



Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly
Regular Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 27, 2020 – 9:00 A.M.
Assembly Chambers – Kotzebue, AK

CALL TO ORDER

BAF Madam Chair Shroyer Beaver called the meeting to order at 9:01 A.M.

INVOCATION/MOMENT OF SILENCE

Member Cleveland moment of silence held for Veterans and remember Byron Mallot, he provided invocation.

SAFETY MOMENT

Member Sampson in Inupiaq. Springtime is here, long days. Many will be boating, advise children and grandchildren to watch, dangerous with junk and black ice. Taikuu.

Member Loon mentioned when growing up Elders were grateful for new life from land, respected and thankful overcome Winter. Thankful for food and those that share Elders. Thank you, have a good morning

ROLL CALL/MEMBER EXCUSAL

Assembly Members present at the time of roll call:

<i>Elmer Armstrong Jr.</i>	<i>Kirk Oviok Jr.</i>	<i>Delores Barr</i>	<i>Austin Swan Sr.</i>
<i>Miles Cleveland Sr.</i>	<i>Sandy Shroyer Beaver</i>	<i>Hannah Loon</i>	<i>Walter Sampson</i>
<i>Reggie Joule III</i>	<i>Dood Lincoln Carr</i>	<i>Nathan Hadley Jr.</i>	

Introduction of Staff and Guests

<i>Lucy S. Nelson</i>	<i>Coltrane Chase</i>	<i>Matt Mead</i>	<i>Chris Rose</i>
<i>Angie Sturm</i>	<i>Siikauraq Whiting</i>	<i>Aucha Kameroff</i>	<i>Minnie Stalker</i>
<i>Helena Hildreth</i>	<i>Terri Walker</i>	<i>Fritz Westlake</i>	<i>Carl Weisner</i>
<i>Kyleigha Wilson-Nay</i>	<i>Stella Atoruk</i>		

A quorum was present to conduct business.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agenda presented for May 27, 2020.

Member Sampson motioned to approve as presented; Member Loon seconded; passed unanimously by roll call vote.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Special of April 27, 2020 and regular of April 28, 2020 presented for approval.

Member Swan motion to approve minutes, Member Loon seconded; passed unanimously by roll call.

COMMUNICATIONS AND APPEARANCES

Terri Walker, Northwest Arctic Borough School District Mrs. Walker called in regarding how School District will reopen in Fall with teachers coming back to the District; brainstorming different ways of how to work with Covid 19 Pandemic. Possibly have staff stay in Anchorage two-three night, get tested; tested in Kotzebue and if both are negative then quarantine in the community for fourteen days although unsure of how the villages feel.

Vice President Lincoln Carr likes the testing in Anchorage. Member Sampson likes the idea of having them come here to Kotzebue. Member Joule asked the estimate of having the teachers in Anchorage for two weeks.

President Hadley recommend setting monies aside for the teachers when they are coming back from out of State; they are residents of our Borough too. Vice President Lincoln Carr asked if there has been consideration of the teachers testing before leaving their home, along with testing on their way up.

BAF Chair Shroyer Beaver asked Mrs. Walker if the School District had received any funds from Federal side for Covid 19? Vice President Lincoln Carr thank Mrs. Walker for focus on counselors for the children's social and emotional issues; with the virus going on, there is a high increased rate of domestic violence and sexual assault. She had been raising this concern at the Covid 19 task force.

Member Loon thank Mrs. Walker regards to returning of school, there is a high level of distress; important for the children to talk about. She is concerned of Kindergarten, there is requirements of shots; how is that addressed? Member Cleveland asked if there had been any consideration of bringing teachers through Fairbanks way; may save monies.

BAF Chair Shroyer Beaver appreciate all work doing, thank you for work doing. Good Job. Siikauraq shout out to the homegrown teachers, we can have 200 local teachers; she asked about the contingency plan for the families that travel with the teachers. Do the family members have the same requirements?

Member Barr asked if they have determined who will attend in person when school starts. BAF Chair Shroyer Beaver suggests informing the public once planned; will be tough although we will do what we can to support School District efforts.

Mrs. Walker mentioned when she joins the task force weekly meeting, she recommends people from the community attend to help plan. BAF Chair Shroyer Beaver asked if School District has a back-up plan incase need additional classrooms.

