



Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly
Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 25, 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 Sampson provided invocation.

SAFETY MOMENT

Member Sampson mentioned it's that time of the year again; publicly announce dangerous ice conditions while fishing. Advise children/grandchildren about staying off the main river and some of the lakes. Thank you.

Member Loon in Inupiaq; sometimes it's hard to discipline our children. She addresses to the young parents, be watchful; we have late freeze ups. Use floatation when boating, have a good day.

Member Shroyer provided a friendly reminder of treat or treaters will be out next Thursday, watch out for kids. Happy Halloween.

Member Swan mentioned have had high water, creeks and rivers have frozen over; when water drops there is hanging ice. Careful from that.

ROLL CALL/MEMBER EXCUSAL

Assembly Members present at the time of roll call:

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

Introduction of Staff and Guests

Lucy S. Nelson	Nelda Swan	Kyleigha Wilson	Jason Hoke
Matt Mead	Angie Sturm	Nate Kotch	Chuck Greene
Pauline Cleveland	Wesley Early	Helena Hildreth	Carl Weisner
Linda Joule	Marlene Moto-Karl	Jeff Congdon	Elia Nay
Elizabeth Ferguson	Stacy Glazer	Margaret Smith	Vernon Douglas
Tom Fields	Tanya Ballot	Alice Adams	Carl Washington
Laura Orenge de Gaffory		Margaret Hansen	Stella Atoruk

Excused

Coltrane Chase

A quorum was present to conduct business. Member Carr motion to excuse Youth Representative Chase, seconded by Member Armstrong; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

REORGANIZATION OF ASSEMBLY

Legal Mead provided process of electing an Assembly President and Vice President.

Member Carr nominated Nathan Hadley Jr. Member Swan nominated Elmer Armstrong Jr. Member Shroyer nominate to close nominations, seconded by Member Cleveland; noted that Member Joule cast ballot through texting with Clerk Atoruk.

Nathan Hadley Jr. - 9

Elmer Armstrong Jr. – 2

President Hadley opened nominations for Vice President. Member Armstrong nominate Austin Swan Sr. Member Shroyer nominated Dood Carr. Member Carr nominate to close nominations; seconded by Member Shroyer.

Austin Swan Sr. - 4

Dood Carr – 7

Member Carr mentioned that Judy McClain will be moving from Kotzebue, many years of vet for the area. Thank you for your service.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agenda presented for October 25, 2019. Mayor request to add Resolution 19-66, confirming Planning and to table Alaska State Troopers awaiting response.

Member Sampson motioned; Member Cleveland seconded to approve the agenda as amended; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

September 24, 2019 regular and October 7, 2019 special presented for approval.

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

COMMUNICATIONS AND APPEARANCES

Jason Hoke, Denali Commission provided an update to the Assembly of activities; recently met some of you at the Energy Steering Committee. Willing to help Rural Areas of Alaska, he has been on the job for approximately a month and have been approached about Cape Blossom Project. If they can help with high cost of living for Noatak, they are willing to help.

Mr. Hoke mentioned they will start funding ARDOR, hopefully meet with Mr. Greene soon. Mayor Nelson asked Mr. Hoke about how Denali Commission have helped Kivalina with Evacuation Road and various things. Unique tool that Denali uses Map 21 Legislation; can take monies from anywhere to hold in account for specific purposes.

Member Sampson asked what current budget for Denali Commission is; reminder of we have tendency to go to Alaska Delegation. Member Shroyer asked about Newtok; at what capacity did you assist? Was it commercial? Residential? What sort of assistance did they get? What kind of timeframe? Did they relocate or build new? As you know the road is there although want shorter than four years.

Member Loon asked if ANTHC is under Denali Commission? How can Borough Assembly in communities be member of Denali? How often do they meet? How about the transportation? Thank you. President Hadley asked if they worked directly with the village or an organization like the Borough. What do you prefer for Kivalina, which direction to get the most monies can? Member Loon raised concern of fresh water delivered to homes for promoting healthy communities.

Mayor Nelson mentioned Borough's grant writer applied for bill grant of \$6.8M for Cape Blossom Road; purposes of visit are to Denali is to see how can leverage that as well; can you further discuss that? Will Denali be able to help with Cape Blossom? Member Sampson mentioned DOT usually apply from Denali; if they show what is available, they will ask for matching funds. Member Carr asked if an entity can go apply at Denali, yesterday Member Armstrong brought to our attention of Charlie Mcanelly; diver whom is willing to train people.

Member Armstrong asked if Borough wanted to fund some, grant writer can get with Denali and have matching. Member Sampson mentioned to better address the matter is to ask NANA, Maniilaq and this entity to partner together and then approach Denali. Member Loon mentioned Search & Rescue needs their own space.

