



# Northwest Arctic Borough

## SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF:

Ambler Buckland Candle Deering Kivalina Kiana  
Kobuk Kotzebue Noatak Noorvik Selawik Shungnak

### Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly Regular Meeting Minutes - *DRAFT*

Tuesday, November 24, 2015 – 9:00 A.M.

Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly Chambers – Kotzebue, AK

## CALL TO ORDER

President Larry Westlake Sr. called the meeting to order at 9:01 A.M.

## INVOCATION/MOMENT OF SILENCE

Moment of silence recognized.

## ROLL CALL

### Members Present:

Elmer Armstrong Jr.	Walter Sampson	Hannah Loon	Austin Swan Sr.
Pete Schaeffer	Nathan Hadley Jr.	Miles Cleveland Sr.	Larry Westlake Sr.
Winona Hawley (telephonic)	Lucy Nelson	Carl Weisner	<i>Clyde Ramoth</i>

### Introduction of Staff and Guests

Clement Richards Sr.	Nina Lie	Rosny Rizk	Matt Mead
Patrick Savok	Dickie Moto	Noah Naylor	Jack McCrary
Eugene Smith	Wayne Hall	Susan Georgette	Brad Reich
Zach Stevenson	Kathleen Lansdale	Dean Westlake	Stella Atoruk
Mark Moore	<i>Billie Mulluk</i>	<i>Marlene Moto-Karl</i>	<i>Carol Wesley</i>
<i>Jimmy Allen</i>	<i>Sophie Foster</i>	<i>Annabelle Alvite</i>	

**Quorum established to conduct business.**

## AGENDA ADOPTION

Agenda for November 24, 2015 presented for approval. Member Westlake added Resolution 15-54. Mayor Richards request to table minutes of last meeting; also would like to add Ordinance 15-05am01 to the agenda.

**Member Westlake moved, seconded by Member Cleveland to adopt the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.**

## **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

None presented.

## **COMMUNICATIONS & APPEARANCES**

None presented.

## **BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES**

Chair Cleveland summarized the Budget, Audit and Finance meeting held previous day. Most all of them were passed, we will go through that shortly.

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS, INACTMENT OF ORDINANCES AND EMERGENCY ORDINANCES**

None presented.

## **ASSEMBLY REPORTS**

Member Hadley gave a brief report on AML Conference, congratulate Tim Gavin from Buckland he got elected to the AML Board of Directors on the At Large Seat.

Member Swan the AML Conference was a learning experience for me also, and I would like to congratulate Tim Gavin for his election to the Board of Directors.

Member Cleveland gave a brief report on Mining Conference; also gave a brief report on the AML Conference.

Member Loon spoke in Inupiaq, what I just mentioned is that I'm very pleased that Tim Gavin is representing the Buckland City, IRA, very pleased that he sent his staff over; also gave a brief report on the AML Conference; also suggest working together with City's and IRA's; very pleased with the Assembly and Staff working together, thank you Mayor, thank you everybody.

Member Armstrong gave a brief report on the AML Conference; also congratulate Tim Gavin on the Board of Directors.

President Weisner gave a brief report on the AML Conference and mini summit in Barrow.

Member Ramoth joined by teleconference; gave a brief report on the mini summit and AML Conference.

Member Nelson gave a brief report on the mini summit in Barrow.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Richards mentioned still in transition period; thank you to all those that voted during Election. Mayor summarized his written report; attended AML in Anchorage and met with Toys for Tots from Marines. Public Services Director thanked the following airlines; RAVN, Ryan, Bering and Alaska for shipping to all the villages. We have local residents bringing Marines throughout the villages to distribute. Mayor Richards have presented an organizational chart of the staff.

President Weisner added that during the AML Conference we have heard they will continue revenue sharing; Member Sampson verified if they have given an amount for each community? Member Nelson raised her concern regarding the importance of continuing to work on the energy pricing. Member Sampson looks forwarding working with Administration on the strategic plan. Member Loon raised her concern regarding Solid Waste Management and Green Initiatives and housing for the residents; she is also concerned regarding health issues in the communities with no running water.

