



# Northwest Arctic Borough

163 Lagoon Street  
P.O. Box 1110 Kotzebue, Alaska 99752  
(907) 442-2500 Fax (907) 442-2930  
www.nwabor.org

Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly  
Regular Telephonic Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, February 23, 2022 – 9:00 A.M.  
Assembly Chambers – Kotzebue, AK

## CALL TO ORDER

President Hadley called the meeting to order at 9:02 A.M.

## INVOCATION/MOMENT OF SILENCE

Member Loon provided the invocation.

## SAFETY MOMENT

Member Loon encouraged everyone to be cautious with the overflow conditions on the land and in creeks.

Member Lincoln Carr thanked President Hadley for requesting that everyone use their masks for health and safety reasons.

Ms. Tessa Baldwin, Public Safety Director, commented about overflow hazards near the Callahan Shelter Cabin.

Member Ballot commented about the snow piles and to be careful driving around them as there are children or pedestrians playing or walking around them. She also requested that everyone use their masks and get vaccinated.

Member Sampson translated all the safety moment comments to the Inupiaq language.

## ROLL CALL/MEMBER EXCUSAL

Assembly Members present at the time of roll call:

Elmer Armstrong Jr.	Tanya Ballot	Delores Barr	Miles Cleveland
Sandy Shroyer Beaver	Hannah Loon	Walter Sampson	Dood Lincoln Carr
Nathan Hadley Jr.	Austin Swan Sr.	Reid Magdanz	

**Member Carr motioned, Member Sampson seconded to excuse Member Shroyer Beaver from the February 23, 2022, Regular Meeting. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.**

## Introduction of Staff and Guests

Dickie Moto Sr.	Matt Mead	Angie Sturm	Clay Nordlum
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Ambler Ivisaappaat, Buckland Nunatchiaq, Deering Ipnatchiaq, Kiana Katyaak, Kivalina Kivalieiq, Kobuk Laugviik, Kotzebue Qikiqtabruk, Noatak Nautaaq, Noorvik Nuurvik, Selawik Akulibaq, Shungnak Isifnaq



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Helena Hildreth	Carl Weisner	<i>Ingemar Mathiasson</i>	<i>Judy Chapman, D.O.T.</i>
Fritz Westlake	Tessa Baldwin	Will Wiese, Selawik Wildlife Refuge	
Alex Hansen, ADF&G	Elizabeth Ferguson, NANA		<i>Toni Giardini, Trilogy Metals</i>
Hans Nelson	Jaylynn Rogers	Greta Schuerch, TECK	
Ramzi Fawaz, Ambler Metals			

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

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Carl Weisner requested to add Ambler Metals and NANA to discuss the Department of Interior's decision regarding the Ambler Mining Road. Mayor Moto to add an update with Brice Construction to Item G. Member Loon asked when will the Assembly be addressing the audit and President Hadley commented that Borough Treasurer Sturm will be addressing it during her report.

**Member Sampson motioned to approve the agenda as amended; Member Ballot seconded. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.**

### APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Regular meeting minutes of December 28, 2021 as presented.

**Member Magdanz motioned to approve the December 28, 2021, Regular minutes as presented, Member Cleveland seconded. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.**

### COMMUNICATIONS AND APPEARANCES

**1. Will Wiese, Selawik National Wildlife Refuge**

Mr. Will Wiese, Selawik National Wildlife Refuge and Mr. Alex Hansen, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, provided a brief update on the status of the Western Arctic Caribou Herd and the recent population.

**2. Ramzi Fawaz, Trilogy Metals and Liz Cravalho, NANA**

Mr. Fawaz and Ms. Cravalho provided an update on the recent decision by the Interior Department to request the Court remand the Ambler Road Right-A-Way decision.

**3. Judy Chapman, State of Alaska Department of Transportation Planning Chief**

Ms. Judy Chapman provided a brief update and explanation on Ordinance 22-01 regarding the establishment of a Regional Transportation Planning Organization.

**4. Silas Bennington, Superintendent Brice Construction, Cape Blossom Road Update.**





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Mr. Silas Bennington, and Mr. Marcus Trivett gave an update on the Cape Blossom Ice Road.

**A Ten-minute break was taken at 10:58 am.**

**The meeting reconvened from break at 11:16 am.**

## 5. Mayor's Recognition – Mayor's Office

Ms. Jaylynn Rogers, Administrator to the Mayor, presented a recognition plaque for the late Elder Ms. Lucy Adams and Elder Mr. Calvin Moto for their recognition of the years of service for the Northwest Arctic Borough.

