

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Alvin D. Osterback called the Aleutians East Borough Assembly meeting to order by teleconference in each community on February 09, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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| Mayor Alvin D. Osterback | Present |
| Brenda Wilson | Present |
| Jim Smith | Present |
| Chris Babcock | Present |
| Dailey Schaack | Present |
| Josephine Shangin | Present |
| Paul Gronholdt | Present |
| Warren Wilson | Present |

Advisory Members:

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| Samantha McNeley, Nelson Lagoon | Present |
| Tom Hoblet, False Pass | Present |

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
Beverly Ann Rosete, Borough Clerk
Seward Brandell, Accounting Clerk

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

CHRIS move to Adopt the Agenda, seconded by WARREN

Hearing no objections, the Agenda will stand as Presented.

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.

PRESENTATION:

- GCI - AU Aleutians Update – Jenifer Nelson

Jenifer Nelson said the community of Unalaska is up and connected and more customers is coming online every day. People are enjoying the speed, reliability, and pricing. The plans that will be offered are exactly what we offer in Anchorage. The wireless network is currently undergoing upgrade in Unalaska as well. Our goal was to have Akutan at the same time as Unalaska team on. We have a delay in leasing and permitting but are working with the city and Trident with the leasing and hope we have all the permits wrapped up so we can start there. We have a close timeline to get Akutan completed because work is set to start to start in King Cove and Sand Point on April 1st. There are people coming out to do some prep work and to meet with the community. Materials started shipping to both communities of King Cove and Sand Point and the goal is to have both communities online by the end of this year. With Cold Bay and False Pass, we recently received Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program Grant to add 6 additional communities to the project. We engaged with NTIA and that granting process has started. The environmental stuff is being done and the engineering design work is also being done. There is a branching unit already in place for the main line cable for the False Pass. Cold bay will be served out of the King Cove lining station. The plans are the same for those in the communities of Cold Bay and False Pass to fiber to every home, again same plan and pricing. A little bit about the work that will be done in King Cove and Sand Point and other communities to follow, they will trench a main line and put a conduit on the ground. The City of King Cove informed us that they might have a conduit there. We do not want to dig, it would be way easier and simpler to put the fiber through the existing conduit. Once we have the main line done, we can spider out to homes and businesses. There will be a lot of outreaches that'll be done before the main line goes to homes. We will need permission from the landowners/homeowners to come up to the building but that does not obligate you to buy service, and there is no cost to do that. We want to get every home wire and our crew be efficient with their time. If we end up skipping a house and you want the service, it might delay being able to turn that up if the wiring isn't brought to the side of the house. There will be internal wiring that needs to be done. The wireless network will be upgraded too in King Cove and Sand Point but that will happen after all the construction dedicating every home connected. Once connected to the fiber backbone, it will allow us to bring urban levels of service like we have here to communities as well. There is no time line yet on when this will exactly happen but what it will enable is a 5g level experience. There will be a lot of activity that will happen in both King Cove and Sand Point, 2 separate crews will work on each community simultaneously. Once completed they will move up to Larsen Bay and Chignik Bay and then looking at False Pass and Cold Bay 2024 to 2026.

WARREN asked if the line will be going up the airport in King Cove. Jenifer said she'll have to look at the design, the goal is to connect every home, so at this point, the line is probably going to stop as far as the homes are. WARREN said it would be good to have the line go up there, the internet will be faster than what they have there now. Jenifer said that came up with the conversation with the city as well, so they are taking it back and adding it to the design. It will be additional cost but then how we managed it how FAA wants it. Warren said airport is a critical part of King Cove and if we were to upgrade our water system which is the plan now. Jenifer said she'll have the project manager contact the city of King Cove. Jenifer responded that they have that conversation with the city of Sand Point too, that the harbor is important to get connected. And I will take that back and have them look at what it would take to get the servers like hydro facility.