Mayor Nelson recommends School District to write to Unified Command Team which is the emergency personnel so some type of plan along with mitigation. President Hadley mentioned the upcoming resolution of local contribution to education; wondering through the Assembly if we shall provide guidance to Mayor to put monies aside to help with Covid 19 pandemic for the teachers who will be residents of the Borough to ensure safety for villages.

Chris Rose, Kotzebue Fire Department Mr. Rose called to thank the Assembly for contribution to Fire Department; used the funds to continue to operate effectively. Fully

staffed and respond to all regular emergency and be effectively prepared for the Pandemic here, using for training and equipment. Focused on keeping safe and healthy.

Member Sampson thank Mr. Rose for service that Kotzebue Fire Department provides for the Region; thank you for transportation to and from the hospital. Taikuu. BAF Chair Shroyer Beaver echo comments, good luck with Spring and hope ice will not continue to go up the banks.

BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Budget, Audit and Finance Chair Shroyer Beaver summarized meeting held previous day.

Financial Report *Mrs. Sturm provided a summary of financials ending April 30, 2020.*

PUBLIC HEARINGS, ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCES & EMERGENCY ORDINANCES

1. **Ordinance 19-02am02** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly providing for the establishment and adoption of the line-item budget for Fiscal Year 2020.*

Mayor Nelson provided summary of Ordinance 19-02am02, recommend do pass. *Vice President Lincoln Carr mentioned BAF recommended do pass with no objection.*

Vice President Lincoln Carr motion to enact Ordinance 19-02am02 as presented, seconded by Member Loon; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

ASSEMBLY REPORTS

Member Sampson mentioned he recently attended telephonically AML Board and Rural CAP; tough trying to process through teleconferences.

Vice President Lincoln Carr mentioned hard to hear and apologize for interrupting others. She mentioned she have been attending the Covid Task Force this past month and a half; Administration is doing an excellent job including local entities. Good to hear from all the villages with questions and concerns, please call 442-8230 for Task Force.

Member Sampson added he had been appointed to ICC Food Subsistence Commission that deal with Food security; met a couple times recently.

President Hadley also attended the Task Force meeting; wide range of topics discussed like travel, subsistence, and future hunting. Thankful Kotzebue is hub, look forward to future meetings. Elders have contacted him regarding future hunting; ensure the public that these concerns are taken seriously.

BAF Chair Shroyer Beaver mentioned the meeting held yesterday, all items were recommending do pass.

Member Swan stated ASRC/SKW have been back in Kivalina this past week, they had the

recommended testing before chartering. He understood next week they will have local hire. The local businesses are requiring face masks and limiting access. Staying safe despite pros and cons with this Pandemic.

MAYORS REPORT

Mayor Nelson informed the listening audience on incident command and unified command so everyone will be familiar with the structure in place. The team is consisting of Mayor Nelson, Saima Chase, Carl Weisner and Paula Octuck; have been training in various levels in the National Incident Command Structure.

Currently two cases in Northwest Arctic Borough, will meet with Commissioner Crum: a lot of our residents' requests mandatory testing and clarification on intra-state travel. Thankful for understanding these orders to save lives; we want our people healthy.

Break observed at 10:19 A.M.
Reconvened at 10:33 A.M.

TIME & PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

President Hadley will confirm with Mayor regarding June 22-23, 2020.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

1. **Ordinance 19-03am01** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly providing for the establishing and adoption of the line-item budget for FY20 Village Improvement Fund.*

Mayor Nelson summarized Ordinance 19-03am01, recommend do pass.

Member Sampson motion to approve Ordinance 19-03am01, seconded by Member Loon; motion passed unanimously by roll call.

2. **Ordinance 20-06** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly establishing the FY21 Village Improvement Fund Budget.*

Mayor Nelson summarized Ordinance 20-06, recommend do pass.

Member Loon motion to approve Ordinance 20-06, seconded by Vice President Lincoln Carr; motion passed unanimously by roll call.

RESOLUTIONS

1. **Resolution 20-21** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a professional services agreement with Wendy Chamberlain dba Legislative Consultants in Alaska for lobbying, and for related purposes.*

Mayor Nelson summarized Resolution 20-21, recommend do pass.

