



# Northwest Arctic Borough

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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, April 22, 2014 – 9:00 A.M.

Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly Chambers – Kotzebue, AK

### CALL TO ORDER

President Walter Sampson called the meeting to order at 9:02 A.M.

### INVOCATION

Mr. Miles Cleveland gave the invocation.

### ROLL CALL

#### Members Present:

Nathan Hadley Jr.	<i>Miles Cleveland Sr.</i>	<i>Patrick Savok</i>	Hendy Ballot Sr.
Walter Sampson	Larry Westlake Sr.	Lucy Nelson	Frank Greene
Carl Weisner (telephonic)	Vern Cleveland Sr.	Clyde Ramoth	

#### Introduction of Staff and Guests

Reggie Joule	Matt Mead	Judy Hassinger	Mary Sue Hyatt
Stella Atoruk	Martha Henry		

### AGENDA APPROVAL

Member Westlake would like to add Remote Solution for discussion. The agenda of the April 22, 2014 Regular Meeting was presented for approval Mayor Reggie Joule. Member Ramoth would like to include executive session. Matt Mead would recommend if a contract issue comes up. Member Vern Cleveland change date from Monday to Tuesday.

**Mr. Ramoth moved, seconded by Mr. Hadley to adopt the agenda as amended.  
Motion carried unanimously.**

### MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The March 24, 2014 Minutes has been presented for approval.

**Mr. Ballot moved, seconded by Mr. Vern Cleveland to approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.**

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

Madam Chair Nelson gave a brief summary of the Budget, Audit and Finance; approved previous minutes for March 24, 2014, also financial and investment report to the assembly through FY14 through March 31st, recommend do pass also ordinance 13-08-am-03 recommend do pass and ordinance 14-01 recommend do pass with recommended revisions, we also had some discussion on an update on DMTS and no comments.

Financial Report given by Judy Hassinger for the Assembly.

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

None presented.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Joule has provided a written report to the Assembly. Discussed Legislative Session and Capital Budget. Mayor Joule also mentioned the Science Symposium coming up. Also mentioned the Ice Road pressure ridge and encouraged everyone to be careful. Reggie also mentioned the Employee training and Ardor program. Reggie also mentioned DOT. Reggie mentioned Public Services staff. Reggie updated assembly on the national task force on climate change. Reggie explained where job listings are posted.

Mr. Ramoth gave a brief update of the Personnel Committee meeting. Mr. Vern Cleveland mentioned the Mayor and President attended the personnel meeting also.

President Sampson gave a brief report of Lands.

Mr. Greene the lands that the Borough selected, the Borough will not get title to them until the State of Alaska gets title from the Federal Government.

**Mr. Clyde Ramoth moved, seconded by Mr. Nathan Hadley to approve Mayor's report. Motion carried unanimously.**

### **TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday, May 5, 2014	1:00 P.M.	Special Meeting
Tuesday, May 27, 2014	9:00 A.M.	BAF
Tuesday, May 27, 2014	1:00 P.M.	Work Session
Wednesday, May 28, 2014	9:00 A.M.	Regular Meeting

Mr. Ballot states spring time the Villages have their Tribal Annual meetings and I think it would be important that the Reps for the villages to try to make an effort to attend those.

Reggie asked the Assembly Members to work out the Village travel with the Clerk.

Matt Mead thanks President and Mayor; it is up to the assembly's judgment and if there is business related to the Borough.

**Mr. Vern Cleveland moved, seconded by Mr. Clyde Ramoth to approve the schedule as listed. Motion carried unanimously on Special Meeting.**

**Mr. Clyde Ramoth moved, seconded by Mr. Carl Weisner to approve the schedule as listed. Motion carried unanimously on Regular Meeting.**

**10 minute Break, Meeting reconvened at 10:11 A.M.**

### **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**

1. **Ordinance 13-08 am 03** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly providing for the establishment and adoption of the line item budget amendment for the fiscal year 2014.*

Judy Hassinger gave a brief summary of Ordinance 13-08 am 03. Member Lucy Nelson Budget, Audit, Finance recommends do pass.

**Mr. Vern Cleveland moved to approve, Mr. Clyde Ramoth Seconded Ordinance 13-08 am 03 Passed unanimously.**

2. **Ordinance 14-01** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly providing for the establishment and adoption of the line item budget for the fiscal year 2015.*

Mayor Reggie Joule introduced Ordinance 14-01. Ms. Judy Hassinger gave a brief summary of Ordinance 14-01. Madam Chair Lucy Nelson comments on deficit. BAF recommends do pass.

**Mr. Nathan Hadley moved, seconded by Mr. Vern Cleveland to adopt Ordinance 14-01. Motion carried unanimously.**

### **RESOLUTIONS**

None presented

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Westlake made a motion to bring Remote Solutions back on the floor because it can help our borough and our villages. We need grant writers.

Mr. Ramoth echo's Member Westlake's comments; I definitely would support Remote Solutions because I know that it could help our villages.

