

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 Meeting Minutes Tuesday, July 26, 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 Shroyer Beaver encouraged safety for the children as they are excited about returning to school fulltime. She welcomed the new school staff to the Northwest Arctic Borough.

Member Sampson commented about the windy weather and encouraged boaters to be alert.

Member Loon encouraged everyone to enjoy and gather the subsistence resources we are having this season as we live in an area that with high cost of energy and goods and services that is on the rise.

ROLL CALL/MEMBER EXCUSAL

Assembly Members present at the time of roll call:

Delores Barr

Miles Cleveland

Dood Lincoln Carr Tanva Ballot

Sandy Shroyer Beaver Hannah Loon

Walter Sampson

Reid Magdanz

Nathan Hadley Jr.

Austin Swan Sr.

Assembly Members absent at the time of roll call:

Elmer Armstrong Jr. (exc.)

Member Carr motioned to excuse Member Armstrong, Member Shroyer Beaver seconded the motion. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.

A quorum was present to conduct business.

Introduction of Staff and Guests



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Dickie Moto Sr. Helena Hildreth Ariana Erlich Erin Stephens Elizabeth Ferguson

Matt Mead Tessa Baldwin Hiram Walker

Angie Sturm Shayne Schaeffer Ingemar Mathiasson Saima Chase Hans Schaeffer

Clay Nordlum Nettie Allen Carl Weisner Tanya Kirk

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Member Shroyer Beaver requested to add Resolution 22-47 to Item N. Resolutions. President Hadley requested to add Ms. Candy Barlow, Manillag Health Center COVID update to Item G. Communication and Appearances. Member Sampson requested to add Search and Rescue and Ambler Road Permit Application to Item O. Other Business.

Member Shroyer Beaver motioned to approve the agenda as amended; Member Carr seconded. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously with Member Ballot absent during action.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Regular meeting minutes of May 10, 2022 and June 28, 2022, as presented.

Member Sampson motioned to approve the May 10, 2022 and June 28, 2022 Regular minutes as presented. Member Carr seconded the motion. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS AND APPEARANCES

1. Candy Barlow - Maniilaq Health Center COVID Update

Mr. Carl Weisner, Public Services Director, provided a brief update on COVID cases as Ms. Barlow was unavailable to present.

BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

1. Budget, Audit and Finance Committee

Madam BAF Chair Shroyer Beaver 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 June 30, 2022.

PUBLIC HEARINGS, ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCES & EMERGENCY ORDINANCES

1. Ordinance 22-07 an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly Amending Borough Code to add Juneteeth to the list of Recognized Holidays under Section 3.20.130 of the Borough Code.



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Mayor Moto summarized Ordinance 22-07 and recommended approval.

Member Shroyer Beaver motioned to approve Ordinance 22-06 for enactment, seconded by Member Carr. A call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.

ASSEMBLY REPORT

Member Lincoln Carr reported that she attended the Joint Planning Session with the North Slope Borough and the NAB in Utkiagvik and it was refreshing to see their programs and the common problems and issues that both borough's encounter; and also to see how we came across the agreement between both boroughs and the need to meet jointly.

Member Shroyer Beaver reported that she also attended the Joint Planning meeting with the North Slope Mayor's office in Utqiagvik. She commented about the Ilisagvik College and the great curriculum they have and she asked if they have programs, they can offer in terms of developing a partnership.

Member Loon reported that her and Member Cleveland attended the ICC General Assembly meeting virtually with the four countries of Greenland, Chukotka, Canada and Alaska on July 18-21, 2022. They adopted the ICC declaration which is a living document that is used to voice out to the United Nations for the Inuit to be recognized in terms of mental health, language education and cross bordering.

Member Cleveland thanked Member Loon for the ICC update as he had technical difficulties at times with connection. The next ICC Meeting is scheduled next year in Nuuk, Greenland. He thanked the Borough for allowing ICC to utilize the Assemby Chambers in Kotzebue allowing residents to listen in.

Member Sampson reported he is a member of the ICC Food Security Program Committee and a full report is included from each Inuit nation.

President Hadley reported that he also attended a meeting with Senator Murkowski's office in regard to bulk fuel and he thought that it went well. He also attended the Joint planning meeting in Utqiagvik and he thanked Members Shroyer Beaver and Lincoln Carr for covering that report.

MAYORS REPORT

Mayor Dickie Moto Sr. thanked each department for doing a good job working on their priorities and the importance of lobbying efforts for bulk fuel, housing, and public safety issues, etc. Mayor Moto allowed each Department Director to provide updates from their



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respective departments. Mr. Clay Nordlum, Planning Department Director, Mr. Carl Weisner, Public Services Director, Mr. Fritz Westlake, Community and Economic Development Director, and Ms. Tessa Baldwin, Public Safety Director briefly highlighted their reports as presented in the meeting packet.