PAUL asked about the cable repair that was done underwater. Jenifer said it is pretty rare that they have to deploy their repair ship but they keep the repair ship on standby 24/7.

Jenifer thanked the Borough for all the support and she'll continue to keep the Borough updated.

Mayor Osterback thanked Jenifer for her report.

Administrator Bailey said this is 6 months into our fiscal year. Few items to bring to your attention is the Raw Fish Tax, in December 2022, we received a \$255K fish tax revenue. This is 121% over than the 5-year average which is great news. YTD value is at \$2.8M, a 115% over the 5-year average. Another item is the Interest Revenue, this revenue captures the AMLIP interest that came in at \$98K for December. There are few items that are over 50% mostly on travel line items.

PAUL asked If Anne was referring to the Interest Revenue on page one of the Financials. Administrator Bailey said yes. PAUL proceeded to ask what we can expect for the rest of the year, month to month on that line item. Administrator Bailey said it's hard to say because the rate fluctuates but I anticipated it to be around the same number every month.

WARREN asked Anne about the travel budget since we are travelling more. Administrator Bailey said the budget was amended and that will be adjusted at the end of the fiscal year. WARREN asked if that would take care of all the travel adjustments. Administrator Bailey replied not, just the Communication department.

PAUL asked if the passing of Ordinance 23-02 would require changes in the Borough budget. Administrator Bailey replied, No.

ROLL CALL

Yeas: Paul, Brenda, Chris, Josy, Warren, Jim Advisory: Samantha, Tom
Nay: None

MOTION CARRIED

INVESTMENT REPORT

APCM December 2022 Investment Report

Administrator Bailey said she looked at the balance of the investment that morning and it has \$45M instead of \$43M. This shows how much the account is fluctuating.

CONSENT AGENDA

None

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

ORDINANCES

Introduction Ordinance 23-02, Delegating to the Aleutians East Borough School Board the Responsibility of a Centralized Treasury

MOTION

WARREN made a motion to accept Introduction Ordinance 23-02 to the floor and seconded by CHRIS

Administrator Bailey discussed both Ordinances 23-02 delegating to the Aleutians East Borough School Board responsibility of a centralized treasury and Ordinance 23-03, amending Title 6, Chapter 6.04,

Section 6.04.060 of the Aleutians East Borough Code of Ordinances. Per Alaska Statute Title 14 Section 14.14.060 Relationship between borough school district and borough; finances and buildings Subsection (a) states:

The borough assembly may by ordinance require that all school money be deposited in a centralized treasury with all other borough money. The borough administrator shall have the custody of, invest, and manage all money in the centralized treasury. However, the borough assembly, with the consent of the borough school board, may by ordinance delegate to the borough school board the responsibility of a centralized treasury.

In 1988/1989, the Borough Assembly approved Ordinance 89-7 establishing Section 6.04.060 of the Borough Code, which states:

There is established the borough centralized treasury. All municipal funds received by the borough, its school district, departments or other agencies of the borough shall be deposited in the borough centralized treasury.

Therefore, the Borough set up the School District's Checking, Payroll and Accounts Payable accounts which is under the Borough's umbrella. Borough Administration and Finance have met with the School District, both the business manager Dave Nielsen and the interim superintendent, Jack Walsh. It was agreed that we should consider de-coupling the accounts. We believe it was originally structured this way due to Alaska Statute, as outlined above, and for investment reasons when the School District formed. The investment problem no longer exists. The current structure creates problems during the Borough's annual audits as it distorts the Borough's cash on the balance sheet and makes it look like the Borough owes the School District money. It also prevents the School District from being able to make financial decisions within their accounts without approval from the Borough Finance Director.

One of the requirements in Alaska Statute Title 14 Section 14.14.060(a) to separate the accounts was to receive consent from the borough School Board to delegate to the school board the responsibility of a centralized treasury. On January 20, 2023, the Aleutians East Borough School Board approved Resolution 23-01 authorizing the Borough consent to delegate to the School District a centralized treasury, which is attached. Therefore, this requirement has been met.