### **TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Member Westlake raised concern regarding School Programs coming up.

Break at 9:35 A.M.;  
Resumed at 9:50 A.M.

President Weisner suggest to have it at the call of the chair in December. Member Cleveland suggest making a motion and can cancel it at your discretion. Member Nelson suggest 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> and if you have to cancel and reschedule

Budget, Audit and Finance – Monday, December 21, 2015 @ 1:30 P.M.

Work session – Monday, December 21, 2015 @ 3:30 P.M.

Regular Meeting – Tuesday, December 22, 2015 @ 9:00 A.M.

**Member Nelson motion to approve the dates of October 2015, seconded by Member Schaeffer. Passed unanimously.**

### **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**

1. **Ordinance 15-05am01** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly providing for the establishment and adoption of the line item budget for the Fiscal Year 2016.*

**Member Hadley motion to adopt Ordinance 15-05am01, seconded by Member Schaeffer. Passed unanimously.**

Member Nelson raised concern regarding interest income. Member Sampson expressed his concern regarding continued cuts; need to have good dialogues and encourage all of us to work together. Member Loon mentioned that this is a learning process and would like a cheat sheet with abbreviations; or even something like what Zach did, when it's general fund or grants. Member Ramoth mentioned we need a quiet place; easily distracted when at the local level. President Weisner mentioned that this is the first reading; Assembly Retreat budget will be reviewed.

## RESOLUTIONS

1. **Resolution 15-45** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly authorizing a professional services agreement with Glenn Gray and Associates.*

**Member Nelson motion to table Resolution 15-45, seconded by Member Sampson. Passed unanimously to table.**

2. **Resolution 15-47** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly disclaiming any interest in 2015 Department of Justice JAG Program Grant Funds being awarded to the City of Kotzebue and for related purposes.*

**Member Schaeffer motion to approve Resolution 15-47, seconded by Member Hadley; passed unanimously.**

3. **Resolution 15-49** *a resolution to approve professional services agreement amendments for the Subsistence Mapping Project.*

Member Sampson verified the amount of total cost of the project; he raised his concern in the event if it goes through. The restrictions can be placed on individuals of the livelihood. Would like to place provisions that would not allow for interest groups and use them against the livelihood. Also, with Cape Blossom issue; in the event if Borough and City of Kotzebue he don't want the plans to hinder the cost of living. Eighteen years ago those were used against; want protection in there, the information not used against them. Member Schaeffer mentioned it would be useful to incorporate some of that for future studies. President Weisner verified if this is ready for publication; thank you to Shell for the grant monies. Appreciate all the work put into this; baseline data is very important in the event to be presented to companies. President Weisner would like to see the project expand to include Upper Kobuk Villages which are not at this time.

**Member Hadley motion to approve Resolution 15-49, seconded by Member Loon. Passed by majority with ten yes, and one no.**

4. **Resolution 15-50** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly to approve a professional services agreement with Alaska Permanent Capital Management for Investment Management Services and related purposes.*

Member Nelson raised her concern regarding consistency on favorable return because of the budgeted amount; advised the Mayor to keep on top of the management of the portfolio. Member Sampson reinforce Member Nelson's comment.

**Member Schaeffer motion to approve Resolution 15-50, seconded by Member Cleveland; motion passed unanimously.**

5. **Resolution 15-51** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly establishing the FY16 long-term investment allocation, setting appropriate performance benchmarks, and for related purposes.*

**Member Sampson motion to approve Resolution 15-51, seconded by Member Nelson; passed unanimously.**

6. **Resolution 15-52** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly amending a contract with Electric Power Systems, Inc. for the Buckland Wind-Diesel Project and for related purposes.*

Member Sampson raised his concern as for Kotzebue Electric Association, since they work with Buckland; would they be included on this? Member Ramoth raised his concern as to the dates on the resolution, will those dates be changed?

