



Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, August 27, 2019 – 9:00 A.M.  
Assembly Chambers – Kotzebue, AK

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**INVOCATION/MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Member Loon provided invocation.

**SAFETY MOMENT**

None presented.

**ROLL CALL/MEMBER EXCUSAL**

Assembly Members present at the time of roll call:

Elmer Armstrong Jr.	Kirk Oviok Jr.	Dood Carr	Austin Swan Sr.
Miles Cleveland Sr.	Sandy Shroyer Beaver	Hannah Loon	Reggie Joule III
Larry Westlake Sr.	Nathan Hadley Jr.		

Introduction of Staff and Guests

Lucy S. Nelson	Nelda Swan	Matt Mead	John Chase
Charlie Gregg	Elia Nay	Nate Kotch	Aucha Kameroff
Angie Sturm	Chuck Greene	Laura Orenga de Gaffory	
Jim Dixon	Donna Logan	Katie Perry	Kaylia Wilson-Nay
Carrie Godden	Brandon Saito	Eva O'Hara	Samantha Schaeffer
Kallie Gudmundson	Helena Hildreth		

Excused

Walter Sampson

**A quorum was present to conduct business. Member Carr motion to excuse Member Sampson, seconded by Vice President Westlake; motion passed unanimously by roll call.**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Agenda presented for August 27, 2019. Member Carr request to add Resolution 19-59. Mayor Nelson request Verna Westlake's presentation tabled until September meeting, add VIF update, McDowell Group presentation and Chamberlain update of Juneau. Had intended to add Native Village of Kivalina although weren't able to attend. Vice President Westlake request to add NWALT on Boards & Commissions along with Joint Construction meeting. President Hadley request to add Executive Session which may affect Borough finances.

**Member Carr motioned, Vice President Westlake seconded to approve the agenda as amended; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.**

#### **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

July 23, 2019 regular meeting minutes presented for approval.

**Member Carr motioned, Member Cleveland seconded to approve the minutes as presented; motion passed unanimously by roll call.**

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**President Hadley motion to go into Executive Session at 9:12 A.M. for Personnel matters that may affect Borough finances, seconded by Member Loon; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.**

**Reconvened at 10:25 A.M. a directive from the Assembly; an order will be introduced at the next meeting.**

#### **COMMUNICATIONS AND APPEARANCES**

*Wendy Chamberlain, Lobbyist provided an update of Legislative Affairs; dividend scheduled to payout end of October at the amount of \$1600. Although Governor proposing the remaining amount of promised. She commends Representative Lincoln for efforts of retaining monies. Maniilaq have received a grant for equipment; a lot have been put back in for education. Biggest cut was behavior health and Medicaid along with public broadcasting.*

Member Carr thank her for report, appreciate the updates. Member Loon stated during AML they have been visited by legislators; on the Medicaid services cut or just dental? Mayor Nelson thank Mrs. Chamberlain for updates, planning lobbying to DC coming up.

Jim Dixon and Carrie Godden, Crowley Marine provided a presentation of the dock which have been damaged by erosion. Member Carr asked what is the depth of water in front of barge? Has it been filling in? Member Loon asked how far over toward the Stein property? There is a throughway for snow machines and boats; this is a worthwhile project. Member Swan asked if there are any delayed deliveries during the period of barging.

Vice President Westlake requested additional information of open shelf sheets that will be piled. What kind of metal are they? He has concern of pollution; a lot of fish goes through there, are they safe? Also, are there any requirements of dike or something in case of spills. Member Carr raised concern of thirty feet out to the sound; are they any means of fence or something to keep wintertime.

Member Shroyer Beaver expressed the importance of knowing the current around the barge. As you've may know there had been a tragedy few years ago; if can be marked to know it won't happen again. Commend to uphold the dock which been up many years. Mayor Nelson request additional public notifications of the extension.

Donna Logan and Katie Berry, McDowell Group provided an update of recent activities of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) document. Which provide input community engagement; purpose to access and build compacity for development. Member Carr thank Administration and McDowell Group for work put into, really appreciated. Group is grateful to work on this with Administration.

Brandon Saito, Fish and Game called to provide an update of bear quota in the area. Member Carr asked whom is responsible for putting down the bear when close to community. How can our constituents be safe when we have all the citing? Is there someone that we can call? *Mr. Saito mentioned can call Wildlife Troopers at 442-3222.*

Angie Sturm, VIF Update provided numbers the villages are spending which is exciting to see. She provided numbers of each village monies applied for, will receive additional two million at end of year end of 2020. Member Loon asked if Kobuk is planning to apply soon? Will Ingemar assist in their Energy program to help?

#### **BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES**

Madam Chair Carr provided a summary of Budget, Audit and Finance met previous day; thankful for full Assembly attending.

Angie Sturm provided financial report ending July 31, 2019.

Vice President Westlake provided a brief summary of the NWALT meeting on August 19<sup>th</sup> at NANA office. Mayor Nelson added that main topic discussed was Governor's budget; good meeting with other entities.