The other requirements the Borough Assembly will need to do include:

1. Pass an ordinance delegating to the borough school board the responsibility of a centralized treasury;
2. Pass an ordinance amending Section 6.04.060 of the Borough Code. The suggested revision is as follows:

There is established the borough centralized treasury. All municipal funds received by the borough, departments or other agencies of the borough shall be deposited in the borough centralized treasury.

So we just take out the School District word from it. And that is outlined on Ordinance 23-03. If approved, the change will become effective on June 30, 2023, with the new financial structure effective on July 1, 2023. Borough Administration/Finance will work with the School District and KeyBank on de-coupling the accounts. Once the change occurs, the School District will continue to follow the proper principles of accounting and will submit the school budget for the following school year to the Borough by May 1 for approval, as outlined in Alaska Statute Title 14 Section 14.14.060(c).

PAUL asked if this passes the next meeting, will this require the school to change bank accounts or what would the school do to comply with this? Administrator Bailey replied, no, it will just basically transfer the account in their name. So right now, it is under our tax ID number, but I think it will just transfer that tax form.

ROLL CALL

Yeas: Josy, Jim, Chris, Warren, Paul, Brenda Advisory: Tom, Samantha

Nay: None

MOTION CARRIED

Introduction Ordinance 23-03, Amending Title 6, Chapter 6.04, Section 6.04.060 of the Aleutians East Borough Code of Ordinances

MOTION

BRENDA made a motion to accept Introduction Ordinance 23-03 to the floor and seconded by CHRIS

Administrator Bailey said she has nothing to add as it was discussed together with the Ordinance 23-02.

ROLL CALL

Yeas: Warren, Brenda, Paul, Jim, Chris, Josy Advisory: Samantha, Tom

Nay: None

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 23-36, Authorizing the Mayor to Negotiate and Execute a Contract with Chordata LLC for Software Application and Website Development Services in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.

MOTION

WARREN made a motion to approve Resolution 23-36 and second by BRENDA

Natural Resources Assistant Director Levy said On May 12, 2022, the Assembly approved the resolution 22-40 to bring a proposal to the Pacific State Marine Fishery Commission Cod Disaster Mitigation RFP to fund the continuation of the Cod Tagging Research that we started 2021 with the existing project team. In January 2023, 6 months passed into the anticipated award date which was scheduled in August of 2022, we received another award in the amount a little over \$2.2M which would be nearly full requested amount of the proposal. This award will support a full three-year project with two additional years of expanded fieldwork this year and next year. Several contracts will come before the assembly for this project. However, due to the delay in the awarding we're requesting the two contracts be expedited in the upcoming March 2023 fieldwork. Resolution 23-36 Contract with Chordata in the amount not to exceed \$30K will be for software and website development services. Eric Torgerson has been contracted previously on our pollock, salmon as well as Trawl EM project and has very specific subject matter expertise in software development relating to fisheries data. The scope of work for this project includes two objectives. The first adapting the Alaska fisheries science center open source Assessment Act, which is what we use to collect biological

specimens and adapted to also collect tag release information which proved to be very difficult and cumbersome with excel during the last few years. And the second objective is developing an interactive outreach website using our data that is linked through our markdown code, so that it can be continuously updated by the project team in perpetuity after the websites developed so we don't need an external contractor to help us maintain the website.

Resolution 23-37 is for Kingfisher Marine Research LLC in an amount not to exceed \$309,270. That is for Dr. Julie Nielsen to continue analyzing our tags and assist in fieldwork. Dr. Nielsen developed the geolocation model that we use for these tags, and has been participating in this project since its inception. On April 5, 2022 the Borough contracted Kingfisher for the 2022 work and these funds will support her continued work for this next three year project. This is essentially an extension of her previous contract, however, because these are completely separate monies, I think it's appropriate to do a completely separate contract.