## **BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES**

### 1. Budget, Audit and Finance Committee

President Hadley reported the committee met and reviewed the resolutions, ordinances and recommended for approval by the full assembly.

### 2. Financial Report, Angie Sturm, Borough Treasurer

Ms. Angie Sturm, Borough Treasurer, provided a summary of Expenditure and Revenue Financials for the month ending January 31, 2021.

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

1. **Ordinance 21-14** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly amending Chapter 12.12 of the Borough Code to update the Fire Department Code, and for related purposes.*

Ms. Tessa Baldwin Public Safety Director, highlighted Ordinance 21-14 and Mayor Moto recommended approval.

**Member Loon motioned to approve Ordinance 21-14 for enactment, seconded by Member Magdanz. A call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.**

1. **Ordinance 21-15** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly amending*

*Chapter 12.08 of the Borough Code to update the Public Safety Commission Code, and for related purposes.*

Ms. Tessa Baldwin, Public Safety Director, highlighted Ordinance 21-15 and Mayor Moto recommended approval.



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**Member Loon motioned to approve Ordinance 21-15 for enactment, seconded by Member Shroyer Beaver. A roll call was conducted and the motion unanimously.**

### ASSEMBLY REPORTS

Member Loon reported that she attended the COVID Borough Taskforce, and they met on February 10, 2022, and she heard updates from Ms. Sharon Kurz, Maniilaq Hospital Administrator, and she appreciates the villages who have been calling in for the meeting also.

Member Magdanz reported that he participated in the Joint Construction and Maintenance Committee (JCMC) and they heard updates on the JNES Roof Replacement, Buckland HVAC project, next steps for the Deering School and the ATC family housing.

Member Swan reported that he attended a meeting in Kivalina regarding the landfill in preparation for a cleanup and then selecting a new landfill site.

President Armstrong reported that he attended the AML Winter Conference Legislative Session and they heard from various Directors from Governor Dunleavy's administration. They also heard a report from the Alaska State Troopers and that it was a good conference.

President Hadley reported that he also attended the AML Winter Conference where they received a lot of good information and moving forward with the Governor's budget. They had lunch meeting with the Borough's consultant Ms. Wendy Chamberlain. Ms. Tessa Baldwin met with Department of Public Safety Commissioner, and they shared the VPSO regulations and potential changes that is going to benefit our region. They also attended a Senate Hearing pm SB81 regarding the VPSO Program.

### MAYORS REPORT

Mayor Dickie Moto Sr. allowed each Department Director to provide updates from their respective departments. Mr. Carl Weisner, Public Services Director, Mr. Fritz Westlake, Community and Economic Development Director, Ms. Tessa Baldwin, Public Safety Director and Mr. Clay Nordlum, Planning Department Director briefly highlighted their reports as stated in the meeting packet.

Member Magdanz thanked the administration for their diligent work on the VPSO program and continuing to move forward in the hiring process and outreach for this important program.





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Member Ballot commented that although Selawik has a State Trooper, but they are still in need of a VPSO office due to the size of the village, as the Trooper and VPSO Officer have only so much they can do, in terms of their position and duties.

## TIME & PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

Mayor Moto recommended a Regular meeting on March 21-22, 2022, with the BAF Work session Meeting on Monday, March 21, 2022, at 1:00 pm and the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, March 22, 2022, at 9:00 am.

**By unanimous consent of the Assembly the next meeting dates of March 21-22, 2022, were recommended, as set in code.**

## INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

**1. Ordinance 22-01** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly to adopt Chapter 10.24 of the Borough Code to establish a Regional Transportation Planning Organization, and for related purposes.*

Mayor Moto summarized Ordinance 22-01 and recommended approval.

**Member Sampson motioned to approve Ordinance 22-01 for enactment at the next Regular Meeting, seconded by Member Loon. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed by a majority 8-2, and with Member Shroyer Beaver absent during action.**

## RESOLUTIONS

**1. Joint Resolution 22-01** *a resolution of the City Council of the City of Kotzebue and the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly supporting the City of Kotzebue's application for the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity ("Raise") Grant in the amount of Nine Million and Thirty-Seven Thousand Dollars (\$9,037,000) as part of the Local Regional Project Assistance Program within the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act ("Bipartisan Infrastructure Law") for Cape Blossom Site Development and to share equally the cost of developing and submitting this grant application in the amount of Twenty-Seven Thousand, Nine Hundred Dollars (\$27,900).*

Mayor Moto summarized Resolution 22-01 Resolution and recommended approval.