Mayor Nelson thank partners in Trilateral team brought NANA and Borough to assist to move project forward; Borough isn't in charge just help by reaching out to granting agencies to support their efforts. President Hadley asked if Denali had met with Kivalina yet, he mentioned they have the support of Borough Assembly and Administration. Member Kirk thank Mr. Hoke, Selawik Search & Rescue has a wish list too.

AIDEA, Jeff San Juan provided a presentation of the Ambler Mining Project activities, comment period of the EIS ending next Tuesday, October 29, 2019. This had been presented to the Borough Planning Commission also recently. This presentation has been posted on the website to follow; www.ambleraccess.org meeting tab.

Member Sampson thank for beginning of presentation; he asked Mr. San Juan asked if Cominco had interest in rate of return. Did Cominco paid for the loan that they got from AIDEA. So, none came from Red Dog then? Cominco had to pay for it. He raised concern of access was part of discussion when ANILCA being written and conservation; identified east west, right?

Member Cleveland asked Mr. San Juan if there is specific language for Upper Kobuk residents to use the road for subsistence use. Possibly guiding on the road; that is what our people don't want to see. Our people are going to use the road no matter what is said and

Break observed at 11:28 A.M.
Reconvened at 11:42 A.M.

Linda Joule, Maniilaq Social Medicine provided an update of program which is parallel with Inupiat Ilitqusiak philosophy; she has been in the position this past six months serving the same people. Vice President Carr asked if all residents of the Borough; which includes Point Hope. And this is last year of grant? Are you intending to apply for another one? She is thankful to see this; please consider possibly in the grant another Maasiigvik. Glad to see that it states it comes from us, great when young ones get involved. Commend Teck for wanting to move forward with healthy communities.

Member Armstrong asked if Walk for Life if part of this program or another? Haven't seen for a couple years. Mrs. Joule introduced Margaret Smith is her coordinator. Member Shroyer Beaver thank her for work done; some communities have tribal courts and hope they use this. She asked how can get some people involved even though their background, if there are ways, we can assist them. We shall take effort and initiative as community member to do for our own people and need to do better.

Member Sampson thank Mrs. Joule for report; regarding social illness continues as suicide numbers grow. It must start with us; kids are watching us. If we want a change, believe it needs to be at village level and ask folks what we can do to help you. Vice President Carr suggests putting in the grant application; what about regional coordinators, some way for people to work part time. Have Denali been looked at?

President Hadley stated the past year and half there are number of suicides; for Wellness he would like to see Maniilaq to go into a home and talk to the whole family at one time to encourage young ones that you are important. He recommends visits to homes of families that lost loved ones from suicide. Thank you for presentation.

Tommy Fields called to thank citizens of Noorvik for hospitality, he gave brief history of how Inupiat Ilitqusiak was formed. Expressed the importance of education and survival skills.

Siikauraq introduced Ms. Margaret Smith as the first Youth Representative from Selawik. Mrs. Smith thankful to see seats still sit on the Assembly, always remember where you come from.

BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Madam Chair Carr provided a summary of BAF committee held previous day.

Mrs. Sturm provided a summary of financials ending September 30, 2019. Member Loon asked about the marijuana excise tax comes in quarterly, on the spreadsheet it states \$60K; will it be used for general fund as well? She asked about the trans out transactions; does that mean that amount was paid for bond debt? Also, about the ipads which were returned.

PUBLIC HEARINGS, ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCES & EMERGENCY ORDINANCES

1. **Ordinance 19-05** an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly amending title two of the borough code to set the salary of the mayor.

Mayor Nelson had no comment, leave at discretion of Assembly.

Member Sampson motion to enact Ordinance 19-05, seconded by Vice President Carr; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

2. **Ordinance 19-06** an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly reorganizing and amending sections of the borough public services and public safety code, and for related purposes.

Mayor Nelson summarized Ordinance 19-06, recommend do pass.

Vice President Carr motion to enact Ordinance 19-06, seconded by Member Cleveland; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

ASSEMBLY REPORTS

Vice President Carr thank all members for attending BAF meeting. She also attended AFN, thank you President Hadley for able to attend. She asked Legal Mead if changes to policy to keep BAF and work session together as a meeting; is that in the making or need to be done in a motion?

Member Loon mentioned she participated with Planning Commission and Land/Resources with Martha Whiting to comment on access mining impact and subsistence. Also, attended AFN which align with State budget cuts and like students reading constitutions mandated by State. Thank you.

MAYORS REPORT

Mayor Nelson summarized written report ending September 30, 2019. Legal Mead provided a summary of districting of the villages in regards Mr. Benjamin Arnolds letter of no representation from Noatak. Vice President Carr again request for full Assembly get reports of donation and scholarship; at least to be responsible to have the information. She suggests to higher the amount for burial assistance, looking at the taxes we get or whatever we can.