She will lead the data analysis, model implementation, and assist with final research projects such as the distribution maps and the peer reviewed articles and she'll also be helping with the March 2023 field work.

PAUL asked for clarification about the source of the money for the project. Levy replied, so for the record, the grant that we're receiving from Pacific States is a no match grant and we have allocated *some funds to cover a portion of my salary to work on this project because it's so involved, as well as a small portion of Glennora as she'll be helping with some of the ongoing administration of the grant.*

Tom asked when can they start using the data to try to get the fishing stock of the Western Gulf for the little communities and fishermen. Natural Resources Assistant Director Levy said, I guess I'll just say on record that, you know, I think we're all fairly familiar with the federal fisheries process. And unfortunately, the feds are very thorough and meticulous but they're also very slow in terms of adopting new management, especially for such an important fishery. So we are on the third year into this project, and we have preliminary results that we've presented to stock assessment authors and they have started incorporating some of this information into their assessments. However, it's not incorporated into the model yet and the model is really what's used to determine all of quotas and allocation. And so I think at this point, the stock assessment authors in both the Bering Sea and the Gulf are looking at ways to sort of overhaul the existing management structure Pacific Cod and look at multi area models. You know, now recognizing that there is significant movement of fish between the Bearing Sea and the Western Gulf,. So it's gonna take a little bit more time because this is a very slow process, and it'll take a while to change Pacific Cod Management, but I'll have some more formal updates for you guys in the future on our Strategic Planning.

ROLL CALL

Yeas: Paul, Jim, Warren, Chris, Brenda, Josy Advisory: Tom, Samantha

Nay: None

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution 23-37, Authorizing the Mayor to Negotiate and Execute a Contract with Kingfisher Marine Research LLC for Pacific Cod Tagging Research in an amount not to Exceed \$309,270.

MOTION

BRENDA motion to approve Resolution 23-37 and second by JIM

This resolution was discussed together with Resolution 23-36.

ROLL CALL

Yeas: Jim, Chris, Brenda, Paul, Warren Advisory: Samantha, Tom
Nay: None

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution 23-38, Authorizing the Mayor to Negotiate and Execute a Contract Amendment with Moffatt & Nichol to Extend the Scope of Work for the Sand Point Harbor "A" Float Design Update Project in an Amount Not to Exceed \$248,998 and to Extend the Period of Performance to December 31, 2024

MOTION

WARREN motion to approve Resolution 23-38 and second by BRENDA

Administrator Bailey said The Sand Point New Harbor breakwater and dredging was completed in 2007 by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, a wharf was completed in 2008 and Float B was complete in 2011. The next phase for harbor development is to construct Float A. We had 55% level design completed by URS Alaska/AECOM, and then in 2017 we hired Moffat & Nichol to design permitting efforts to create a project that was bid ready and suitable for seeking funding in August 2022 the Borough entered into a separate contract with Moffat & Nicole to complete design and permitting updates to bring it in compliance with current codes and permitting requirements.

Just recently has recently awarded Harbor Matching Grant funds and the Borough has also received MARAD funds for this project. The MARAD grant has numerous grant requirements, which includes but is not limited to: Letters of Funds Availability, National Environmental Policy Act, Section 106, Engineering Risk Register, Risk Assessment, Federal Procurement and Grant Agreement Terms Negotiation. The borough will need assistance with numerous aspects of this work, especially the environmental portion of the project. It is anticipated that the bill will take approximately eight to 12 months to complete. The borough requested a proposal from Moffatt & Nichol to amend the existing contract to design updates to include project management, combining documents into a single bid ready package, design support which will need to be reviewed by MARAD, NEPA support and permit updates, which will also have to be reviewed by MARAD and bid support. Moffatt & Nichol has provided a proposal and the amount of \$248,998 to complete the additional scope of work for this are available on the Sandpoint/Akutan Floats line items. The Borough will also contact MARAD to see if this cost or a portion of it can be covered under the MARAD grant funds as a pre-award. We did not go out to bid. Moffatt and Nichol is very experienced in NEPA, environmental and permitting.

