



# Northwest Arctic Borough

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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  
Tuesday, July 27, 2021 – 9:00 A.M.  
Assembly Chambers – Kotzebue, AK

## CALL TO ORDER

President Hadley called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

## INVOCATION/MOMENT OF SILENCE

Member Loon provided the invocation.

## SAFETY MOMENT

Member Sampson commented about the fall weather and he encouraged boating safety to everyone and to be sure and pass that knowledge on to our children and grandchildren.

## ROLL CALL/MEMBER EXCUSAL

Assembly Members present at the time of roll call:

|                                     |                      |                                     |                 |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Elmer Armstrong Jr.                 | Tanya Ballot         | Delores Barr                        | Austin Swan Sr. |
| Miles Cleveland                     | Sandy Shroyer Beaver | Hannah Loon                         | Walter Sampson  |
| Dood Lincoln Carr                   | Nathan Hadley Jr.    | Kayden Ticket, Youth Representative |                 |
| Tahayla Baker, Youth Representative |                      |                                     |                 |

## Introduction of Staff and Guests

|                 |               |                |               |
|-----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| Lucy S. Nelson  | Matt Mead     | Angie Sturm    | Eva Harvey    |
| Helena Hildreth | Carl Weisner  | Aucha Kameroff | Jaylen Rogers |
| Greta Schuerch  | Tony Giardini | Fritz Westlake | Shelly Wade   |
| Saima Chase     | Hans Nelson   |                |               |

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

## APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Nelson requested to add Resolution 21-38 to Item N. Member Carr requested to add the bed bugs issue to Item O.

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



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## APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Regular meeting minutes of June 22, 2021 as presented.

**Member Sampson motioned to approve the June 22, 2021 Regular minutes as presented, Member Swan seconded. A roll call was conducted and the motion passed unanimously.**

## COMMUNICATIONS AND APPEARANCES

1. Tony Giardini, Trilogy Metals Update

Mr. Giardini provided an update on the Ambler Mining District.

2. Shelly Wade, Agnew Beck Update

Ms. Shelly Wade gave a brief update on the Northwest Arctic Borough Comprehensive Plan.

## BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

1. Budget, Audit and Finance Committee

Member 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, 2021.

## ASSEMBLY REPORTS

Member Sampson gave a brief report on the Alaska Inuit Food Sovereignty Initiative and a recent meeting he attended regarding this issue.

Member Loon reported that she attended the Assembly Retreat in Anchorage, AK July 6-9, 2021. She thanked the Mayor and staff for planning this retreat.

Member Shroyer Beaver commented that they had a discussion on the fire department and the work they been doing and she requested a fire department update.

Member Carr reported that she attended the budget and finance retreat and she thanked Mayor Nelson and it was good to revisit our code and cover issues that affect the assembly and it is a learning process.

## MAYORS REPORT

Mayor Nelson reported that her administration continues to have Staff and Director's meetings virtually and in person. They continue to provide ongoing updates to the





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Borough website in regards to borough events, meetings, and activities on the Borough's Facebook page. She added that they continue to hold Director's meetings as needed and in preparation for the Strategic Planning and Assembly Retreat held July 6-9, 2021 at the Hotel Captain Cook in Anchorage, AK. Mayor Nelson reported that she will be having major knee surgery in August and will be out of the office for physical therapy for a few weeks but will be in contact with administration during her absence.

Mayor Nelson reported on the Human Resources (HR) department and provided a brief update of new hires, transfers, job vacancies and promotions. Mayor Nelson gave a Grant Writer update and grants applied for are the USDA High Penetration Solar and Battery Project for Noatak and they just received notice of that grant approval on July 13, 2021 for \$2 million.

