



# 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, June 24, 2014 – 9:00 A.M.

Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly Chambers – Kotzebue, AK

### CALL TO ORDER

President Walter Sampson called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

### INVOCATION

Mr. Miles Cleveland gave the invocation.

### ROLL CALL

#### Members Present:

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

#### Introduction of Staff and Guests

Reggie Joule	Matt Mead	Judy Hassinger	Stella Atoruk
Nina Lie	Christine Hess	Noah Naylor	Mary Hyatt
Fred Smith	Winona Hawley	John Baker	<i>Marlene Moto-Karl</i>
Brenden Ryan	Josephine Howarth		

**Quorum was present to conduct business.**

### AGENDA APPROVAL

Agenda presented for approval for June 24, 2014. Mayor requested to remove Resolution 14-17 since it had been approved at the previous regular meeting and to add Resolution 14-31 to the agenda. Member Ramoth requested to add G2, Personnel Committee Report. Also, Madam Chair Nelson requested to add Budget, Audit and Finance report instead of Financial Information listed under tab three. Member Ballot mentioned that BAF report will be recommendations from the committee.

**Vice President Weisner moved, seconded by Member Hadley to adopt the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.**

## MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Special Meeting Minutes dated April 24, May 5 and June 11, 2014 along with May 28, 2014 Regular Minutes have been presented for approval.

**Member Ballot moved, seconded by Member Ramoth to approve the all minutes presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

## COMMUNICATIONS & APPEARANCES

None presented.

## BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Madam Chair Nelson had provided a brief summary of the BAF meeting held that morning; agenda, minutes and recommend do pass on all resolutions and ordinance that were presented.

Personnel Chair Ramoth provided a summary of the Personnel Committee held on June 11, 2014 here in Kotzebue to review the updated employee handbook. Also went into executive session to have follow-up on the recent grievance that has been filed to the committee.

## PUBLIC HEARINGS, ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCES AND EMERGENCY ORDINANCES

1. **Ordinance 14-02** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly to approve a professional services agreement with Zender Environmental for a CIAP-Funded Composting Toilet Project, and for related purposes.*

**Member Hadley motion to approve Ordinance 14-02, seconded by Member Miles Cleveland. Motion carried unanimously.**

## MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Joule provided a summary of his written report. He has mentioned the AIDEA meeting that had been earlier this month regarding the Ambler Mining Road Project which focused on the EIS process. Community of Shungnak had a resolution supporting the process of moving forward with the environmental impact statement although they don't support or oppose the potential road. AIDEA is scheduled to have a meeting with the interior communities; opportunity for our borough and them to have dialogue of what to expect. Mayor also has provided a Shell Update on the supplemental EIS that will be completed by March of 2015; BOEM have asked Borough to be a cooperating agency of this process. He also mentioned the Kivalina Evacuation Road meeting that they attended through teleconference. The ICC conference is scheduled third week of July; Member

Ballot and Mayor are scheduled to attend that in Canada. There has been an EPA grant that has been awarded to ANTHC and NWAB area; will be testing water and food this next summer. Shell had been here earlier this month and will coming again tomorrow; Pete Slaiby is bringing his supervisor and wife to bring them around the state.

Member Hadley requested a timeline of the EIS process; also raised his concern in regards to City of Deering, are they going to be involved in the Shell process. Member Nelson brought up the seats that are up next election. Also, she had raised her concern in regards to a newsletter to the residents of the Borough so everyone knows the highlights of what have been happening.

President Sampson mentioned that they had good dialogue in Kobuk; State of Alaska Roads to resources had turned that over to AIDEA long ago. Once State had stop paying pension payments then residents realize what needed to be paid for. President Sampson discussed the EIS process; both sides will be present, at the end a determination will be made. He expressed the importance of residents needs to voice their concerns; no one from the outside should determine our way of life, the opportunity of our children, grandchildren should be there. What do the interest groups bring to us? Do they support what occurs in our Region? We are tax based operated; govern body. Sure subsistence is critical to our people; number one making sure it is protected. President Sampson raised his concern regarding young people; along with that there goes our culture. This Borough will determine on permitting process.

Mayor Joule raised his concern as to what is in it for us? What is the pass forward? It is up us to let AIDEA know the importance of subsistence.

**Member Hadley motion to approve Mayor's report, seconded by Member Westlake. Motion carried unanimously.**

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

Monday, July 21, 2014 at 9:00 A.M. – Budget, Audit and Finance  
Monday, July 21, 2014 at 1:00 P.M. – Work session  
Tuesday, July 22, 2014 at 9:00 A.M. – Regular meeting

Mayor Joule mentioned that he and Member Ballot will be attending ICC during that time.

**Member Ramoth moved to approve the next meeting schedule, seconded by Member Hadley. Motion passed unanimously.**

### **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**

None presented.