PAUL asked what the date December 2024 means in this resolution. Administrator Bailey said it will extend to December 31, 2024, that's when we anticipate the NEPA and other aspects of this project completed. PAUL asked what date we were working with before. Administrator Bailey said she thinks June.

ROLL CALL

Yeas: Chris, Warren, Paul, Josy, Brenda, Jim Advisory: Tom, Samantha

Nay: None

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution 23-39, Authorizing the Mayor to Negotiate and Execute a Memorandum of Understanding between the Aleutians East Borough and the Aleutians East Borough School District for the Sand Point K-12 School Major Maintenance Project

MOTION

JIM motion to approve Resolution 23-39 and second by WARREN

Administrator Bailey said The School District received a grant from the State of Alaska, Department of Education & Early Development to conduct major maintenance at the Sand Point School. The Borough would like to assume the responsibilities of the grant and be responsible for the project since the Borough is responsible for major maintenance projects and is providing the funding. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is being drafted establishing the roles and responsibilities of the Borough and School District with respect to the Sand Point K-12 School Major Maintenance Project. The project provides for renovations at the Sand Point K-12 School and pool, including Improve HVAC, improve security, replace fire alarm, replace intercom system, and renovate pool facility addition: upgrade restrooms and locker; replace metal roof and repair structure as required; reconstruct or repair exterior walls replace supply ventilation, ductwork, and controls; and improve drainage. Foundation work may occur if supported within the budget and after value analysis.

The Grant is in the amount of \$2,968,577. The Grant amount is \$1,929,575 and the Borough is responsible for paying the State of Alaska Recipients' Participating Share for this Project in the amount of \$1,039,002.00. An outline of the proposed roles and responsibilities for the Borough and District is included in the packet.

PAUL commented said he appreciates that the administration keeps on working on improving the school up to date and what's needed to be done. But I would urge the administration to prioritize getting this school and pool project done.

ROLL CALL

Yeas: Paul, Brenda, Chris, Jim, Warren, Dailey Advisory: Samantha, Tom
Nay: None

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution 23-40, Authorizing the Reappropriation of \$835,551 from the Cold Bay Clinic Line-Item (E 20-220-620-850) to the Sand Point School Line-Item (E 20-220-660-462)

MOTION

CHRIS motion to approve Resolution 23-40 and second by BRENDA

Administrator Bailey said the School District received a grant from the State of Alaska, Department of Education & Early Development to conduct major maintenance at the Sand Point School. The Grant is in the amount of \$2,968,577. The Grant amount is \$1,929,575 and the Borough is responsible for paying the State of Alaska Recipients' Participating Share for this Project in the amount of

process of drafting the Borough's FY2024 budget that it is unclear if there will be funds available for community budget requests this year. The requests are due on March 15, 2023. • Cold Bay Clinic: On January 16, 2023, I submitted the Revised Project-Specific Budget/Budget Justification for the HRSA grant. Administration is awaiting HRSA's review on this and the schematic design that was submitted in November 2022. Once this is complete then the Borough should be authorized to begin the design/construction portion of the project. • CAPSIS Request: On January 27, 2023, I submitted the CAPSIS request to the State Legislature for the Cold Bay Dock Design and Permitting Project. • Mayor Osterback and I are scheduled to go to Juneau on February 13th. • The Strategic Planning Session is scheduled for February 17th from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in Anchorage at The Nave. • I have also been continuously conducting day to day operations.