Member Armstrong thank for report; as you know the Search had restarted in Noorvik. Thank Bobby Wells. Through funds that came in they were able to pay for Mr. Mcanelly fare along with equipment. He heard he had trouble getting air tanks filled from the Fire Department, if there is another dive search, he hopes KFD work with the divers to help. Also, recommend Mayor to work with villages to increase funding for local patrolling. Member Loon asked about remaining balance of Assembly donation, how much is left for the Assembly to know.

TIME & PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

Fourth Tuesday of November is 25-26th which is Thanksgiving week.

Member Armstrong motion to approve next meeting dates, seconded by Vice President Carr; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

None presented.

RESOLUTIONS

1. **Resolution 19-63** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving an assembly donation under the FY20 budget for the Native Village of Kotzebue Nikaitchuat Ilisagviat.*

Mayor Nelson summarize Resolution 19-63, recommend do pass.

Member Shroyer Beaver motion to approve Resolution 19-63, seconded by Member Sampson; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

2. **Resolution 19-64** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a lease for the Sulianich Association and for related purposes.*

Mayor Nelson summarize Resolution 19-64, recommend do pass.

Vice President Carr motion to approve Resolution 19-64, seconded by Member Shroyer Beaver; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

3. **Resolution 19-65** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving an assembly donation under the FY20 budget for Kotzebue Broadcasting, Inc.*

Mayor Nelson summarize Resolution 19-65, recommend do pass.

Vice President Carr motion to approve Resolution 19-65, seconded by Member Sampson; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

4. **Resolution 19-66** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly confirming the Mayor's appointments to the Northwest Arctic Borough Planning Commission.*

Mayor Nelson summarize Resolution 19-66, recommend do pass.

Vice President Carr motion to approve Resolution 19-66, seconded by Member Cleveland; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

OTHER BUSINESS

None presented.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None held.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Marlene Moto-Karl of Deering called; saw Deering wasn't listed on the Ambler Mining during comments. Concerned about village economic development; too much sport hunting. Deering and Buckland need to be involved in the public meetings. So much man-made disasters too; used to have maps of drilling in the area. Very low turnout on Elections, should try mail in Election; people on list that don't live in Deering. Thank you; hope keep an eye on caribou, low numbers.

Tanya Ballot, Administrator of Native Village of Selawik called regarding public safety and lack of funding for public safety. Looking at September meeting packet it shows tobacco excise tax revenue of \$850K; what are your plans for that monies? Surely would help communities with public safety. Commend and thank you for continued support of the VIF fund.

Margaret Hansen, Northwest Arctic Borough School District President called regarding a letter written to Assembly back in June regarding local contribution to education which was on hold due to State budget. Has there been any discussion of when will be brought to table to support our kids?

Alice Adams, Kivalina resident called to thank putting meeting on air to listen. Thank Linda Joule, Sandy Shroyer for comments on suicide. Have a son that recently passed due to suicide. She loves Kivalina, moved from Noatak; have been to Washington DC for lobbying with Borough. There is a lot of bulk fuel in their airport, this is fire safety fire code although the people have faith not thinking of what may happen during the night. With mining in the backyard; safety thing that Kivalina need to move to better place. Thank you.

Elia Nay, NANA employee informed the assembly that there is bad echo on the phone.

Billy Bernhardt, Kobuk Resident called regarding Ambler Mining District; listening to radio and seems like the Assembly needs to do homework for our people. Future of the Borough with royalty.

ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

Member Joule thank you for attending from Seattle, great to hear voices from home. Do what we ought to do as Assembly, how we grow as a community, Borough and each other. Hello to everybody, Happy Halloween.

Member Shroyer Beaver appreciates Linda's presentation, hope it continues with all entities involved. We need to put our social ills and suicide on front burner to get kids and communities involved; tough conversation. Appreciative of Nikaitchut school of what they do, they are the one and only immersion school; thank you Assembly for supporting. Thank you

for supporting KOTZ Radio, which started in basement and dialer phone; people in Shishmaref and Unalakleet that hear us too. Thank you to NANA Kotzebue Properties for reserving the building to keep culture alive. Hope Kivalina is reaching out to Denali Commission and other entities, lets continue with them moving. Have talked with Representative Lincoln about the Real ID; can we do PSA about what is needed. How can we cover the basis of what is needed; long list. Tribes, NANA and KIC if they can do photo can help; social security, health summary and birth certificates. Bush Brawl weekend come support your kids. Halloween week be cautious. Thank you.

Member Armstrong sends condolences to those that lost loved ones. Thank Administration, Assembly for good meeting. Thank presenters, lets continue to move forward.