Mayor Nelson reported that the Incident Command System (ICS) team and the Unified Command team meets on an as needed basis. She reported that the NWAB Emergency Order 05 has been extended through July 16, 2021 and will expire. Mayor Nelson gave a brief overview and current rates/counts of the COVID-19 Case Update for the Maniilaq Service Area (MSA) as of July 26, 2021 and the COVID-19 Vaccination Data as of July 26, 2021. Mr. Carl Weisner, Public Services Director, gave an update on the Unified Command meeting as they meet on an as needed basis and it was decided to allow the City of Kotzebue's and Northwest Arctic Borough's Order to expire.

Mayor Nelson reported she attended the NAB planning Commission meeting on June 14-15, 2021, and added they have been busy with Title XI permits and rezoning. She also attended the Alaska Conference of Mayor's meeting on June 15, 2021 to discuss the State fiscal policy, its impact and decisions as the legislature gears up to finalize the FY22 State budget. Mayor Nelson also attended the North Slope Borough and Northwest Arctic Borough leadership meeting on June 16, 2020 and July 14, 2021 to discuss planning the future joint meeting. Mayor Nelson also traveled to Kivalina on June 17, 2021 with administration to hold a site-visit to meet with leadership and residents to provide an update on borough activities. She thanked the community of Kivalina for their invitation to the borough to hold this meeting. Mayor Nelson attended an evaluation meeting for a Request for Proposal for the Deering VPSO renovation and storage unit on June 21, 2021 and she added only one bid was received and awarded.

Mayor Nelson attended the Northwest Arctic Leadership Team (NWALT) strategic planning meeting on June 24-25, 2021. The main topics included a Strategy session to revisit the mission, vision and focus and review Organization Partnering, Focus Areas and Products of NWALT, Organizational Updates, Prioritization and Defining Initiatives.





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Mayor Nelson also attend the NWAB retreat that was held in Anchorage, AK on July 6-9, 2021 to discuss strategic planning, priorities and review the FY22 Budget Amendment. She gave a brief overview of the presenters who provided updates to the Assembly. Lastly, Mayor Nelson attend the Regional Elders Council (REC) meeting on July 14-15, 2021 and provided an update about Borough operations and activities and an update on NWALT as well. The REC had questions about the Elder Representative seat and they would like to be on the agenda at the next NAB Regular meeting. She provided a Borough update, priorities, and state and federal updates. Mr. Hans Nelson, Fire Safety Coordinator, gave a brief fire prevention update.

### TIME & PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

Mayor Nelson recommended a Joint meeting with the NAB and North Slope Borough to be held on Monday, August 23, 2021 at 9:00 am – 4:30 pm. Continue on Tuesday, August 24, 2021 at 9:00 am – 12:00 pm at the Kotzebue Lions Club. A BAF Work session to be held at the Assembly Chambers on Tuesday, August 24, 2021 at 1:00 pm and the Regular Meeting on Wednesday, August 25, 2021 at 9:00 am.

**By unanimous consent of the Assembly the next meeting dates of August 23-25, 2021 were recommended, as set in code.**

**A fifteen minute break was taken at 10:28 am.  
The meeting reconvened from break at 10:37 am.**

### INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

1. **Ordinance 21-07** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly amending Chapter 6.16 of the Borough Code to increase the administrative approval threshold for contracts.*

Mayor Nelson summarized Ordinance 21-07 and recommending approval.

**Member Sampson motioned to approve Ordinance 21-07 for first reading with the second reading at the next Regular Meeting, seconded by Member Shroyer Beaver. A roll call was conducted and the motion unanimously.**

2. **Ordinance 21-08** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly adopting Chapter 6.32 of the Borough Code to codify the Borough's donation policy for organizational requests.*

Mayor Nelson summarized Ordinance 21-08 and recommending approval.



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**Member Loon motioned to approve Ordinance 21-08 for first reading with a second reading at the next Regular Meeting, seconded by Member Carr. A roll call was conducted and the motion unanimously.**

3. **Ordinance 21-09** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly amending Chapter 2.36 of the Borough Code to address conflict of interest standards for voting.*

Mayor Nelson summarized Ordinance 21-09 and recommending approval.