Mr. Ballot stated for years the president and assembly has been asking for some kind of ways to monitor the moneys that come in and find out what they are used for, where they are and how much is left there is in these funding's, it will advance administration and assembly to look at each grant, we will be able to see what this is for, it has been in discussion in a lot of our meetings.

Mr. Weisner appreciates comments before mine, I am fully supportive of all the grant money that we can get to the villages, I was one of several who lobbied at Juneau to get some of these moneys put into the capital budget and we were fortunate to get a few put in.

Mr. Savok raised his concern on the current grant process and what Remote Solutions is proposing.

Mr. Miles Cleveland remote solutions is something that we need in our Region, Annabelle does great but she needs to also work with the Borough for the company there and the Assembly and our government and can't really go out to the communities to help out sometimes, Remote Solutions would offer that with to help our communities as far as training, the people there from John's office would be in our communities to help out training them and the grants, grant writing that there's some timely matters that would start going through.

Ms. Nelson i just wanted to further comment also being involved in grants at the Maniilaq level part of the discussion we had was that a grant has a budget and for example the state will only certain expenses that are allowable and we just want to make sure that if we're going to contract with Remote Solutions that those expenses were going to incur from that are allowable and Reggie and finance did say that there is ways you can revise those budgets and I'm not against that I just want a clarification and moving forward for that proposal.

Mr. Hadley all the villages have their priority list and the suggestion is to give them the priority list and let them contact the villages and see how they can help them with grants and in the long run it will help with jobs in the future.

Mr. Weisner mentioned he would like to put this more into context, and I think one of our larges grant is the CIAP grant and is it possible to get the director of the CIAP grant to help us understand to Lucy's concern regarding the budget and how they are used, I would like to hear from Zach Stevenson.

President Sampson mentioned that is the directions that this administration will be given, to give us a full report in regards to those things at the end of this discussion.

Judy Hassinger thanks President and Assembly, there seems to be two issues, one is the one with the Villages which is certainly a concern and the issue in regards to the CIAP programs, to me financially those are two different issues and the villages issues. When you review remote solutions proposal, keep in mind that there are two different discussions and would like to address, the CIAP issues are tied to federal regulation that would have to be met and the village issues would fall under the general fund, the CIAP grants are already awarded for a specific purpose.

Mr. Westlake mentioned he thinks this discussion can go on and on and I'm going to make a motion that the administration work with Remote Solution and come up with more answers on the proposal and the answers that the assembly concern.

**Member Westlake made a motion to continue discussion with Remote Solutions, second by Member Vern Cleveland.**

President Sampson mentioned yesterday we had good presentation by John and Kat as well, some good discussions came out of that, a lot of us gave a prospective in regards to the view point from our side and both pro's and con's and I think the discussion is heading toward what Larry is talking about, in regards to that presentation, basically what we're asking for is a report of what we have in place in regards to project management in regards to what we get from both State and Federal Government and if we can get that report for our next meeting then we can make a decision to where we go from there, basically what we do will is by getting a report it will refine the presentation that was given to us yesterday by John and Kat because there is some good intents of that proposal that was given to us yesterday and there is some refining that needs to be done and what that will also do is direct administration in regards to working out and putting together a strategic plan of how and what the money is doing for the Borough and the communities in this region and Member Ballot addressed that the issue in regards to strategic planning that I've always talked about and it will also make provisions for that, so we can clearly see the picture and make the invisible visible and I think that is something we all have been looking at in trying to deal with, what does that do for the communities in our region, what does that do for the borough. And I think what Larry did is make a motion to do exactly what hopefully what we are discussion to get a report to us so we can have a good dialog at our may meeting.

Mr. Weisner mentioned he plans to vote yes to support Larry's proposal to have the administration to work further with Remote solutions to help us narrow down some of these questions and I voted to support the initial \$45,000.00 to Remote Solutions I'm not exactly sure on how it was used and I would like to know and I heard a little bit yesterday that it was used for the project management program Microsoft office, there are other programs out there like Google drive that are free that do the same thing, that would save the Borough a lot if we knew how to use them. I have some other questions, Shungnak heavy equipment, how much of that money would we have to give to Remote Solutions?

Matt Mead asks Judy to provide a brief overview about the boroughs approach to the federal grants and state grants. Also explained the Borough's policy in maximizing benefit to the local communities.

Mr. Vern Cleveland raises concern on issues in helping the villages. I will vote yes for this.

### **AUDIENCE COMMENTS**

Marlene Moto-Karl raises concern about drug use in our Borough, the film makers in Nome are bringing it in. our people like the real stuff not the phony stuff, no deadly stuff.

Matt Mead thanks president, both the anchorage and Matsu Borough has raised this issue, we would be happy to report back at the next meeting and share with the residence what the ordinance looked like that Matsu borough has passed and Anchorage and see if there is a possibility that this borough can pass something similar.

Benjamin Arnold request a brief overview of what Remote Solutions is doing.

