resources Department (NRD) has been collaborating with local fishermen and partners to prepare for the upcoming 2023 Board of Fisheries meeting. During the 2022 season, local Area M fishermen voluntarily implemented self-management measures in an effort to reduce chum harvest in June. Using fleet-based solutions proved very successful and chum harvest was maintained at historical levels. After discussion with fleet leadership groups, it was determined that a more formal infrastructure was

necessary to make fleet-based solutions a sustainable and long-term option. The Natural Resources Department has contacted Chordata LLC to develop a Salmon Fleet- Management data portal, which will provide fleet leadership with real-time data to make in season fishing decisions in a way that is defensible and documented. In order to expedite portal development prior to the upcoming meeting in February 2023, NRD is requesting the mayor receive authorization to negotiate and execute a contract with Chordata LLC in an amount not to exceed \$25,900 which will be paid out of the E 20-872-209-679 Fisheries Research account. A copy resume of Chordata was sent to all Assembly.

ROLL CALL

Yeas: Warren, Carol, Chris, Paul, Brenda, Denise, Advisory: Dailey

Nay: None

PAUL asked what the specific timeframe of the contract is.

Assistant Natural Resources Director Levy was hoping to start in November. Plans to have a mock portal by December and get some feedback from people and have a presentable version in January. After that, if everyone is comfortable about it, we are going to move forward in developing a full pledge portal. We'll have to collect waivers from everybody and plan to have it ready by June.

PAUL commented he was thinking that this will be more useful for the board of fish process but we are looking at the fishing season. Initially I was thinking of Board of fish right of the top, but I guess I was wrong.

Assistant Natural Resources Director Levy said it is both, the use of the portal itself is most important during the fishery but the hope is to have something presentable for the meeting and kind of have something that is ready to go that shows that this is a tangible tool that available, so it is kind of both.

Mayor Osterback said he'd expect that on the Board of Fish meeting Charlotte would want to do a presentation to the board on this portal that you are designing so they'll have a good understanding on it, would that be correct.

Assistant Natural Resources Director Levy said yes that is a possibility.

WARREN commented, with all the entities involve in Area M fishery, that were able to come together and fight for our right of survival and it is a good way that everybody is cooperating and for the Borough to be able to put some money to help out with this portal to make all the fishermen, everybody and even processors gave money to Seinners association to bring in science to our fisheries. Sometimes people bring proposals to fish board but they don't have science backing them up. This will always help when everyone is working together.

ROLL CALL

Yeas: Denise, Warren, Carol, Brenda, Chris, Paul Advisory: Dailey

Nay: None

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution 23-25, relating to disposal of surplus, obsolete or unneeded supplies

MOTION

CAROL made a motion to approve Resolution 23-25 and second by DENISE

Administrative Clerk Dushkin said is a process we have to go through every time we have to dispose or sell items we no longer need. This resolution listed 2 items, a dell monitor and an old desk that was purchased a few years ago and were no longer needed. If the resolution gets approve, a surplus advertisement will be created for the public for bid purposes.

Mayor Osterback commented that I there is no bidders, we can take the items to disposal sites.

ROLL CALL

Yeas: Carol, Chris, Warren, Paul, Denise, Brenda Advisory: Dailey

Nay: None

MOTION CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- Federal Lobbying Services Discussion