**Member Ballot motioned to approve Ordinance 21-09 for first reading with a second reading at the next Regular Meeting, seconded by Member Carr. A roll call was conducted and the motion unanimously.**

4. **Ordinance 21-10** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly to approve rezoning for the Red Dog Mine.*

Mayor Nelson summarized Ordinance 21-10 and recommending approval.

**Member Sampson motioned to approve Ordinance 21-10 for first reading with a second reading at the next Regular Meeting, seconded by Member Cleveland. A roll call was conducted and the motion unanimously.**

5. **Ordinance 21-11** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly amending Chapter 3.20 of the Borough Code to address Borough Employee Personal Leave Authorization and Leave Payout, and for related purposes.*

Mayor Nelson summarized Ordinance 21-11 and recommending approval.

**Member Sampson motioned to approve Ordinance 21-11 for first reading with a second reading at the next Regular Meeting, seconded by Member Loon. A roll call was conducted and the motion unanimously.**

### RESOLUTIONS

1. **Resolution 21-34** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly Accepting an FY21 Department of Energy Office of Indian Energy, Energy Technology Deployment Grant, and for related purposes.*

Mayor Nelson summarized Resolution 21-34 and recommending approval.





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**Member Sampson motioned to approve Resolution 21-34, seconded by Member Shroyer Beaver. A roll call was conducted and the motion unanimously.**

2. **Resolution 21-35** a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly Approving a Professional services Agreement with McClintock Land Associates for Consulting, Mapping and Surveying Services related to the Borough's Municipal Land Entitlement, and for related purposes.

Mayor Nelson summarized Resolution 21-35 and recommending approval.

**Member Sampson motioned to approve Resolution 21-35, seconded by Member Loon. A roll call was conducted and the motion passed unanimously.**

3. **Resolution 21-36** a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a Professional Services Agreement with Agnew Beck Consulting, and for related purposes.

Mayor Nelson summarized Resolution 21-36 and recommending approval.

**Member Swan motioned to approve Resolution 21-36, seconded by Member Carr. A roll call was conducted and the motion passed unanimously.**

4. **Resolution 21-37** a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly Approving Engagement of Altman, Rogers & Co. to conduct the FY21 audit.

Mayor Nelson summarized Resolution 21-37 recommending approval.

**Member Sampson motioned to approve Resolution 21-37, seconded by Member Armstrong. A roll call was conducted and the motion passed unanimously.**

5. **Resolution 21-38** a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly to approve the purchase of a V-blade for the borough's loader, and for related purposes.

Mayor Nelson summarized Resolution 21-38 and recommending approval.

**Member Sampson motioned to approve Resolution 21-38, seconded by Member Armstrong. A roll call was conducted and the motion passed unanimously.**



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### OTHER BUSINESS

#### Bed Bug Issue

Member Carr had requested more information on the bed bug issue. She believes it still is a concern in Kotzebue and in the villages, especially with school starting soon. She requested that the Borough assist with this issue monetarily if funds are available.

Ms. Daisy Weinard, Deering resident, requested that the borough assist with equipment to help get rid of the bed bugs, especially for the elders.

Mayor Nelson commented that she will do outreach to the Northwest Arctic Leadership Team on this issue and she will come back to the table with an update as this issue is costly.

### AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Ms. Jaylen Rogers, Administrator, commented that she has been doing outreach to all the cities and IRA's regarding the Mayor's site visit to their village and have received only a couple confirmations. She requested that the Assembly members in the villages help her get in touch with those organizations so that we can travel and meet with all the communities soon.

### ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

Member Armstrong thanked everyone for a good meeting working together on the ordinances and resolutions. He requested that Mayor Nelson look into the Noorvik sewage lagoon project for an update at the next meeting.