**Member Sampson motioned to approve Joint Resolution 22-01, seconded by Member Magdanz. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed by a majority 9-1, and with Member Shroyer Beaver absent during action.**

**2. Resolution 22-02** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly*



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Accepting a grant from the State of Alaska American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) COVID State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, and for related purposes.

Mr. Carl Weisner summarized Resolution 22-02 and recommended approval.

**Member Ballot motioned to approve Resolution 22-02, seconded by Member Sampson. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously with Member Barr and Member Shroyer absent during action.**

**3. Resolution 22-03** a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving amendment of an Agreement with the Northwest Arctic Borough School District to upgrade the Buckland School HVAC System, and for related purposes.

Mr. Carl Weisner summarized Resolution 22-03 and recommended approval shar

**Member Sampson motioned to approve Resolution 22-03, seconded by Member Magdanz. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously with Member Barr and Member Shroyer Beaver absent during action.**

**4. Resolution 22-04** a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly Approving adoption of a Winter Trail Staking Policy, and for related purposes.

Mayor Moto summarized Resolution 22-04 and recommended approval.

**Member Sampson motioned to approve Resolution 22-04, seconded by Member Cleveland. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously with Member Barr, Member Ballot and Member Shroyer Beaver absent during action.**

**5. Resolution 22-05** a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly Ratifying the mayor's appointment of the Teck Nominee to the Community and Economic Development Commission.

Mayor Moto summarized Resolution 22-05 and did not recommended approval.

**Member Sampson motioned to approve Resolution 22-05, seconded by Member Ballot. A roll call was conducted, and the motion FAILED by a majority 6-3, with Member Barr and Member Shroyer Beaver absent during action.**





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### AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Ms. Lorena Walker, Kiana resident, thanked the Assembly and Administration for having the Borough meeting on the radio as there is a lot of good information shared.

### ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

Member Cleveland expressed his condolences to those who have lost their loved ones, the Jones and Tickett families in Ambler, Ak.

Member Swan thanked everyone for a good meeting.

Member Armstrong gave his condolences to those who have lost their loved ones recently and he thanked everyone for good discussions at this meeting. He thanked the administration for the reports and the Assembly for working together.

Member Ballot thanked the assembly and administration for a good meeting, and she gave her condolences to the families who lost their loved ones. She encouraged the villages to encourage their leadership to step up for our region as great opportunities are coming our way.

Member Ballot thanked the administration for the reports and updates, and she looks forward to the work that will be continuing, in terms of the ordinances and resolutions. She expressed her condolences to the families who have lost their loved ones and she appreciates all the work that is being done.

Member Loon thanked everyone for a good meeting and reports and discussions. She thanked the presenters Brice, NANA, Teck, and Ambler Metals for their updates. She gave her condolences to the families who have recently lost their loved ones also.

Member Magdanz appreciates all the updates from the administration and presenters. He commented about the Ambler Road project and the lawsuit regarding the supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) statement. He is not comfortable yet with the process as there are questions that are not legally answered yet; and there are risks and costs involved.

Member Sampson thanked the administration and assembly for a good meeting and that we need to have a good position and clear message from the villages whether we support or undecided yet for the development of the Ambler Mining District.

Member Carr expressed her condolences to the families who have lost their loved ones and that we want to share in your grief. She commented on local hire list that she is



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requesting from Brice Construction. She thanked the presenters Ambler and Trilogy Metals for their presentations and that it is important to support what our constituents believe in. She thanked the presenters from the Selawik Wildlife Refuge and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game for the caribou update and that they take note that it is a big loss to our residents. She requested that all borough equipment and vehicles be labeled as Northwest Arctic Borough property. Lastly, she thanked Mayor Moto and President Hadley for a good meeting, and to the Assembly for their commitment on issues.

President Hadley thanked the assembly, administration and the Clerks for their preparation for this meeting and for all the good information provided. He reported that he would like to see more tribal involvement on the EIS process as we know now there is a delay and that our voice is important. He thanked the administration for pushing the public safety issues for our villages. He thanked the three upper Kobuk Tribal villages who participated in the D.C. meeting regarding the development of the Ambler Road.

### **MAYORS COMMENTS**

Mayor thanked the administration for their good work and to the Assembly for asking the hard questions. He commented that they are looking forward to getting out to the villages and hope to see the decline in COVID so that travel can be possible.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Member Magdanz motioned; Member Carr seconded to adjourn. With no other business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 1:31 PM.