Administrator Bailey said the Borough has engaged Robertson, Monagle & Eastaugh PC for Federal Lobbying Services for numerous years. Brad Gilman has been the primary point of contact and has assisted in a plethora of lobbying activities for various Borough projects. On October 10, 2022, Mr. Gilman stated that in November 2022 he will be dramatically scaling back his workload and will be moving into semi-retirement. In recognition of this decision, Robertson, Monagle and Eastaugh will disband the law firm, effective December 31, 2022. Steve Silver has decided to continue practicing law and engage in lobbying but will do so under a new corporation. A new corporate entity will be formed under Alaska law titled Robertson, Monagle & Eastaugh LLC. The new firm will be engaged in federal government consulting and lobbying activities. It will not be a law firm and there will be no employees engaged in the practice of law. Sebastian O'Kelly and Rick Marks will run the Firm, overseeing the day-to-day work and all the administrative functions. Brad will be assisting with substantive issues relating to the Borough, including providing institutional knowledge of the Borough's decade long efforts in Washington D.C, strategic advice to the Mayor and Administration, attendance at meetings and participation in calls as necessary, and to engage in direct advocacy when there is a serious issue facing the Borough. Mr. Gilman has never engaged in legal work for the Borough, so, there should be no confusion about the new corporation's role. With the changes in operation, Administration would like to keep the Assembly involved in any decisions going forward. The Borough is currently paying Robertson, Monagle & Eastaugh PC \$6,500 per month, or \$75,600 annually for their services. Administration can determine three potential paths moving forward, Stay Status Quo, Open Market and Issue a Request for Proposal for these services.

Mayor Osterback said when Brad Gilman left employment of Senator Ted Stevens, he started his own firm. We are Brad's very first client, he's been with the AEB since he started his company and now getting ready to retire. That is 35 years run with us. He has done a lot of work for the Borough and got us a lot of funding.

The two that are to remain and keep the company going, we worked with them for quite a bit. They are well respected. The suggested route we go is to stay with the company. But I will open it up for discussion by the Assembly.

MOTION

PAUL made a motion for the Borough to enter into a contract with Robertson, Monagle & Eastaugh LLC. Seconded by BRENDA.

PAUL said Mr. O'Kelly and Mr. Marks has been there a long time and I don't think there will be a big change, but we're going to miss Brad Gilman.

MOTION

ROLL CALL

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

MOTION CARRIED

- King Cove office Discussion

Administrator Bailey said The King Cove Office has some significant damage to the building. During the recent storms, excessive amounts of water has begun protruding in the back office. The floor is damp, items in the office were getting wet and we believe mold is in the facility. Administration and the Finance Director are working on repairing the immediate damage, which includes but is not limited to boarding up the window. The Finance Director has moved most of the items out of the office and will dehumidify the space in hopes of getting the water out of the area. Administration has advertised for lease space in King Cove. We did receive 2 responses, 1 for a house and 1 for office space in in the school that the City of King Cove owns. Both has been looked at and the office space from the city is the more suitable option. We received a lease agreement form the city, which was reviewed, \$750 per month includes utilities except phone an internet. I wanted to inform everyone what was going on and we are going to look for a long-term solution.

PAUL asked if it is the same old school that the Borough gave to the City of King Cove.

Administrator Bailey said yes.

REPORTS AND UPDATES

Administrator's Report in packet. Highlights below:

Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Second Tranche Funding

On September 6, 2022, the Borough received the second tranche in the amount of \$324,086.50 of SLFRF Funds. As of September 1, 2022, the Borough has expended \$133,259.70 in ARPA funds.

Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Funds (LATCF)

On September 29, 2022, the US Treasury launched the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistence Fund (LATCF) for eligible revenue sharing counties/boroughs. The American Rescue Plan appropriated \$2 billion to Treasury across fiscal years 2022 and 2023 to provide payments to eligible revenue sharing counties/boroughs and eligible Tribal governments for use on any governmental purpose except for a

lobbying activity. The Borough will be receiving \$2,038,800 in LATCF funds. The first payment of \$1,019,400 has been received and the second tranche of funding should be received in January/February 2023.

Sand Point Harbor Float Project

On October 26, 2022, we received advance notice from our lobbyists/Sullivan's office that the Sand Point Harbor PIDP Grant was awarded by MARAD in the amount of \$5,365,000. These funds can be used as *matching funds for the State Harbor Facility Grant we received earlier this year which is \$4.1M.* Administration has begun working on the next steps for this project but we don't anticipate construction until 2023 with completion date of 2024.