Member Swan thanked the borough staff and assembly for a good meeting and their good work. He commented that at the joint council meeting in Kivalina he did not see a zoning and re-zoning portion on the CRW report.

Member Barr thanked everyone for a good meeting and she looks forward to upcoming projects in the villages and she expressed her condolences to all those who have lost their loved ones.

Member Ballot commented about the school year and the kids getting excited to start. She encouraged the young people to further their education after high school. She encouraged residents to clean their stove oil tanks and furnaces to prepare for the winter months. She thanked the staff for another well planned meeting and she requested everyone to stay safe and be kind.

Member Loon thanked Mayor Nelson and staff for preparation for this meeting. She thanked Mr. Kayden Ticket for his comments about bed bugs issue and thanked Agnew





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Beck, Trilogy and others who provided updates. Member Loon gave her condolences who have lost their loved ones and wished everyone safety when conducting outside activities.

Member Shroyer Beaver congratulated the Olympic Gold medal winner from Seward. She encouraged safety to those who will be gathering subsistence and wished the students well as school will be starting soon. She thanked Mayor Nelson for all the updates from each department especially from the fire department side and it is good information.

Member Carr thanked Mayor Nelson for the facilitator at the Assembly Retreat. She thanked the borough to allow our residents to pick up Brice Construction applications here at the office. Member Carr also commented about the bed bug issue and suggested that the Borough do something sooner rather than wait for NWALT. She appreciated the fire discussion and is hoping there is more accessibility to have better access to water. Member Carr also congratulated Ms. Cheryl Edenshaw on her retirement and thanked her for the many years of service to the Northwest Arctic Borough School District. She also congratulated Ms. Cindy Lincoln for her retirement also and her commitment to our region. She encouraged everyone to stay safe as we are seeing an increase in COVID cases again.

Youth Representative Ms. Tahayla Baker commented that it was good to hear about fire safety and prevention and our region's progress dealing with COVID 19. She encouraged everyone to get vaccinated especially before school starts. She congratulated Ms. Lydia Jacoby for winning the gold medal in the swimming competition and congratulated Ms. Autumn Madison for placing in Ms. World Eskimo Indian Olympics (WEIO).

Youth Representative Mr. Kayden Ticket thanked everyone for the reports provided and will be heading to California for college soon. He congratulated Ms. Lydia Jacoby and encouraged everyone to be safe.

Member Sampson thanked Mayor Nelson and staff for the work they do. He thanked the COVID taskforces for the good work they are doing and the importance of listening to all our residents and some who are the silent ones. He thanked the Assembly for a good meeting that was held today.

Mr. Hans Nelson commented that will be in Selawik this week conducting fire fighter training for structural homes. He encouraged residents in Selawik to attend this training at the Selawik School.

President Hadley thanked the Clerks for the good work done for the Assembly Members and in preparation for the meeting. He also thanked the departmental reports given on a





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monthly basis. Mr. Matt Mead commented that there are assistance for emergency responses through the State and federal funding. He is looking forward to the joint meeting with the North Slope Borough in Kotzebue.

### MAYORS COMMENTS

Mayor Nelson commented that administration is currently on flex time till August 6. She reminded students to catch up on their routine vaccines before school starts and to be safe. She is also looking forward to meeting with the North Slope Borough also as we share a lot of commonalities. She congratulated Ms. Cheryl Edenshaw and Ms. Cindy Lincoln, recent NWABSD retirees. She also congratulated Ms. Autumn Madison for winning the title of Miss WEIO and also to her granddaughter Jasmine Reese who was selected to travel to Los Angeles, CA with the 7-8<sup>th</sup> grade Junior NBA team and thanked those who supported her. She reminded that the nomination petition period to run for school board, assembly and mayor ends on August 20.

### ADJOURNMENT

Member Loon motioned, Member Shroyer Beaver seconded to adjourn. With no other business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 12:03 P.M.

*Helena Felder*