Assistant Administrator's Report in packet. Highlights below:

Sand Point School Capital Improvement Project: So, on January 11, 2023, the borough did receive the project agreement from DEED. The project agreement essentially captures the base understanding of what we have requested and the scope of work. So, funding for the project is at \$2,968, 577 with the Borough's participating share at a million. The downsized scope of work really focused on four major categories, which was structural ADA compliance, ventilation and electrical. They started with improving the HVAC system, they'd like to replace the ventilation equipment, provided exhaust ventilation system and replace the kitchen ventilation. Exhaust fans in the building will also have minor repairs made to ensure they are operating reliably, and exhaust fans will be added to the janitor and utility rooms to improve indoor air quality. In addition to the old kitchen exhaust will also be replaced. They also intend on improving the security. With this funding, they will plan on replacing the door hardware throughout the building to provide lever handlers required to be ADA compliant and to provide access control and lockdown function. They will also be adding an exterior main electrical disconnect. This is something that school was constructed without and a lack of a single disconnect is a safety issue. The outdated and problematic fire alarms on will be replaced with a new addressable system with a voice back evacuation as required by current code. If funding allows, they also like to allow better communication between the office and classroom which be which will be integrated with a phone system to improve versatility., this is with the replacement of the intercom.

A significant portion of this project will be going to renovating the Pool facility. So that includes but is not limited to upgrading the restrooms and locker rooms. This includes making them ADA compliant and correcting plumbing issue codes with showers. Also, fixtures, finishes and other work will be addressed in this work and a lack of sufficient heat in these places will also be addressed. They will be replacing the metal roof, structural items include starting with the wood foundation, water damage will be repaired and proper waterproofing and drainage provided. The exterior walls will also have longstanding water damage issues repaired, and proper vapor barrier installed to prevent a recurrence of these issues. Ventilation was a major portion of this funding. Ventilation issues included replacing air handlers, serving the pool. These are at the end of their service life and are not providing adequate ventilation per code. This work will be in conjunction with other structural and finish work happening in the area to avoid future destruction of the new work.

Maintenance: Administration has met with the school district superintendent to discuss roles and responsibilities regarding work orders capital improvement projects and direction moving forward on completing the work. Administration also continues to meet with DOWL and Evolution Pools weekly to discuss finishing the Pool work and it was very important to the children while also working on better communication to make sure that items are completed. List of the meeting attended is in the packet.

Communications Director Report in packet. Highlights below:

White Paper – Akun Dock & Breakwater project: The white paper for the Akun Dock & Breakwater project was finished during the first week of February (pending any new developments). Administration approved it, and I filed it in the shared drive. It's a very detailed report of the project's history up until the present. It

also has a folder containing reference documents, including Assembly Resolutions, helicopter agreements, EAS agreements and past conceptual vessel studies. I will continue to make updates to this white paper as the project progresses. The white paper will be included in the packet.

Press Releases: I've finished drafting two press releases, to be ready for when the 11- panel of judges from the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals rule on the King Cove land exchange lawsuit. I wrote one press release in case it goes in our favor, and the other, if it goes the other direction.

PowerPoint for Strategic Planning Meeting: Currently, I'm working on inserting photos throughout the PowerPoint that will be displayed during the Strategic Planning Session on February 17th. The photos are predominantly from photographer Kerry Tasker, and some were taken by staff taken of specific projects during assembly visits to the region.

Juneau Handouts: I'm also working on handouts for Mayor Osterback and Anne's visit to Juneau this month. These handouts will contain information and photos regarding projects, including the SandPoint Harbor Float A, the False Pass Airport, the Cold Bay Dock, the Akun Dock and Breakwater, the Akutan Harbor Float Project, the King Cove Access Project and the Sand Point School DEED Project.

Miscellaneous items:

- I'm going to start working on a new white paper on the Sand Point Harbor Floats Systems Project.
- Continuing work on the Community Alignment Initiative, focusing on people in the region who are contributing to making the communities a better place. These profiles will go in the Loop.
- This month, I will start posting photos from Kerry Tasker's photography to Facebook and Instagram for those interested in seeing the collection of imagery from our communities.

Mayor Osterback commented that as we are doing the white paper on current project and past projects. They are public documents so if anyone is interested, they are available.