Akutan – Essential Air Service

Two proposals were received by USDOT that was submitted, one was Grant Aviation/Maritime that provides services between Unalaska, Akun and Akutan and back with 2 flights a day with no flight on Sunday. The breakdown of the cost is in the packet. And per that agreement, Grant would be covered in full for their 6 wing service between Unalaska and Akun and then the helicopter portion would be covered 50/50 with the Borough which we are currently under agreement with now through the Helicopter Services agreement. But it is a huge cost savings to the Borough rather than staying 100% with the helicopter. The Other one is the RAVN Connect which provides services between Unalaska and Akun only. It does not have an agreement with the Rotorcraft Company or any other transportation link between the island of Akutan and Akun. So their price is more expensive on year one than Grant was, so after speaking with the City of Akutan yesterday, we will be writing a letter of support for the Grant Maritime option.

Cold Bay Terminal

Snow Plowing Services. On October 21, 2022, the Borough requested quotes for snow plowing services at the Cold Bay Terminal. We received one quote from Apun LLC by the October 28th deadline. Administration has reviewed and has entered into an agreement with Apun that became effective on November 1, 2022.

King Cove Road Update

As of 1:50pm at the workshop the 9th Circuit Judge voted on favor of the en banc rehearing to occur on Pasadena on Dec. 12. We are not sure what this entails but Steve was looking into it. As we get more information, it will be provided to the Assembly.

Maintenance

Sand Point Pool: Evolution Pools arrived in Sand Point on October 27, 2022 and have begun the project. They are currently taking care of the demo, build bypass and some repair work at the pool. They send other identified damage, a change work order request is necessary but this will come before the Assembly before doing any repairs.

Other Items

False Pass Harbor Bonds: Based upon the Amendatory Loan Agreement dated October 18, 2016, between the Alaska Municipal Bond Bank and the Borough, it appears that the Aleutians East Borough, Alaska General Obligation Refunding Bond issued November 3, 2016 is scheduled to have a final maturity date of December 1, 2028, and is subject to prepayment at the option of the Borough on any date on/after December 1, 2026.

- The Borough has hired Seward Brandell as the Accounting Clerk. His start date will be November 14, 2022.
- Financial Software – The Finance Department is completing the questionnaires for Caselle to initiate the transfer to the new software.
- The Cold Bay Terminal Concessions Request for Proposal was released on October 6, 2022. We did not receive any proposals by the November 3, 2022 deadline.
- I have also been continuously conducting day to day operations.

And lastly, yesterday, Mayor Osterback and I meet with Trident Seafoods and they provided an update with the status of the Akutan plant. They received proposals of new facility of both Captain's Bay and Akutan and both numbers are shockingly high. Their board of directors denied those proposals and require the company to 1. Determine a way to reduce the cost of the project of the Captain's Bay location only, which means they will not be considering building in Akutan and 2. Show that they have increase cash from in the business.

Once they show those 2 option to their Board of Directors, they will be making a decision this summer on building and constructing. Basically, it will take them 3 summers to construct so I don't anticipate them to be done until 2026 and operational on A season. This is not good news and now we are in the process of strategizing on how to address this huge financial loss to the Borough and will impact the City of Akutan. I've already initiated some things I need to do which is liquidity analysis and cash flow management plan which we do not have in place. And to address the short term needs of the Borough and how to maximize and get the most out of the money we have. We'll be looking at what we owe on or debt, any projects any requirements we must meet, and we'll go from there.

Administrator Bailey said we are looking at February 2023

Mayor Osterback commented that Anne and I have been talking to engineers and construction people on material availability and start up projects that are going all over that has been slowed down by the pandemic. A lot of the companies we talk to said later is better cost wise as prices will start to go down. The longer it takes the more favorable for us as far as the money we got. We need to give a big thank you for the hard work that Anne did for getting both grants and we are not taking any money from our general fund. It is really a hard word and it is fortunate that we wind up getting both of the grant totaling to about \$9M.

CAROL thanked Anne because for working on the Sand Point Harbor, so I guess I am going out with finally what I fought for how many years.