A Fifteen-minute break was taken at 10:45 am. The meeting reconvened from break at 11:02 am.

TIME & PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

Mayor Moto recommended a Regular meeting on August 22-23, 2022, with the BAF Work session Meeting on Monday, August 22, 2022, at 1:00 pm and the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, August 23, 2022, at 9:00 am.

By unanimous consent of the Assembly the next meeting dates of August 22-23, 2022, were recommended, as set in code.

RESOLUTIONS

1. <u>Resolution 22-33</u> a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving an FY23 Ground Lease for Storage Equipment and for related purposes.

Mayor Moto summarized Resolution 22-33 and recommended approval.

Member Shroyer Beaver motioned to approve Resolution 22-33, seconded by Member Loon. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously with Member Barr absent during action.

2. <u>Resolution 22-34</u> a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving an updated facility usage fee agreement with the Northwest Arctic Borough School District, and for related purposes.

Mayor Moto summarized Resolution 22-34 and recommended approval.

Member Sampson motioned to approve Resolution 22-34, seconded by Member Loon. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously with Member Barr absent during action.

3. <u>Resolution 22-35</u> a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly ratifying Tristen Pattee's appointment as the Teck Alaska nominee to the Community and Economic Development Commission.



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May Moto summarized Resolution 22-35 and recommended approval.

Member Carr motioned to approve Resolution 22-35, seconded by Member Cleveland. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously Member Barr absent during action.

4. <u>Resolution 22-36</u> a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly Confirming the appointment of Billy Lee to the Northwest Arctic Borough Public Safety Commission.

Mayor Moto summarized Resolution 22-36 and recommended approval.

Member Carr motioned to approve Resolution 22-36, seconded by Member Magdanz. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously with Member Barr absent during action.

5. <u>Resolution 22-37</u> a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly Approving a Village Improvement Fund Application from the City of Ambler for the Biomass Boiler Project.

Mayor Moto summarized Resolution 22-37 and recommended approval.

Member Shroyer Beaver motioned to approve Resolution 22-37, seconded by Member Loon. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.

6. <u>Resolution 22-38</u> a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly Approving a Village Improvement Fund Application from the Aqqaluk Trust for the Leadership thru Generations Project.

Failed due to a lack of a motion and second.

7. <u>Resolution 22-39</u> a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly Approving a Village Improvement Fund Application from the City of Buckland for the Erosion Control Project.

Mayor Moto summarized Resolution 22-39 and recommended approval.

Member Sampson motioned to approve Resolution 22-39, seconded by Member Loon. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.



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8. <u>Resolution 22-40</u> a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly Approving a Village Improvement Fund Application from the City of Ambler for the Heavy Equipment Project.

Mayor Moto summarized Resolution 22-40 and recommended approval.

Member Carr motioned to approve Resolution 22-40, seconded by Member Loon. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.

9. <u>Resolution 22-41</u> a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly Approving a Village Improvement Fund Application from the City of Kotzebue for the Police Drone and Wellness Program

Mayor Moto summarized Resolution 22-41 and recommended approval.

Member Carr motioned to approve Resolution 22-41, seconded by Member Loon. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously with Member Shroyer Beaver abstaining from action.

10. <u>Resolution 22-42</u> a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly Approving a Village Improvement Fund Application from the City of Kotzebue for the Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus Packs (SCBA) Replacement Project.

Mayor Moto summarized Resolution 22-42 and recommended approval.

Member Carr motioned to approve Resolution 22-42, seconded by Member Magdanz. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously with Member Shroyer Beaver abstaining from action.

11. <u>Resolution 22-43</u> a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly Approving a Village Improvement Fund Application from the City of Kobuk for the New Community Building Project.

Mayor Moto summarized Resolution 22-43 and recommended approval.

Member Carr motioned to approve Resolution 22-43, seconded by Member Loon. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.



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12. <u>Resolution 22-44</u> a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a Village Improvement Fund Application from the Noorvik Native Community for the Noorvik Road Construction and Maintenance Program.

Mayor Moto summarized Resolution 22-44 and recommended approval.

Member Sampson motioned to approve Resolution 22-44, seconded by Member Loon. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.

13. <u>Resolution 22-45</u> a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a Village Improvement Fund Application from the Native Village of Selawik for the Gravel Access Route Feasibility Study.

Mayor Moto summarized Resolution 22-45 and recommended approval.

Member Shroyer Beaver motioned to approve Resolution 22-45, seconded by Member Carr. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously with Member Ballot abstaining from action.

