



**Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly  
Special Meeting Minutes**

Friday, November 18, 2016 – 1:00 P.M.  
The Hotel Captain Cook Club Room 1 – Anchorage, AK

**DRAFT  
CALL TO ORDER**

President Carl Weisner called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

**INVOCATION**

Assembly Member Larry Westlake provided the invocation.

**ROLL CALL**

Assembly Members present at the time of roll call:

Miles Cleveland (late)	Elmer Armstrong Jr.	Lucy Nelson	Dood Carr
Hannah Loon	Walter Sampson	Carl Weisner	Austin Swan
Larry Westlake	Nathan Hadley Jr.	Tanya Ballot	

Introduction of Staff and Guests

Clement Richards Sr.	Craig McConnell	Johnathan King	Stella Atoruk
Patrick Savok	Kaam Sahely (telephonic)		Eugene Smith
Angie Sturm	Helena Hildreth	Brad Reich	Greta Schuerch
John Baker	Andy Baker	Katherine Keith	Tim Gavin
Ann Marie O'Brien	Sandy Shroyer-Beaver		Matt Mead
Cory Moulder	Mark Melchert		

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

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Ms. Carr-Lincoln asked about the other items that got onto the agenda besides the one presented and if they were in fact on the public notice within the past 24 hours.

Ms. Nelson commented that the additional resolution is a lot of information to divulge in such short notice.

Mayor Richards commented that some of the material is time sensitive and we need to fast track them and discuss them today.

Ms. Nelson replied that we have to be careful how we make decisions and anything that reflects the code cannot be done overnight.

Ms. Carr recommended that Resolution 16-56 be removed from the agenda due to the assembly members who have not been vetted on this.

**Member Sampson motioned, Member Ballot seconded to approve the agenda as amended. The motion passed unanimously with Member Cleveland absent during action.**

Ms. Sandy Shroyer-Beaver thanked the Assembly for removing Resolution 16-56 from the agenda.

Ms. Katherine Keith commented that they were looking forward to getting everyone together to help get this project moving forward and Remote Solutions have been denied the opportunity to provide comment at the school board meeting and their request to hold a joint construction and maintenance committee meeting. Remote Solution had hopes to have discussion today on that resolution that would have assisted in bringing everyone together and to move the project forward. Ms. Keith further commented that Commissioner Johnson is very excited about this project and they will be meeting with him on the first.

## RESOLUTIONS

1. **Resolution 16-55** a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly authorizing a contract with Northern Energy Technology LLC to install a solar heating system with heat pump to the hydroponic greenhouse in Kotzebue, Alaska and for related purposes.

Mr. Eugene Smith reported that the reason why this resolution is on the agenda is because by December 31, 2016 all of the CIAP projects have to be completed or otherwise we have to give the grant monies back

Mr. Brad Reich reported that we are going through a sole source process and Mr. Mathiasson found a heat pump and solar system and the cost to run this unit will be minimal to the IRA. This is a prime example not just for Kotzebue but we can promote it region wide without using stove oil period.

**Member Swan motioned, Member Cleveland seconded to approve Resolution 16-55. A roll call was conducted and the motion passed by a majority with Member Carr voting NO.**

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Member Carr motioned, Member Nelson seconded to discuss Teck's lawsuit with the Northwest Arctic Borough. A motion was conducted and the motion passed unanimously.**

**The assembly entered into Executive Session at 1:36 pm.  
The assembly reconvened from Executive Session at 3:26 pm.**

**The assembly has provided the negotiation team with direction.**

## **AUDIENCE COMMENTS**

Mr. John Baker, Remote Solutions, apologized that he has failed the School District and the Assembly. He added that he will do better and the actions today will not slow the project down.

Ms. Katherine Keith briefly reviewed the handout regarding the Kivalina project from the Department of Education and Economic Development. She also reviewed the power point presentation and the RFP for the design build of the project and clarified that Remote Solutions is just supporting the process.

## **ASSEMBLY COMMENTS**

Member Loon commented that is a good meeting and good information presented for the negotiation team.

Member Ballot commented about ample information that wasn't given in time and that we need to improve in this area. She also thanked Remote Solutions for their work and there is no doubt their work is expeditious.

Member Swan commented that the information that is disseminated needs to really state the intention of the meeting more clearly.

Member Westlake commented that this is a good meeting and thanked Remote Solutions and it is important that we work together.

Member Sampson thanked everyone for a good meeting and commented to Mr. John Baker not to blame himself and not to take it personal. Planning needs have been going on for a long time in regards to the Kivalina relocation issue and that the evacuation road has to have something at the end of it in an event there is flooding in Kivalina. He requested that the Assembly have a Special Meeting to address the evacuation road, school site funding and design so that there is an understanding between the school board and the Assembly.

Member Carr thanked Remote Solutions and commented that they did not fail, it was Assembly and the Administration that did. There has to be improvement of communication between the administration, committee and assembly level.

Member Hadley thanked the Mayor and staff for their hard work. He further commented about Facebook comments made by persons of high positions' in our region and he is hoping that our assembly members are not doing that.

Member Armstrong thanked everyone for a good meeting and thanked Remote Solutions for their good work. He also hopes for improved communication.

Member Nelson expressed her appreciation being unified on the negotiations and to continue doing things in good faith and would like administration to provide the information well in advance.

President Weisner encouraged safe travel home and wished Happy Thanksgiving to everyone. He also commented that he is looking forward to the Assembly retreat which Mayor Richards reported will be held December 12-15 in Seattle, WA.

#### **MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

Mayor Richards reported that the financial manual is completed and Ms. Sturm has copies for the Assembly. He was approached Mr. Mark Davis, AIDEA, and would like to discuss with the Assembly the PILT agreement for the Upper Ambler mining road.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 3:57 P.M.