



# Northwest Arctic Borough

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## SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF:

Ambler Buckland Candle Deering Kivalina Kiana  
Kobuk Kotzebue Noatak Noorvik Selawik Shungnak

**Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly**  
**Budget, Audit & Finance Committee Meeting Minutes**  
Monday, March 23, 2015 – 9:00 A.M.  
Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly Chambers – Kotzebue, AK

### CALL TO ORDER

Madam Chair Lucy Nelson called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

### INVOCATION

Mr. Miles Cleveland provided the invocation.

### ROLL CALL

#### Budget, Audit and Finance Committee Members Present:

Miles Cleveland Sr.      *Pete Schaeffer*      *Lucy Nelson*

#### Other Members Present

Carl Weisner              Walter Sampson              Hendy Ballot              Clyde Ramoth  
Chloe Naylor              Nathan Hadley              *Vern Cleveland*              *Frank Greene*

#### Introduction of Staff and Guests

Wendie Schaeffer              Christine Hess              Kathleen Lansdale              Stella Atoruk  
Martha Henry

**A quorum was present to conduct business.**

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agenda presented for March 23, 2015 for approval.

Acting Mayor Wendie Schaeffer added under item “K – Other Business” Litigation to challenge the listing of the ring seal as an endangered species act threatened species to the agenda.

~~President Weisner added brief discussion on Senate Bill 64 to the agenda.~~

Member Sampson suggest to have that as a full discussion with the full assembly.

President Weisner strike Senate Bill 64, we can discuss that at a later time.

**Member Miles Cleveland motioned, President Weisner seconded to approve the agenda as amended.**

### **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Minutes of February 23, 2015 Budget, Audit and Finance presented for approval.

**Member Schaeffer motioned, Member Miles Cleveland seconded to approve the minutes as presented.**

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Judy Hassinger provided a summary of the financial report ending February 28, 2015.

President Weisner requested an update on the GEO Bond Debt Closing.

Judy Hassinger provided a summary of the GEO Bond Debt Closing.

### **COMMUNICATIONS AND APPEARANCES**

None presented.

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS, ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCES & EMERGENCY ORDINANCES**

1. **Ordinance 14-01 am 02** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly providing for the establishment and adoption of the line item budget amendment for the Fiscal Year 2015.*

Presented by Judy Hassinger

President Weisner is the Joint meeting covered under the Assembly's budget? Also there was a question about the Assembly Member's attending the NANA meeting not being in the budget but I understand that it was in the budget in the past and I just want to throw that out there for the Budget, Audit, and Finance Committee members, so if you were wanting to put that in the Budget for next year now might be the time, it is kind of a lean year.

Member Cleveland recommends do pass

2. **Ordinance 15-04** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a contract for legal services with Vinson & Elkins and for related purposes.*

Presented by Wendie Schaeffer

Member Schaeffer recommends do pass

## INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

None Presented

## RESOLUTIONS

1. **Resolution 15-14** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a professional services agreement with WHPacific to continue developing a regional energy plan and for related purposes.*

Presented by Ingemar Mathiasson

Member Sampson requests a breakdown in regards to what Organizations are doing with regard to their energy plans, what AVEC is doing, what NANA is doing and how the Borough is related to working with the two entities and how much of the dollars are coming through those Organizations?; And what regards to what and how the State is looking at energy crisis throughout the State, with the new administration I know they indicated that they would be interested in looking at making improvements on Energy statewide, do you have any idea where the state is at with that?; What is being passed out is a community profile Russian Mission how does that relate to the Region? Do you have a print out of what it might look like for Northwest?

Member Schaeffer recommends do pass

## OTHER BUSINESS

### Discussion on Litigation on the Ringed Seal

Presented by Christine Hess

Member Sampson request it be in form of a Resolution; it is critical that we stay involved with some of these things that have an impact on the livelihood of our people that utilize that resource, the next target is going to be beluga, these are some of the resources that will continue to get on the list and the impact is on the people that utilize and use that resource for subsistence purposes so it's critical to help out where we can or somebody else is taking charge or taking the lead on handling some of these things and it's critical that we help out dollar wise as well.

Judy Hassinger per your email we had estimated the cost for this litigation to be \$20,000? So that would fall under the Mayor's authority to enter into an agreement.

Christine Hess yes it does but the Mayor asked me to bring it to the Assembly and gage their interest and then proceed from there.

President Weisner would an amendment for the budget be needed because im not sure this is budgeted, is that right?

Judy Hassinger that's correct.

Christine Hess one of the things the mayor just asked me to bring it to the assembly, gage their interest and I was going to talk to Judy and Matt and see if it's possible to come out of the Landye Bennett contract.

Member Miles Cleveland recommend do pass

Member Sampson suggest also work with Judy to possibly amending the budget to include that.

#### **COMMITTEE COMMENTS**

No comments provided.

#### **AUDIENCE COMMENTS**

No audience comments presented.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 9:35 A.M.

**Member Schaeffer motioned to adjourn.**