Also, Vice President Westlake mentioned Joint Maintenance Construction met the previous day. Heard updates of construction of school. Education approved a grant budget of \$63M for Kivalina Evacuation and School Access Road, fully funded and projection completion of 2020. Design effort moving forward to complete by August 2022; main discussion was utilities construction. Committee have agreed with \$5.6M for AVEC to do electricity to the eight-mile site, not to exceed that amount.

Vice President Westlake asked Member Swan of how many students possibly looking at. The Committee is concerned about expansion although may need additional materials.

Mayor Nelson stated Secretary of Education DeVos will accompany Senator Sullivan is requesting an Assembly member along with Mayor to dinner with local leaders.

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

None presented.

### ASSEMBLY REPORTS

Member Shroyer Beaver attended Planning Committee meeting recently; there is a concern of Drake's permit regarding not using barge for a month during fishing. She thanks Drake's for willingness to stop during that period.

Member Carr thank Member Shroyer for report of the meeting. Member Carr mentioned she recently attended AML, got out before fire went across highway. Had an opportunity to talk to representatives regarding understanding PCE is; different views of that along with PFDs.

Member Loon stated she attended the Tuttu meeting with Teck at Nullagvik; our population drops and came back over time. Also, attended AML in Soldotna; grateful to see rural and urban differences. Thank you.

### MAYORS REPORT

Mayor Nelson introduced Carl Weisner as Public Services Administrator under Nate. Also, a few changes; Shayne Schaeffer started at front desk. Changed HR under Paula Octuck with Mayor oversight with assistance from Macy. Mayor Nelson summarized written report, had Sullivan visit which believe went well. Planning to travel on Friday to Ambler for first village visit to hear what needs are; continue to make plans for other communities.

Have been working with Naomi Sweets, State of Alaska relating to Public Safety Grant from VPSO which had been reduced \$700,000 and working hard to fill. Upcoming DC lobbying trip, working with Wendy on agenda. Mayor Nelson mentioned the Community Assistance Program have been awarded; Mrs. Sturm provided amounts per each village which is based on population.

### TIME & PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

Mayor Nelson mentioned 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday is September 23-24, 2019.

Break observed at 12:12 P.M.

Reconvened at 12:22 P.M.

President Hadley contacted North Slope Assembly President and working on Joint meeting, also Mayor Nelson mentioned a Budget Retreat coming up. He mentioned BAF had recommended do pass for all resolutions; for VIF resolutions can be done as block and announce amounts.

### INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

None presented.

### RESOLUTIONS

1. **Resolution 19-43** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a services agreement with Alaska Janitorial S.F., Inc. to provide janitorial services for the Borough building, and for related purposes.*

Mayor Nelson summarized Resolution 19-43, recommend do pass.

**Member Carr motion to approve Resolution 19-43, seconded by Vice President Westlake; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.**

2. **Resolution 19-44** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving amendment of a professional services agreement with McDowell Group, and for related purposes.*

Mayor Nelson summarized Resolution 19-44, recommend do pass.

**Member Carr motion to approve Resolution 19-44, seconded by Member Swan; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.**

3. **Resolution 19-45** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly accepting an FY20 USDA High Energy Cost Grant and for related purposes.*

Mayor Nelson summarized Resolution 19-45, recommend do pass.

**Member Carr motion to approve Resolution 19-45, seconded by Member Loon; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.**

4. **Resolution 19-46** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the Northwest Arctic Borough Region, and for related purposes.*

Mayor Nelson summarized Resolution 19-46, recommend do pass.

**Member Carr motion approve Resolution 19-46, seconded by Member Loon; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.**

5. **Resolution 19-47** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a ground lease for storage of equipment and related purposes.*

Mayor Nelson summarized Resolution 19-47, recommend do pass.

**Member Carr motion to approve Resolution 19-47, seconded by Vice President Westlake; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.**

6. **Resolution 19-48** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a*

*Village Improvement Fund Application from Buckland for a Road/Water & Sewer Project, and for related purposes.*

7. **Resolution 19-49** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a Village Improvement Fund Application from Noatak for a Bobcat, and for related purposes.*
8. **Resolution 19-50** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a Village Improvement Fund Application from Noatak for a dozer for dump management, and for related purposes.*
9. **Resolution 19-51** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a Village Improvement Fund Application from Noatak for an Elder/School Van, and for related purposes.*
10. **Resolution 19-52** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a Village Improvement Fund Application from Noatak for a water oil burner unit, and for related purposes.*
11. **Resolution 19-53** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a Village Improvement Fund Application from Noatak for a water truck, and for related purposes.*
12. **Resolution 19-54** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a Village Improvement Fund Application from Noorvik for storage and tools, and for related purposes.*
13. **Resolution 19-55** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a Village Improvement Fund Application from Noorvik for a Caterpillar Loader, and for related purposes.*
14. **Resolution 19-56** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a Village Improvement Fund Application from Noorvik for landfill clean-up, burner, and equipment, and for related purposes.*

Mrs. Sturm provided a summary of location, amount and general description of the projects Resolution 19-48 through Resolution 19-56 which total \$2,195,537.00 at the early August VIC meeting.