Member Swan thank Mayor for response for community of Noatak. To all the villages, you can see response when you send your concerns to staff and Assembly.

Member Cleveland thank President, glad had work session yesterday concerning the road which will happen whether we like it or not. Have been trying to follow since heard of project, it's our children and grandchildren that will be hit with the system. Hopefully make the right decision, too much microwave our families utilize. We still have a chance, need development because of the way government is going. Maasaavik was a good program, have seen people come in as court ordered although some go back into the system. Difference when someone goes in on their own compared to court ordered. Mining will come soon, have worked with Trilogy; glad they are testing the water which is good. Thank you.

Member Oviok thank you to Community of Selawik for volunteer and Edward Loon's leadership to build his sister in laws coffin; condolences to brother Ronald whom just reached Pt. Hope. Thank you, all the prayers. Thank you for reorganizing the Assembly, congratulation to President and Vice President. Will look up Denali Commission which will benefit our people. Thank you AIDEA for presentation, when they met in Selawik they mentioned two-three years to start. Recommend using gravel from the region. Thank you, Linda, for presentation on wellness and suicide, like Member Cleveland said Maasaavik would be good to start up again. Thank you, President & Mayor, thank you for support for their family.

Member Sampson in Inupiaq. First, thank you for good meeting; heard good information regarding Ambler Mining District. Thank you, Billy, for your concerns, he has been bringing up; how many are opposing this Project. In the event if we stop or slow down the planning then someone else will plan for us; best to be part of process. Also, have been involved in the conference in Fairbanks; a Vietnams Veterans meeting with Juanita Mullen, Liaison for American Indians and Alaskan Natives and Mike Martin, Veterans Affairs. Met with BLM too to ensure all can apply for allotments, heirs are also able to apply. BLM is planning to travel to all regional centers to meet with major entities to discuss what is needed. Thank you to Mayor and staff for reports, we will continue to work for the better of the Region. Thank you.

Member Loon thank Mayor and staff for hard work. As Linda mentioned, use words wisely; wellness is very broad. She lost three Son, one to drinking and two to suicide; she hears you

Alice when you lose your hunter. Sending condolence to you in Kivalina. Wellness is needed in the communities; she suggests being involved in Inupiaq Days and youth activities. Thankful for presentations today, thank you to the residents that call in their concerns. Regarding transporters in Deering, the RACK will be meeting; please call in. Thank you, Assembly, for comments/concerns, congratulations to President and Vice President. Safe travels.

Member Barr mentioned good meeting, first one for her and still learning. Enjoyed all presentations and reports. Look forward to work ahead of us to better the lives of our residents. Hopefully to fill the duties of this seat and represent the voices of the villages. Thank you.

Vice President Carr sends condolences to those that lost loved ones, we need to reach out to each other. Thank constituents for putting faith in her, thank Assembly for trusting as Vice which she will serve best to her ability. Thank everyone for Sulianich to continue to represent our cultural art and economy; Vika goes and sell. Thank you to KOTZ for being on the air, weather is important for our residents. Thank you to Judy McCain for your Vet services, leaving tomorrow; moving after many years. Encourage village to put in the VIF applications. As Member Armstrong stated, we need divers in the area. Also, wellness we don't have to reinvent the wheel; we need to encourage in each village. Thank you, Billy, for concerns; it's time as landowners we need to be at the table. Thank you for attending, thank you Mayor and staff for keeping us informed. She asks for reports in both verbal/writing to where Assembly can review. Thank you.

President Hadley thank Mayor for putting agenda together. Thank you, Assembly, for confidence as President. He mentioned Larry called regarding being the resource committee and joint construction; think important role to keep in. Condolences to brother Sonny, tough loss going through suicide something we shouldn't get used of. Thank you, Mayor and staff.

Elder Representative Swan echoes all comments, good job. She raised concern of suicide, kids listen well and have feeling. Watch what you say, don't pass negative message.

MAYORS COMMENTS

Mayor Nelson thank Mr. Charlie Mcanelly for request, will work with Denali Commission. Thank you to Jason Hoke for presentation, Jeff San Juan, Linda Joule and Billy Bernhardt for calling in. Will be meeting with AIDEA this next month to see how Borough can invest to benefit the residents. Thank you to Marlene for calling in with concerns. Also, thank you Alice for calling in regarding social wellness. Thank Administration, Assembly for taking time to understand, listen and engage on items. This coming Tuesday will travel to Ambler to meet with city and Tribe. Good meeting, thank you for support. Joint conference coming up with School District, plan strategic plan phase two and joint Assembly meeting with North Slope.

ADJOURNMENT

Member Loon motion to adjourn, seconded by Vice President Carr at 2:18 P.M.