**Member Hadley motion to approve Resolution 15-52, seconded by Member Ramoth; passed unanimously.**

7. **Resolution 15-53** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving amendment of a construction contract with STG for the Deering Wind-Diesel Project and for related purposes.*

**Member Hadley motion to approve Resolution 15-53, seconded by Member Nelson; passed unanimously.**

8. **Resolution 15-54** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly designating a committee to appoint Assembly Committee Members for 2015-2016.*

Member Sampson mentioned the discussion previous day regarding the committee structure. Member Cleveland verified if the committees will be changed? Member Westlake mentioned that if the resolution passes then there is a possibly will be changes be made. Member Hadley mentioned that if it passes then it should be in effect after the next election; 2016. When reviewing the committee now; everyone has a chance to be on a committee. If this goes through then it's under minding the authority of the President; we are elected officials. President Weisner expressed that this is not in concrete; changes can be made. Member Nelson expressed that this is not self-serving deal; expressing opinion and concern. Member Nelson verified if the Assembly had been promised seats on committees if elected President. President Weisner ensured there has been none. Member Westlake mentioned that the Assembly was instructed to let the President know which committees you'd like to be on; he selected four committees and didn't get on any of them. Member Schaeffer raised his concern as to being self-serving; as for the Ethic Committee, example where the determination and recommend to the Assembly as a whole.

**Member Loon motion to approve Resolution 15-54, seconded by Member Sampson. Motion failed by majority with seven no and four yes votes by roll call.**

## OTHER BUSINESS

None presented.

## AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Mark Moore, Native Village of Noatak Planning Director raised his concern regarding Fred Smith no longer with the Borough. He has been helping Noatak with National Park Service on getting the right-of-way to get fuel from Red Dog to Noatak to lower the cost. There is an important meeting, Mark wanted to ensure Borough is involved. He mentioned that the Village have put in close to nine thousand to WHPacific; don't drop the ball on us. Also, have an issue with the AVEC Power Plant; having concerns regarding the tank farm rupturing and dumping thousands of fuel into the river. Steve Gilbert sent him a letter in June and they haven't heard from AVEC; moving forward on their own, have monies from Economic Development of NANA. Council had advised him to go forward; he knows that there may some Assembly members are on the AVEC Board that may need to avoid any conflict. These are major concerns for Noatak; Power Plant and access road. He appreciate your time. At this time they are going to invite all the Directors from AVEC to the next meeting. Last time we have seen AVEC has been since 2006. Native Village of Noatak have an agreement with Red Dog where they can buy fifty thousand gallons of heating fuel for the residents; Borough and NANA had purchased the equipment a few years ago which has been sitting because Park Service haven't allowed them to transport the fuel. Right now they are allowing a five year permission for that land; we don't get access to the port. Eventually the people of Noatak won't be able to afford fuel to be flown in. Pit nine haven't been feasible for transportation of fuel; most feasible is at Pit six. We need a solid road; trying to find the efficient, smartest way to accomplish the goal. Mark Moore said he will take up the offer of Assembly members attending the Native Village of Noatak Council meeting.

*Marlene Moto-Karl of Deering called regarding the newly elected officials region wide; do they need to get the powers and duties handed out to everyone. Concerned about a region wide curfew. Also, in Deering at end of Smith Creek, need to get a dredge there. Condolences to families that lost loved ones. Good luck to the newly elected officials, hope you all serve us well and go by the book. Concerned about the hospital; they voted for marijuana medicine, only available to Anchorage area. Our health officials needs to approve that; found out allegoric to meds and can't afford marijuana. Spice is not healthy for us. City and IRA need to put out their priorities before January so it can go to the representatives in Juneau.*

*Billie Ruth Mulluk of Noorvik thank Mayor and past Mayor for medical assistance which have been provided this past four years. Thank you for your prayers to the Region to our family when we lost a family member. Send condolences to those that lost loved ones; no matter what we go through Lord is with us.*

*Jimmie Allen raised his concern regarding monies received from Red Dog Mine; he had worked there many years and they are tearing up the land. Thank you to Teck; contractors I wish they would hire more shareholders.*

*Carol Wesley called regarding sitting on the Planning Commission for Borough, also at the Village. She calls to thank Mike Moore for bringing issues brought forward from Noatak. Would like to know these are valid issues and request your support of what he is bringing forward.*