**Member Carr motion to approve Resolution 19-48 through Resolution 19-56 as a**

**block, seconded by Vice President Westlake; motion passed unanimously.**

15. **Resolution 19-57** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving allocation and payment for the FY20 Alaska Community Assistance Program.*

Mayor Nelson summarized Resolution 19-57, recommend do pass.

**Member Carr motion to approve Resolution 19-57, seconded by Member Loon; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.**

16. **Resolution 19-58** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly appointing Kyleigha Wilson-Nay as Youth Advisory Representative to the Assembly.*

Mayor Nelson summarized Resolution 19-58, recommend do pass.

**Member Carr motion to approve Resolution 19-58, seconded by Member Shroyer Beaver; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.**

17. **Resolution 19-59** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly establishing the FY20 Borough Investment allocation, setting appropriate performance benchmarks, and for related purposes.*

Mayor Nelson summarized Resolution 19-59, recommend do pass.

**Member Carr motion to approve Resolution 19-59, seconded by Member Oviok; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.**

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

None presented.

#### **AUDIENCE COMMENTS**

None presented.

#### **ASSEMBLY COMMENTS**

Member Shroyer Beaver thank Mayor and staff for work, welcome Carl to Borough. Welcome to Kyleigha. Thank you.

Member Armstrong thank Administration and Assembly for good meeting; lot of resolutions from VIF. Encourage Kivalina, Noatak, Kiana and Noorvik to continue applying for funds. He encourages Mayor to continue to work with village fire departments and policing; villages need help. Noorvik Post Office have been broken in to; continue to keep Public Safety in mind. Thank you.

Member Joule mentioned good couple days, welcome everyone. Look forward to this next year. Hunting season is here, be respectful; pick up trash and be patient. Thank you.

Member Swan mentioned good meeting, glad working on moving communities moving forward with VIF monies. Thank you.

Member Oviok sends condolences to all villages that lost loved ones, Nashookpuk in Pt. Hope. Welcome to Carl and youth representative. Thank you to Lobbyist, thank you for updates. Thank Administration and Assembly for good meeting.

Member Loon welcome Nasruk, welcome to youth representative; enjoy having Elder and Youth reps. Thank Mayor for scheduling upcoming meetings, applaud for work that is done. She sends a friendly reminder to hunters to let first group of caribou go. Thank you.

Member Carr thank Assembly for attending BAF/work session moving forward. Thanks to Mayor and Administration, welcome Kyleigha. Welcome to Carl also, congratulations to Nathan and Wife on new baby boy while back from Soldotna. Thank Marie and VIC that are working with villages. Reminder importance of Public Safety, something must be done; vandalism needs to be addressed. Let's support law enforcement. Condolences to Stella for loss of sister, lets remember customs of helping each other. Hunters remember safety; provide to those that need. Thank you for good meeting, safe travels home.

Youth Representative Kyleigha thank Mayor Nelson for opportunity to hear and learn from the meetings. Thank you.

Elder Representative Swan thank you for good meeting. Hunters reminder to take trash bag. Trying to figure out how to stop alcohol going into dry villages. Mayor if not already invited you are invited to Regional Elders meeting September 17<sup>th</sup>. Have a safe trip back home.

*Member Cleveland thank Mr. President; he raised concern of river traffic. He tried contacting office for a Coast Guard phone number. Sending a reminder to hunters that they use .22 on caribou crossing; last year there were hunters shooting nighttime. On the mine site, Ambler District Mining is going to happen soon. He suggests Borough propose residents close to the area get jobs including road to east although it will happen. Thank you, good meeting; have a good day.*

Vice President Westlake mentioned happy moving forward for Kivalina, long time coming. Thank Borough for supporting the road. Also, hunting season is here; meeting on hunter success. Kiana's meeting is on Thursday. Funeral for Stella's sister is tomorrow. Thank you for good meeting, careful out there.

President Hadley reiterate conversation with North Slope President, hopefully get with clerks to set up meeting. Look forward to budget retreat. Thank you to VIC, good to see applications from the villages. Condolences to Stella and family.

### **MAYORS COMMENTS**

Mayor Nelson thank Brandon for update, Crowley for update on expansion, Wendy for legislative updates, McDowell on CEDS and Teck. Working on comprehensive plan. Reminder to communities of \$7500 grant at the community level. Look forward to upcoming meetings. Congratulations to Kyleigha, look forward to working with you; have another youth representative seat open. Good luck to hunters, be safe; had request to ask hunters to have first group go through. Condolences to Stella.

Mrs. Kameronoff mentioned they have four applicants for VPSO's whom are awaiting clearance from FBI. Hopefully will get additional monies for half time coordinator and VPSO. She is working with Corey Mulder regarding a recruitment video, possibly get background from Elders here. Will be attending AFN to recruit also.

Member Carr is thankful for effort to hire, thank you Mayor and Aucha. Member Loon hopes for good pay and benefits for the VPSO's, thank you for report. Mayor Nelson mentioned Public Safety met three times focusing on Public Safety, Search & Rescue, Fire Safety and Emergency Planning.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Member Carr motion to adjourn, seconded by Member Loon at 1:26 P.M.