Assistant Administrator Report in packet. Highlights below:

DEED/ Sand Point School

On 8.17.2022 SERCC notified the Borough that the Sand Point Maintenance Project would be funded. The total cost of the project is \$3.9 Million with a 30% match of \$1.3 million. Not much has changed since the last meeting. We are still waiting for the project agreement from DEED. After speaking with SERCC, they have notified us that DEED is still in the process of reviewing the CIP application. As soon as we receive the agreement, I will let the Assembly know. The project agreement will give us the DEED's full scope of work that needs to be completed and the Borough does anticipate on negotiating terms of agreement since the foundation we did place in there was found unsupported by DEED.

Bridge Inspections

On September 2022, David Mcadoo the engineering assistant with DOT&PF Bridges completed bridge inspections on; Breach Bridge (False Pass), Ungaman (False Pass), Round Top Valley Creek (False Pass), Round Top Valley Creek (False Pass), Delta Creek (King Cove), Delta Creek Tributary (King Cove), and Barney Creek (King Cove). DOT has a three-month deadline from the inspection date to have the reports completed. Currently they are working on creating and reviewing the reports. Reports are expected to be received December 10th, 2022 in both digital and mailed physical copy.

Elevator Inspection

On October 12th 2022, the mechanic crew with Otis Elevator Co. Alaska traveled to Cold Bay to complete maintenance and testing on the elevators at the Terminal.

Maintenance Connection

I'm continuing to provide support on the operations site to process maintenance request, work orders, and assign labor. The following are a list of items recently added to the MC site. On October 17th Anne Bailey signed into an agreement with LONG for the additional repairs to the False Pass School. LONG has inspected and provided issues found, resolutions, and recommendations for the repair of the boilers in Cold Bay, Sand Point Borough Office, Sand Point School, and the Sand Point School 4 Plex.

Sand Point School Pool

October 25th, the demolition started. They are currently working on the pool repair and have found additional problems unrelated to the pool they plan to repair. Meetings attended are listed in the packet.

Communications Director Report in packet. Highlights below:

White Paper – Akun Dock & Breakwater project

Currently, I'm working on a white paper regarding the history and latest developments on the Akun Dock & Breakwater project. The goal is to create a concise living document for the Borough so Administration and the Assembly can review what has occurred with this project over the years as well as up to the present. I'm reviewing strategic initiatives and past Assembly packets for this report.

In the Loop

As of the writing of this report, the latest issues of In the Loop were sent out on Oct. 27th, the 19th and on the 14th. The most recent edition contained a story regarding Carol Foster, who has retired from public service after serving 24 years on the Aleutians East Borough Assembly. The story contained quotes from Carol as well as Mayor Osterback, and members of the Assembly expressing their appreciation and gratitude for Carol's many years of service. That issue also contained a press release from Senators Lisa Murkowski and Dan Sullivan announcing \$112 million for Alaska ports and ferry terminals. That included \$5.3 million for the Sand Point Floating Dock project, which entails 1,000 feet of new floating dock and supporting access, utility and safety infrastructure within the existing harbor. Another issue included a Notice of Special Election for November 8th. The October 14th issue contained the results from the October 4th Election, as well as information about a run-off election for Borough Assembly seats E and G.

Fish News

The latest edition of Fish News was sent out on Nov. 3rd and was packed with comprehensive information. The content, provided by Natural Resources Director Ernie Weiss, focused on what occurred during the two-day Board of Fish work session on Oct. 25 & 26th. The two-day Pacific Cod regulatory meeting on Oct. 27th and 28th followed the work session. I will defer to Ernie for the details on both meetings. Fish News also contained information on the Tanner Crab seasons in the Eastern and Western Bering Sea, as well as the state Tanner fisheries in the Gulf of Alaska. The issue also provides info and dates on future AEB Fishermen Meetings.

Facebook

Recent postings on the AEB's Facebook page included a notice requesting information about any potential lease space available for the Borough office in King Cove; a notice from Aleutian Housing regarding a homeowner assistance fund program that assists homeowners living in the Aleutians and Pribilof Islands region with mortgage relief, homeownership costs and/or eligible home repairs for those who qualify; as well as a flyer about the Sand Point gym, which will be closed from Dec. 23rd to Jan. 6th of next year while the floor is being resurfaced.