*Sophie Foster called regarding sitting on Search and Rescue Board; currently having the Regional Meeting in December. Need help and direction from Borough and IRA; would really appreciate any input from Borough. Search and Rescue is a major concern in our area; busy year round.*

*Annabelle Alvite sends her condolences to all those that lost loved ones. She raise her concern regarding solid waste; don't know if Borough is aware of the CIAP grant can help a lot of issues that were mentioned earlier. Before resignation she had submitted a summary of the solid waste improvement for the communities. She also mentioned the burn units for the villages which need training on. Annabelle raised her concern to climate change. She mentioned the CIAP grant tourism which is available.*

## **ASSEMBLY COMMENTS**

Elder Representative Hawley thank you all; sending condolences that lost their loved ones. Thank you to Borough too when we lost our loved one too. Easier to speak in Inupiaq.

Member Hadley sends his condolences to those that lost loved ones; people are praying for you. Again, congratulations to Tim Gavin; he brings a lot to AML Board. To the Mayor; would like to see the mission statement on the wall. In regards to the Student Representative, it's a good learning experience for the youth. Being on Assembly we have our own differences and work together; past is the past. We are moving forward and need to stay united. We have to work together; thank you.

Member Westlake raised his concern regarding Assembly travel; would like to travel on Monday. When we travel on Sunday we don't accomplish anything, having to get a hold of the clerk and get her out of her day off. Would like to continue to travel on Monday. Happy Thanksgiving to everyone.

Member Schaeffer had no comment.

Member Sampson in Inupiaq;

Member Cleveland in Inupiaq; condolences to families that lost loved ones. We have lost one in our area from New Mexico, thank the staff that retrieved the body and brought back to Shungnak. Accidents happen; sometime we can't help it. We need to listen to Troopers; we are endangering other lives to guard the body in storms like this. Thank you for the quick response. Resolution 15-54 needs to be brought up again during Retreat where we can work on it again.

Member Swan mentioned that the past couple days have been a learning experience; trying to digest what is coming in. Appreciate the voices from the Elder Assembly that have been here; it's good for the new people even though we try to voice our concerns.

Condolences to Selawik, Kobuk and Shungnak that are grieving for the loved ones. We will be praying for you.

Member Loon thank you all for the donations from Borough that were sent to Selawik. God is there to give you strength and wisdom. In our code here it says we should speak in Inupiaq; should be supporting the School District and contractors on our way of life. Thank you Assembly; it's easier to understand when in Inupiaq.

Member Armstrong sends his condolences in Selawik and Shungnak. Thank the Assembly; look forward to moving forward with you.

Member Nelson in Inupiaq; thank the listening audience for calling in and voicing your concerns, to listen and make lives better for our constituents. Welcome the new administration and elected officials. Thank everyone for bringing on issues, democracy at work; we all have our own voice. Appreciate everybody can speak their mind and decide on things that are important to us; hold ethical standards, be respectful and still shake hands at end of the day and come back for another meeting. Be safe out there with this weather.

President Weisner sends condolences throughout the Region that lost loved ones. Lastly would like to apologize for trespass against you; ask for your forgiveness. With help he will try to improve.

Member Ramoth in Inupiaq; thank all the help in our time of need; condolences to Shungnak. Thank you to Noorvik and Buckland. Thank all the different organization; see all the support at the community. Safe travels for those that are traveling; safety first, carry a SPOT, GPS and cell phone. Good meeting, enjoy Thanksgiving.

### **MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

Mayor Richards echo all comments on condolences to the families; commend to the all families that have helped with digging and cooking. Thank you to the Assembly for welcoming our staff; we have a bright, sharp Assembly. Dialogue is open, it's transparent. Look forward to working with you; thank you to all the voters that came to vote for all. He asks for God's blessing for this Holiday. Thank you for all those that called in, thank you, be part of the communication; door is always open. Thank you.

Member Weisner mentioned another storm coming in; please contact the clerk if any changes.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Member Vern Cleveland moved to adjourn; with no other business to conduct, the meeting adjourned at 11:55 A.M.**