Vice President Lincoln Carr motion to approve Resolution 20-21, seconded by

Member Armstrong; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

2. **Resolution 20-22** a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a professional services agreement with Goldeneye Media Alaska.

Mayor Nelson summarized Resolution 20-22; recommend do pass.

Vice President Lincoln Carr motion to approve Resolution 20-22, seconded by Member Cleveland; motion passed by majority with nine yes and two no votes by roll call.

3. **Resolution 20-23** a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly providing for the FY21 local contribution to education.

Mayor Nelson summarized Resolution 20-23, recommend do pass.

Member Loon motion to approve Resolution 20-23, seconded by Vice President Lincoln Carr; motion passed unanimously by roll call.

4. **Resolution 20-24** a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly confirming the Mayor's appointment of Sgt. Hightower to the Northwest Arctic Borough Public Safety Commission.

Mayor Nelson summarized Resolution 20-24, recommend do pass.

Member Sampson motion to approve Resolution 20-24, seconded by Vice President Lincoln Carr; motion passed unanimously by roll call.

5. **Resolution 20-25** a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving an Assembly donation under the FY21 budget for the Chukchi Consortium Library.

Mayor Nelson summarized Resolution 20-25, recommend do pass.

Member Sampson motion to approve Resolution 20-25, seconded by Member Joule; motion passed unanimously by roll call.

6. **Resolution 20-26** a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving the unincorporated Community of Noatak for participation in the FY21 Community Assistance Program.

Mayor Nelson summarized Resolution 20-26, recommend do pass.

Member Sampson motion to approve Resolution 20-26, seconded by Vice President

Lincoln Carr; motion passed unanimously by roll call.

7. **Resolution 20-27** a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly accepting Coronavirus Relief Funds in the amount of \$4,077,540.34, and for related purposes.

Mayor Nelson summarized Resolution 20-27, recommend do pass. Member Joule asked about the inbound teachers coming Fall time; is there a way to help School District? For the Economic Development side, the teachers also contribute to our children; they are part of our residents, hopefully long-term. Member Armstrong suggest Administration to utilize these funds for any costs of any constituent that is associated with being quarantined, any constituent with these funds.

President Hadley echo comments, every Region have their different set of economics. Important the villages feel safe; we need teachers. He asked Legal if we go with this or can we do an amendment?

Vice President Lincoln Carr asked Mrs. Sturm of timeline of what monies will be used for. She suggests utilizing on testing for teachers before leaving their homes, shame for them to go Anchorage and not pass. Thank you.

Vice President Lincoln Carr motion to approve Resolution 20-27, seconded by Member Oviok; motion passed unanimously by roll call.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Nelson provided public notice of General Election to be held on October 6, 2020. Contact Clerk's office for any petitions, accepting from June 8th through August 24th.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None held.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Mrs. Minnie Stalker, Buckland resident called regarding quarantine regulations; is Borough helping villages that are not prepared. At one point a village asked for help and was told that it was not in the budget; is there a grant writer available to request help for the villages? Is there a timeline to meet the request? At one point a village needed help to remove a tank farm; is there an update or help for that community? Is Borough helping? As you say to keep the community safe. Mrs. Stalker mentioned it was during another Administration.

ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

Youth Representative Chase had no comment.

Youth Representative Wilson-Nay thank Mayor and Assembly for working for people of the Region. Challenges today are rising although working together we can overcome anything.

Be safe during Spring break-up. Thank you.

Member Loon mentioned good meeting, thank Mayor and staff for information; packets ready and sent. Enjoyed the Covid 19 questions, answers will come later. To Assembly thank you for all attending, thank you to staff. Thank you Member Shroyer for coordinating and to Vice President Lincoln Carr too while President is in Buckland. Be safe this Spring, thank you.

Member Cleveland mentioned good meeting, believe doing good with pandemic shut down. Our communities need to follow through, we see residents travel without abiding what Mayor is suggesting. Everyone should abide by. Glad there are people listening on radio, we cannot visit. We are the only organization that air the meeting, other organizations shall too. Have a safe week, month; see you again next month. Thank you.

Member Barr express appreciation that Borough staff is doing during this challenging time; know how difficult can be. Look forward to continued discussions on Covid 19 funding and School District plans for opening this Fall. Thank you.