Community Alignment

I am continuing to work on the Community Alignment Initiative of our Strategic Plan. My role in this initiative is to highlight for the newsletter Borough/community leaders or community members who stand out for their contributions to their community. Some examples of that may include a teacher, a law enforcement official or a volunteer who has made a difference in the lives of others. The newsletter article about Carol Foster is the most recent example. Prior to that article, we concentrated on King Cove teacher Annette Calver, who retired from the school district after 31 years. The next story will focus on King Cove teacher Joy Smith. We plan to highlight individuals in the large and small communities. If anyone has specific ideas on who would be a good candidate for this profile, please contact me. I would really appreciate it.

Natural Resources Director Report in packet. Highlights below:

I wanted to thank the Assembly for passing that data portal resolution. I think it will be very useful for fishermen and Board of Fish. Thank you, Charlotte, for all her work on that.

North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) meetings started on October third and went through to the eleventh. I attended several other meetings in and around the Anchorage Hilton during this time with fishery management officials. I attended the pre-council meeting for Alaskans with ADFG Deputy Commissioner Baker and Karla Bush. I was part of a group with Alaska Fishing Communities that met with AFSC Director Bob Foy. I also met with a similar group a few days later with NMFS Alaska Regional Director Jon Kurland. I ended up testifying during NPFMC Staff Tasking on the topic of EM Trawl. I attended several meetings of the Alaska Bycatch Review Task Force (ABRT) and the Joint Protocol meeting of the Board of Fish and NPFMC, on the morning of the October Assembly meeting. I also met with our Area M partners on Zoom. The week in-between NPFMC and Board of Fish might have been slower, except for the Special Assembly meeting, AEB Strategic Planning meetings and we held a AEB Fishermen Zoom call. Then we received the AFN resolutions targeting Area M. We drafted a memo for the Aleut caucus at AFN and I attended the Aleut Caucus meeting. Aleut leadership worked hard to defeat AFN Resolution 22-2, but in the end, during a flawed process, both Resolution 22-2 and 22-3 passed out of the AFN Convention – resolutions targeting Area M and by association Aleuts during an AFN convention with the theme ‘Celebrating Our Unity’. Area M partners drafted individual letters to thank Aleut leadership for their work to defeat these resolutions. I put much information on Nov 3 Fish News, Good information on the tanner, Board of Fish and the meetings that are coming up. *I’ve been listening in at the AC meetings. I heard at the Fairbanks meeting that David Weiss, one of the new board members is going to resign. The Area M seiners coordinated efforts resulted in the lowest ration of Chum to Sockeye ever recorded. And with this new data portal and hopefully good information from the genetic testing that was going on this summer will go straight to the board of fish.*

Assistant Natural Resources Director Report in packet. Highlights below:

Electronic Monitoring - WGOA3/EPF

- Trawl EM was scheduled for final action at the October Council meeting. As expected, the Council moved to adopt Alternative 2: Electronic Monitoring is implemented on pelagic trawl pollock catcher vessels and tenders delivering to shoreside processors in the Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska, as the preferred alternative. It is slated for regulatory implementation in 2024. There is still work to be done on outstanding regulatory issues, but the Council has supported the following:

- Allow revised annual opt-in/opt-out

- The 1.65% fee will be used to cover EM-related costs and shoreside observer housing/food

- Industry-managed incentive plans and annual reporting for MRA/trip limits

- I have submitted Q3 financial reports and the budget is tracking as expected

- We wrapped up 610 pollock and as of 10/27 we had 211 trips, with 167 reviewed and 250 logbooks submitted. I am planning a fleet meeting to discuss the Trawl EM regulated program and next steps.

Fixed-Gear EM Project

- The project team met with NMFS - FMA to discuss the project goals and design. We are currently working on a method to identify crab to species and a sampling design.

- We have secured 5 volunteer boats for pot cod/black cod fishing to test EM/observers side-by-side

Mariculture

- The first hands-on mariculture workshop is 10/10-10/12, and will be learning seed collection processes. We are supporting a Sand Point resident to attend hands-on workshops in Kodiak as part of the Alaska Sea Grant project. He attended the first workshop on collecting and preparing seedstock as part of the KALI training program with Alaska Ocean Farms/Kodiak Kelp Company.