Robert Nazuruk cautions travelers about portages and tell people where you're going.

### **ASSEMBLY COMMENTS**

Mr. Hadley it is time of gathers food, spring time, exercise your right in gathering what you need, be cautious of the road and be safe.

Ms. Nelson reminder of Science Symposium coming up and Regional Energy Steering Committee, graduation is coming up next month and I want to congratulate all the students accomplishing all their dreams and goals and have a safe spring.

Mr. Ramoth echo's Member Nelsons comments, safe travels, the weather is warming up real quick, a lot of rain, it is bird hunting season already and caution everybody to be careful. Certainly looking forward to the next meeting and the Special Meeting, we are always open for discussion or questions certainly get ahold of anyone of us.

Mr. Vern Cleveland thanked you for a good meeting.

Mr. Ballot states we had a good meaningful dialog the last couple of days, there is clarification on the whole assembly and discussion is very useful and want to echo what they said about the students looking forward to graduating, we support you and be safe.

Mr. Miles Cleveland mentioned good meeting, good spring this spring.

Mr. Westlake thanks president, I learned a lot this meeting and very good issues put forward. Also, congratulates President Sampson on retirement from work.

Mr. Greene would like to wish everyone a safe and enjoyable spring, especially the bird hunters.

Mr. Weisner thank you, I appreciated the mayors legislative update, just a couple of days ago Alaska became only the second state in the union to recognize indigenous languages, 20 Alaskan Native languages are now officially state languages, including Inupiaq, it was house bill 216 and now Governor Parnell needs to sign it into law, it is largely symbolic, but it recognizes all languages as equal and our Regions very own Grant Magdanz as a legislative aid had a very integral role in the success in the bill so far And I think we all owe him and all of those that supported the bill a debt of gratitude and it's another effort to keep our language going and I wanted to highlight Grant Magdanz, his efforts and success for HB 216, thanks.

President Sampson thank you for a good meeting, what I eluded was to the fact of the discussion that we had in regard to the presentation that was given, as an example for issues that come before us, we have to discuss the pros and cons of these things, sure were not going to agree to everything at least we give the direction to administration in regards to giving us a good report for our next meeting so we can take a look and have a good dialog and do good discussion in regard to the issues that will be presented to us then we can make a decision where we want to go from there. The viewpoints that you gave as an assembly, we need to respect those viewpoints whether its for it or against, but it is the viewpoints that makes a difference in regards to raising the issues that will ultimately at some point surface and it's critical that we continue to have a dialog that way in all the things that we do we try to make sure that we get a good perspective from each one of you in regards to your thoughts and I respect those and you also need to respect others that have a different perspective on the reviews, thank you Larry, thank you assembly for a good discussion.

### **MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

Mayor Reggie Joule thank you, I would like to start off by thanking the staff who continues to do a tremendous amount of work, the staff includes monthly reports, that are included in your packet and from those monthly reports we will extrapolate some of the information that you seek to request in regards to some of the items previously discussed and look forward to the future and not only the written reports and the activities of the staff and the work that they are doing but bringing back the opportunity to for staff to rotate in and out and present to the borough so it's a combination of that. I think that you will find that the staff in doing a tremendous amount of work. With regard to some of the legislator stuff I have to tell you that Senator Olson and his chief aid has been working on the capital budget, they have done a tremendous amount of work they initiated the heavy lifting in the capital budget and Representative Nageak who visited about a month ago did some additional lifting and I appreciate the work of our elected officials to make sure that some of the issues that we bring forward are seeing and reflected and they have done a lot of work and I would like to recognize them for that as Walter mentioned on Thursday there is a party to recognize the 42 years of service that Walter has given to NANA Regional Corporation. I understand the frustration of what people are feeling of several things, impacts of the villages I share the frustrations here and it's been reflected with some of the staff, I want to remind people we've got some opportunities and one of them is continuing dialog on DMTS and generating revenue for the Borough and also with in the next year June 30, 2015 we have to come out with a revised agreement with TECK and I also want to throw out we as a Borough need to look at another source or Revenue in addition to that, maybe revenue generation from Alcohol or Cigarette taxes or other things this assembly has indicated that they would like to look at and it will be an ongoing discussion. Some of these opportunities, we as a borough create enough revenue to operate and it is a squeeze on the operation of the borough and we've never been in a position to have a capital budget like other places and in some of the things were looking at in generating revenues we need to be mindful of that and still do some savings and maybe look at some potential long term investments. We have something's coming up that we have to explore and be open to and I again look forward to the opportunity in having those discussions in early May and I understand the work we have to do between now and they and the budgets that are laid out in front of the assembly, it is not cast in stone. Thank you Mr. President and Assembly, I echo spring

harvesting and good luck to those that are involved in harvesting, encourage the use of SPOT trackers, let somebody know where you're going, please be safe. Thank you.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Mr. Clyde Ramoth moved to adjourn. With no other business to conduct, the meeting adjourned at 11:24 A.M.**