Natural Resources Director Report in packet. Highlights below:

Alaska Board of Fisheries Detailed report is in the packet. The public comment deadline ended on Monday. Public comments are posted there's 192 over 600 pages and I noticed a lot of familiar names. So that's a good thing, that's kind of phase one. We have the public comments in and so now you can technically make comments if you fax them but realistically wait until the meeting starts on February 28, around 830 or nine, and there will be another link so you can submit our seeds record copies. WE are gearing up for the Board of Fish Meeting and hope to see you there. I traveled to Kodiak this week for a productive meeting with ADFG staff, some of our salmon fishermen and one Board member. We continue to be engaged with fishermen, ADFG staff, Board members and other stakeholders leading up to the February Board meeting. I also expect to submit personal comments by the February 23 comment deadline for the Statewide finfish meeting in March, in support of Proposal 161 to create a BoF groundfish management policy; Proposal 161 was heard at the October 2022 Pacific cod meeting and will be deliberated at the March Statewide meeting.

International Pacific Halibut Commission I included a chart of quotas for each areas. Halibut quotas are down each year except for one area. The IPHC held their annual meeting in Victoria, BC Canada January 23-27, 2023 and announced 2023 total constant exploitable yield (TCEY) for each IPHC area on the last day of the meeting. TCEY decreased in each area for this year except in area 2A. Commercial fishing for halibut in 2023 can begin no earlier than March 10.

North Pacific Fishery Management Council The Council is meeting in Seattle February 9-13, the AP meets Feb 7-10 and the SSC meets Feb 6-7. On the agenda, item C3 is consideration of an interim measure to waive vessel use caps for halibut IFQ in Area 4. Under D2 the council will review the groundfish PSEIS, D3 is a proposal to prioritize groundfish stock assessments, C5 is action on BSAI CP pot gear observers and under D4 the NPFMC will review the Trawl EM committee report. On the Council agenda for crab, C1 is final action on the Snow crab rebuilding plan, C2 Norton Sound King Crab specs and under D1 the Council will consider changes to the Aleutian Islands Golden King Crab fishery and processing arrangements. On February 7-8 the

SSC will hold a public workshop on the rapid ecosystem changes in the northern Bering and southern Chukchi Seas, and identifying effects on the management of Federal fisheries.

Subsistence The Federal Subsistence Board met this week and the agenda included proposals to rescind subsistence closures for Russell Creek/Nurse Lagoon and Trout Creek in the Cold Bay area. Both proposals had the support of the Kodiak/Aleutians and the Bristol Bay Regional Advisory Councils (RACs), as well as the Office of Subsistence Management. The Board rescinded the subsistence closures for both areas. Board of Fish Proposal 98 submitted by ADFG, to be considered at the AK Pen/AI/Chignik finfish meeting in February, would allow subsistence users to fish in waters closed to commercial fishermen regardless of when commercial fisheries are open, if subsistence users are not CFEC permit holders. Upcoming meetings are listed in the packet.

CHRIS commented he is encourage to see quite a few crab boats waiting to unload in Peterpan and Sand Point. So that is encouraging for Fish Tax. Asked he Ernie heard about the Trawler meetings in Seattle? Weiss replied the NPC met this week but other than that no further information.

PAUL asked Ernie regarding the Halibut quotas and the procedure that routinely goes before the council. Natural Resources Director Weiss responded he is not sure as to what procedure goes before the council but the season does open March 10 to December.

Assistant Natural Resources Director Report in packet. Highlights below:

Electronic Monitoring - WGOA3/EFP: I attended the Trawl EM committee on January 20th and presented on our WGOA EM-related projects. The committee will make a recommendation to the Council in February to roll TEMC into the Fisheries Monitoring Advisory Committee (FMAC). If that is approved, I have asked to put my name in for a seat on FMAC. FMAC will handle ongoing EM-related issues and undertake new EM programs. There is a pilot program for EM in Central Gulf rockfish, which will likely lead to EM in P cod bottom trawl. I am working on the Interim Programmatic Report due in March. We have techs out in Sand Point and King Cove right now doing maintenance on vessels, installing a camera in PPSF for EM in the Plants, and installing a Kiosk in Trident Kodiak.