Member Joule thank BAF Chair Shroyer for running meeting, glad everyone can call in. As stated, there are a lot of grey areas with this Covid 19 pandemic. Keep those in mind that lost loved ones. Congratulations to the graduating Class 2020, one to remember; now is the next step, next journey. Also, to the Whalers in Pt. Hope and North Slope; congratulations on successful whaling season. Hello to all the Red Doggers, thinking of you guys; stay safe this Spring. Hopefully, all prosper this Spring with animals in our backyard. Thank you.

Member Swan wishes everyone a good week and weekend; doing everything we can keep ourselves from this virus. Thank you.

Member Oviok thank BAF Chair Shroyer Beaver for running meeting. His boss at Boys & Girls Club is retiring although with the virus are not able to attend. Thank Mayor for update of Elections; for Selawik Buckland term is coming up. Thankful for working and helping villages; good to hear update on teachers coming back. Be safe and follow guidelines, thank you for resolution on Coronavirus to help villages. Stay safe, good luck to celebration of Pt. Hope with their festival. Would be good to travel although need to follow mandates. Thank you.

Member Armstrong mentioned good meeting, good discussions on ordinances and resolutions. Know going through tough time, everybody be safe. Have a successful Spring. Thank you to Administration and Assembly, continue to work together.

Vice President Lincoln Carr mentioned everyone been snagging herring out front; reminder to Kotzebue community when fishing, if you are not supervising your kids let them know to take their fish and trash with them. To those walking your dogs down front street, need to do better job curbing them. Unhealthy for residents to step on, maybe City of Kotzebue can put dog stations. She encourages all villages and Kotzebue to take Covid 19 seriously. We need to practice using masks, along with teachers coming back she suggests getting test done before leaving home and when they arrive. There was a kid on the ice other day, remind the kids and adults; they endanger others when they are rescued. Scold them, tell their parents. Also, Election coming up; hope everyone continues to run. She would like the myboardpacket app installed on the tablet, do they have camera's? thank Mayor and staff for

Covid 19 meeting, also she suggests providing a summary for the listening audience.

Member Sampson in Inupiaq. He thanks BAF Chair Shroyer Beaver for running the meeting. Regarding the pandemic which really started in March, limited gatherings and now that the hunker down had been issued to make sure people are protected. Thank you to the task force on monitoring the issue, big job ahead with teachers coming back. He asked Administration to invite Mr. Mike Kramer to talk about the proposal to what he presented to Federal Board, so people are aware. Have a safe Spring, safety first. Make sure children and grandchildren are aware while boating.

President Hadley thank Mayor for past couple days of information. Thank you to staff and clerks. To the listening audience when this pandemic first started the NWALT gave direction. We are in response stage now, although feel comfortable with how Maniilaq responded. Thank you to everyone involved. Thank you, Member Sampson bringing up Mr. Kramer; possibly have him meet with the Subsistence Committee. We want to meet with him. Also, had an extended family member come in from Anchorage; first tested in Anchorage and second in Kotzebue. Please consider spreading the message on how to do things together safe. Thank you.

BAF Chair Shroyer Beaver mentioned this pandemic changed our lives; we are learning to prepare, prevent and it is a huge task. People are not taking it serious throughout the world, believe we are doing our part. She commends everyone and each organization involved, we are fortunate to go in our yard. When we have our new teachers come in, adopt a teacher; take them for a boat ride. Know we have talked about the monies, new to us. She knows School District will have a big bill although know they will get funds too; if we could that would be great. Also, like Member Armstrong's comment about teachers coming in, we have community members too; do not know if villages have designated place. Friendly reminder Real ID extended through 2021 and taxes due in July. Thank you, Minnie, for calling in. possibly extending our technology and wifi, may continue for a while. We need to help our parents get on-line, make sure they are prepared. Be safe when travel. Enjoy when and good luck hunting.

MAYORS COMMENTS

Mayor Nelson a Unified Command meeting this afternoon and teleconference Commissioner Crum meeting; will bring up teachers, mandatory testing, travel mandates and update the task force meeting tomorrow. Summary reminder notice of general election call the clerk's office. Currently working on an RFP for better internet service to get voting mechanism and to get Dood's request. Thank you for good meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice President Lincoln Carr motion to adjourn, seconded by Member Cleveland at 11:50 A.M.