- He is in the process of collecting stock for the Zachary Bay site, and will attend the next training on Seeding Lines in November.

Board of Fisheries/Salmon

- As noted in Res 23-24, I am working with Chordata LLC to adapt our existing data portal for salmon, which will provide valuable real-time data necessary for "fleet-management" solutions. As part of this I will also develop appropriate legal infrastructure.
- We are assisting with the communication strategy, and supporting the newly formed Eastern Aleutians Fisheries Coalition.

AFSC Cod Tagging Project

- We are still awaiting news of funding from PSMFC, without it we may need to delay 2023 field work.
- All of the 2022 tags have popped up and we are currently analyzing the data. I anticipate having a full update to the Assembly/Public at the next meeting.

PAUL asked about the unavailable schedule on Monthly calendar

Assistant Natural Resources Director Levy says she is currently in school.

MAYOR'S UPDATE

ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

PAUL asked when is the Canvass Committee going to meet?

Borough Clerk responded it will be on Monday Nov. 14 10:00am

PAUL said there is an ordinance that allows call in for Special Meeting to Certify the Election results and asked what happened to the ballots in False Pass?

Borough Clerk responded that she mailed all the BY-Mail only ballot for 3 smaller communities on the week of September 9. She has not received any returned ballots until the Canvass Committee counted. And the schedule for counting was already postponed to give time to received the materials from other communities. Until the scheduled counting, no ballots came in from False Pass. After the Canvass Committee met, about 7 ballots from False Pass came and only 1 was postmarked before the election date and the rest were not postmarked at all.

PAUL asked for a written report of the October 4, 2022 Regular Election.

CHRIS commented that there is a lot of negativities posted in social media in regards to AEB not supporting Fiber Optic into False Pass and Cold Bay. The Native Village of Port Lions received a \$29.3M grant from Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program and this project will bring fiber to 930 household in Chignik Lagoon , Chignik Lake, Cold Bay, False Pass, Ouzinkie and Port Lions. I just wanted to clarify that the Borough is in full support of all the communities within the Borough to hopefully getting connected to the Optic. So, I am excited to hear that the grant has gone through. The timeframe still looks like Unalaska in 2022, Sand Point and King Cove maybe summer of 2023 and those communities which I mentioned will be 2024. It is exciting, Starlink is up and running too and this Fiber optic connectivity should be good for all the communities out here.

Mayor Osterback commented that the Borough supported adding all those communities in and we are in 100% support from the beginning.

PAUL said there is an article that saying Cold Bay and False Pass will be connected, so that is good.

BRENDA asked what time the Special Meeting is.

Borough Clerk said 10:00 am.

DENISE followed up with Paul's question about False Pass Ballots.

Borough Clerk responded that per AEB Code, we can only wait up to a certain date. If we don't receive the ballots within that time frame, ballot cannot be counted. I also need to be postmarked by Election date, if it is not, it cannot be counted as well.

Administrative Assistant Dushkin, reiterate that ballots need to be postmarked on or before the election date to be counted. Some ballots also did have any identifier which is required. Letter were sent to voters letting them know their ballot wasn't counted.

Mayor Osterback commented that everyone is following the set of rules that are set on the ordinances. Nothing was changed or moved around. They followed the plan set out for them and they cannot waiver from that and set up their own dates and switch things.

DAILEY asked why they smaller communities has to MAIL-IN Ballots only.

Mayor Osterback said he is not sure.

Borough Clerk said she is not sure as well but will find out the ordinance for it.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

NEXT MEETING DATE

Regular Assembly Meeting December 8, 2022

ADJOURNMENT

CAROL moved to adjourn seconded by BRENDA. Hearing no more, the meeting adjourned at 4:37 p.m.



Mayor Alvin D. Osterback



Beverly Ann Rosete, Borough Clerk

Date: 1/3/2023