### **RESOLUTIONS**

1. **Resolution 14-15** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly authorizing a*

*contract for legal services and for related purposes.*

**Member Vern Cleveland moved to approve Resolution 14-15, seconded by Member Ballot; passed unanimously.**

2. **Resolution 14-16** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly authorizing a contract for services with Judith A. Hassinger as the Borough Treasurer and for related purposes.*

**Member Ramoth moved to approve Resolution 14-16, seconded by Member Vern Cleveland; passed unanimously.**

3. **Resolution 14-18am01** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly authorizing a professional services agreement with McClintock Land Associates for consulting, mapping, and surveying services related to the Borough's Municipal Land Entitlement, and for related purposes.*

President Sampson raised his concern regards additional resources to make sure those lands are surveyed; any issues in regards encumbrance is on State or Feds make sure those are addressed as well.

**Member Hadley moved to approve Resolution 14-18am01 seconded by Member Westlake; passed unanimously.**

4. **Resolution 14-22** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly to approve continuation of a Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP) Sub-grant Agreement with the City of Kotzebue to restore North Tent City and for related purposes.*

President Sampson raised his concern in regards of history, use of those lands which was used for subsistence site. The sites used to be BLM lands until City of Kotzebue took over. Make sure the grandfather rights are put in place for individuals from the villages that have those sites; make sure they are taken care of. Member Ramoth mentioned that extended family will probably need more information to work with City of Kotzebue. President Sampson mentioned that it is critical to do a title search of Tent City; those structures were in the early 60's.

**Member Hadley moved to approve Resolution 14-22, seconded by Member Miles Cleveland; passed unanimously.**

**Assembly took break at 10:06 A.M.  
Reconvene at 10:16 A.M.**

5. **Resolution 14-23** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly authorizing continuation of services with Network Business Systems for maintenance and technical support for the Borough's computer equipment, software, and server, and for related purposes.*

**Member Hadley moved to approve Resolution 14-23, seconded by Member Miles Cleveland; passed unanimously.**

6. **Resolution 14-24** a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly to approve a professional services agreement with KeyBanc Capital Markets for financial advising services and for related purposes.

**Member Westlake moved to approve Resolution 14-24, seconded by Member Ramoth; passed unanimously.**

7. **Resolution 14-25** a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly authorizing a professional services agreement with Glenn Gray and Associates to assist the Planning Department, and for related purposes.

**Member Ramoth moved to approve Resolution 14-25, seconded by Member Vern Cleveland; passed unanimously.**

8. **Resolution 14-26** a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly to approve the extension of a professional services agreement with GPS, Inc. to perform a community profile mapping project in cooperation with DCRA, and for related purposes.

**Member Ballot moved to approve Resolution 14-26, seconded by Member Vern Cleveland; passed unanimously.**

9. **Resolution 14-27** a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving the adoption of the amended employee handbook and for related purposes.

Chairperson Ramoth mentioned that Personnel Committee met on June 11, 2014 and recommend do pass. Member Nelson mentioned she made a recommendation yesterday regarding the in-house transfers; there should be a method of measuring performance. The employees have a new position and need a probation period; have to make sure they have the ability to perform that job. Vice President Weisner expressed he is thankful for all the work on the handbook, appreciate the family friendly provisions and allowance of subsistence leave; any organizations with these are doing well. President Sampson raised his concern regards the positions being advertised. Member Ballot added that this is the first step to changing the handbook; first of many as needed by adding or deleting.

**Member Ballot moved to approve Resolution 14-27, seconded by Member Hadley; passed unanimously.**

10. **Resolution 14-28** a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly to approve the purchase of housing supplies for a two-bedroom house in Noorvik for the VPSO Program and for related purposes.

**Member Hadley moved to approve Resolution 14-28, seconded by Member Vern Cleveland; passed unanimously.**

11. **Resolution 14-29** a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly authorizing an agreement with NANA Regional Corporation for Title Nine Monitoring Services and for related purposes.

**Member Ramoth moved to approve Resolution 14-29, seconded by Member Hadley;**

**passed unanimously with Member Vern Cleveland abstain.**

**Member Savok stepped away for a few minutes; back shortly.**

12. **Resolution 14-30** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly accepting Alaska State Legislative Capital Grant Funds for fiscal year 2015.*

Christine Hess mentioned that there are additional funds going into the Borough but not pass through the office; ANTHC received one million, part of that is for the exposed water pipe in Ambler. Also funded are large projects in Kiana, Ambler, Kotzebue and Selawik boardwalk project. Member Ramoth raised his concern regarding determination of the LED lights for the Region; is it by needs? Member Westlake mentioned that it will be big savings for the villages with the lights; does the request go through AVEC? Member Miles Cleveland raised his concern regards the plan and timeframe for the exposed water pipe in Ambler. Vice President Weisner thanked all those involved with lobbying in Juneau for these funds; also reiterate comment yesterday the villages because of cost of living.