14. <u>Resolution 22-46</u> a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a Village Improvement Fund Application from the City of Selawik for the Selawik Safety Upgrade of the Multipurpose Building.

Mayor Moto summarized Resolution 22-46 and recommended approval.

Member Carr motioned to approve Resolution 22-46, seconded by Member Cleveland. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously with Member Ballot abstaining from action.

15. <u>Resolution 22-47</u> a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving an agreement with the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities for airport vegetation clearing and for related purposes.

Mayor Moto summarized Resolution 22-47 and recommended approval.

Member Sampson motioned to approve Resolution 22-47, seconded by Member Barr. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS



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Ms. Tanya Kirk, Teck Noatak Liason, thanked the Borough for attending the Teck Noatak IRA meeting in Noatak last week regarding the high cost of energy in the villages.

Ms. Minnie Foster, Buckland resident, thanked the Borough for the report on Search and Rescue and the FY23 budgets. She also requested that the borough utilize the borough inventory for the villages.

Ms. Jane Cleveland, Ambler resident, commented about the high cost of energy and the inability for the barge to deliver fuel to the Upper Kobuk area due to shallow waters. Mayor Moto commented he will be meeting with NANA and Denali Commission August 9, 2022 to discuss the Upper Kobuk bulk fuel storage. Member Sampson commented that we need to get a firm position in regard to support of the road system in the Upper Kobuk. He believes we need to work harder for the needs of the Upper Kobuk villages. He requested that we could acquire emergency funds for needs such as this and Mayor Moto reported that we do have emergency funds available.

ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

Member Barr thanked everyone for their participation in this meeting as there was a lot of good discussion. We have a lot of important challenges to work on and that we can work together to address these needs. She thanked the villages for turning in their Village Improvement Fund (VIF) applications and she encouraged the other villages to find their champions for an opportunity to receive funded projects through the VIF funding. She expressed her condolences to those who have lost their loved ones and wish everyone a good summer. Lastly, she wished all the students a good school year and hopes to see a lot less of COVID cases.

Member Sampson thanked Mayor Moto and Assembly for a good meeting and he mentioned that we have discussed the barge issue before with the inability to make it to the Upper Kobuk villages due to the shallow and changing channels of the Kobuk River and the Noatak River. He commented that it is time to address this issue with resources for the short term but that we still need to find a solution for the long term.

Member Magdanz commented that it is good to see Village Improvement funds going to our villages and he thanked the Village Improvement Commission (VIC) Commission who reviews the applications and then forwarding them onto the assembly for their approval. He recommended that the Borough could assist with maintenance of new equipment in the villages given our role in funding the VIF projects.

Member Ballot thanked everyone for good discussions in the BAF Work session and that she is honored to be a part of the assembly. She encouraged the communities to submit



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their VIF applications.

Member Loon thanked everyone for a good meeting at the BAF Worksession and that it is important to work together and that the VIF applications look very good and she thanked the VIC Commission for reviewing the applications.

Member Swan thanked everyone for a good meeting and the staff for their hard work. He commented that the construction at the new school site transferred the duplexes and that the work is going along well.

Member Cleveland thanked everyone for a good meeting and he commented about the importance of building the Ambler Road in terms of lowering the cost of living.

Member Shroyer Beaver commented that the Kivalina School which will be open soon and that it will be tough at times being on the road system as mother nature is the boss. She requested that we plan a meeting in Kivalina sometimes in the future. She encouraged everyone to vote so that changes can be made and she thanked NANA, Maniilaq and Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) for the land for our schools, for COVID updates, and environmentally friendly equipment like solar panels. She expressed that lobbying is important for programs such as the VPSO program and that we need to continue it. She thanked Mayor and staff for all the work they are doing and she encouraged students to apply for FRF Scholarship.

Member Carr thanked Mayor Moto and staff for arranging the trip to Utqiagvik, Ak to attend the joint planning meeting with the North Slope Borough Mayor and his administration, as we have common issues such as the Transporter's coming into our region to hunt. She commented that another issue discussed was the housing and VPSO issue which is need in our borough. She thanked Mayor and the Assembly for their lobbying efforts for our borough residents because this is our home and we are here to stay.

President Hadley thanked the mayor and staff for their department reports and that we review a lot and feel that it is important that we move forward with the work we are currently such as for Cape Blossom and Kivalina. He thanked the village leadership for their decisions they make and the support they receive from one another.

MAYORS COMMENTS

Mayor Moto thanked everyone for a good meeting and that it is important to discuss concerns and improvements for the needs of our people.



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ADJOURNMENT

Member Carr motioned; Member Loon seconded to adjourn. With no other business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 12:18 PM.