Fixed-Gear EM Project No update on this at this time

Mariculture There have been multiple delays on this project. The local who has been working with us had some serious personal issues and was not able to get samples to the nursery; there have been issues with Alaska Sea Grant contract office and confirming insurance requirements; Alaska Sea Grant is delayed in their grants office and has not finalized the project extension, so we are unable to spend funds until this is resolved. GreenWave is hosting an in-person kelp harvest and market development workshop in Kodiak on April 16-18 and a handling and processing workshop April 19-21. There are travel stipends available by application which are due on February 17th. Registration is now open for the Mariculture Conference of Alaska, hosted by Alaska Sea Grant.

Board of Fisheries/Salmon We have had several salmon portal meetings and have a fully functional portal with the base elements needed for the fleet to self-manage in-season. A screenshot was included in my report. The fleet is really happy with how it turned out. And we've already started talking to people and board members in the department about the portal and the program. And I think everybody's very impressed with the fleet is doing. Alaska Department of Fish and Game has published results of the 2022 South Peninsula chum salmon genetics project. Generally, the results are positive and as expected: CWAK contributions to stock comp are lower than during WASSIP and the Asia reporting group dominated June fisheries.

AFSC Cod Tagging Project:

We received notice of award from PSMFC for \$2,238,265.00 for a three-year project period to continue the cod tagging work. I am working on two contracts for Chordata LLC and Kingfisher Marine Research LLC pending Assembly approval. We are currently preparing for field work that will take place approximately

March 10-31. There will a 14-day charter that spans from Sanak Island to east of Kodiak, and we will release 54 satellite tags. probably around 2000 conventional tags and lots and lots of biological samples as well as genetics. So, our project just so you know, contributes to many other projects that other people are working on and we're contributing samples to so like the genetics and blood stress sampling work and antifreeze compounds in their blood. I mean lots and lots of stuff going on that we're helping with.

Also I was in Seattle for the first day of the SSP, where we presented a couple of slides on our Cod Tagging work and Bob Foy, the director of AFSC did say that three of our cod satellite tags told him more about cod behaviors than last 20 years of research.

PAUL asked how the satellite tags will be released. Natural Resources Assistant Director Levy said so we basically do one to two tags per day depending on how close they are to each other. And we have 10 sites that we've mapped out basically across the Gulf. So at every site, we drop five different pots, and we let them soak for a couple hours. And from each pot, we satellite tag four or five fish, we pull six random samples for biological and then the rest of them we release with conventional tags. So we do that for five to six different pots every day and then we have to calculate in time between areas which I'm sure is you know, pretty far to get from Sanak to east of Kodiak. 14 days is our max but we anticipate if we have decent weather we can get a lot of that done in shorter time. PAUL asked which boat is involved in this tagging study. Levy said F/V Decision.

Mayor Osterback commented he appreciates all the staff and all the work they do.

ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

Paul commented that there will be an auction at the SWAMC and a lot of people donates items that reminds people of how important each area to the region and ask if people want to donate item for auction to get a hold of Shirley. They received 2 applications as Shirley will be retiring.

CHRIS asked Ernie about the ferry schedule this coming summer for the Aleutians. Weiss replied he is not aware of it but thinks the public comment may have had passed.

Paul commented he saw a proposed schedule 5 ferries starting in May.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

NEXT MEETING DATE

Regular Assembly Meeting March 9, 2023

ADJOURNMENT

WARREN moved to adjourn. Hearing no more, the meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.



Mayor Alvin D. Osterback



Beverly Ann Rosete, Borough Clerk

Date: 3/13/2023