**Member Hadley moved to approve Resolution 14-30, seconded by Member Miles Cleveland; passed unanimously.**

13. **Resolution 14-31** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly authorizing an agreement with Remote Solutions LLC to perform grant related services.*

**Member Ramoth moved to approve Resolution 14-31, seconded by Vice President Weisner; passed unanimously by roll call vote.**

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Other business has been discussed during the Mayor's report.

## **AUDIENCE COMMENTS**

Marlene Moto-Karl called in regarding tape disease going through commotion with musk ox; erosion at the bluffs, where the birds and sea lions nest. Bluffs is also our landmark, most of the graves there are knocked down because of the musk ox; is there bear spray for that, see if that will work? Another issue, when is the regional strategy? She hopes not during the busy hunting season. Marlene also discussed caribou migration, didn't they used to say leave the big ones alone. Some people were there filming; one time she found a lot of dead caribou, they shouldn't do that we have that for our food. She heard that the Kiwalik Shelter Cabin is going to be torn down; is there any update on the demolition? She has concerns regarding the bluffs eroding; some graves need to remark the sites.

## **ASSEMBLY COMMENTS**

Member Hadley mentioned they had good discussion yesterday under CIAP; congratulations to Remote Solutions on this resolution.

Member Ballot thank you; real informative month and productive discussions, lot of input both from Assembly and Administration which is good this is how we move forward. Inform all the campers; it has been pretty dry, be careful out there; those that are using campfires. Safety comes first in all that we do. Thank you.

**Member Savok joined the meeting.**

Member Ramoth mentioned good productive meeting; good discussion yesterday during our work session. Look forward to the AIDEA/Ambler Mining District Industrial Access Road; hope to have some good participants. Always think about our hunting and gathering; safe season for everybody this summer. Thank you.

Member Miles Cleveland mentioned good meeting. Crowley and Koyuk came up the river this year; they are finally going to have work on the bridge between Ambler and airport soon. Also glad the erosion problem should start this summer. Thank you, good meeting.

Member Savok mentioned good meeting; no comment.

Member Vern Cleveland mentioned good meeting; also will be attending the AIDEA meeting at Nullagvik.

Member Greene mentioned good meeting; thank you.

Member Westlake mentioned the ANTHC meeting in Kiana; hopefully get the water and sewer taken care of; looking good for Kiana. Problem should be corrected by this fall. Really happy about the lighting fund that we are getting; save a lot of money for the cities and also AVEC. Thank you.

Member Nelson thanked the Administration; have the finance report during the BAF committee; year to date through May, we have a one point three million dollar savings. She appreciates that they take our recommendations to work towards a balanced budget, they have worked hard to do that, she appreciates that. Encourage the residents of the Northwest Arctic Borough to participate in the upcoming elections, there are seats open, and you can contact Borough and get information. Thank you.

Vice President Weisner appreciated the Subsistence Mapping presentation yesterday; as mentioned this is a four year project. Think it has been beneficial for the villages that have been involved; Administration has done a good job with details. Encouraging the Administration and Borough to seek additional grant dollars so can consider possibility of additional subsistence mapping upper Kobuk. Thinks it's really important considering the discussion regarding of potential road; want to see that move along, best as possible. He thinks the Subsistence Mapping staff is a confident staff and hopes to see that move along.

Elder Representative Winona Hawley mentioned that this was a good meeting, the issues in regards to discussions regards to helping the villages in this region. Also have a good staff and some of the work that we need to look at as far as village work is concerned. God bless you.

Youth Representative Hyatt thanked you for a very informative meeting, thanks for all your hard work.

President Sampson thanked you for a good meeting, thank you to staff, thank you to the Assembly; recognize the responsibilities we have as a governing body to this region. To make sure to make opportunity to make life easier in the Region, sometimes it takes time; make sure there we take time to make sure those things that need to be addressed at the village level. Issue in regards to legal counsel; certainly we make sure that any issues we may have; make sure we communicate with legal. Thanks to Stella and Josie for all your work, appreciate your work. Thank you for the good meeting.

### **MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

Mayor Joule thanks the staff for all the hard work; past the budget meetings, was a good journey. Appreciate the acknowledgement of the work of the staff. Legislative grant, the resolution was partnership of Assembly and Administration; also the work of NWALT and Maniilaq. Good to recognize the accomplishment because a lot of people put in effort; team effort, appreciate all the work. Marlene brought up a couple things; musk ox is scratching, looking at what can be used for scratch post. Vika is looking at how can spool the wool off them; she went to Nome to collect and will do a workshop with Buckland and Deering. Regional Strategy has been moved to October 14-16, 2014 and Education Summit is scheduled for July 29-30, 2014. We have been trying to get additional VPSO; end of this month we will be up to eight. Making progress and continue to do that; looking for grant opportunity for housing in the village because that is the biggest challenge.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Mr. Clyde Ramoth moved to adjourn. With no other business to conduct, the meeting adjourned at 11:10 A.M.**