



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, September 23, 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.	Hendy Ballot Sr.	Walter Sampson
Larry Westlake Sr.	Frank Greene	Vern Cleveland Sr.	<i>Clyde Ramoth</i>
<i>(Telephonic)</i>			

Members Excused:

Lucy Nelson	Carl Weisner
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Introduction of Staff and Guests

Reggie Joule	Matt Mead	Judy Hassinger	Noah Naylor
Christine Hess	Noah Naylor	Winona Hawley	Martha Henry
Wendie Schaeffer			

Quorum was present to conduct business.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Agenda presented for approval for September 23, 2014.

Member Westlake moved, seconded by Member Greene to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes have been presented for approval of August 27, 2014, although Budget, Audit and Finance have approved the minutes yesterday.

Member Ballot moved, seconded by Member Hadley to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS & APPEARANCES

None presented.

BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

President Sampson provided a summary of the Budget, Audit and Finance committee have met yesterday and recommend do pass for all resolutions presented. Mayor Joule have mentioned that Alaska Permanent Capital Management Group have presented a report which will be presented at the next regular meeting.

PUBLIC HEARINGS, ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCES AND EMERGENCY ORDINANCES

None presented.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Joule mentioned the Election date of October 7th and seats available. Also Mayor have informed the Assembly of a fire outside of Noatak which was taken care of locally; Lena Ferguson have worked with State and City of Kotzebue during that time. Borough have received funding from State to replace street lights in some the communities. ConocoPhillips provided funding through the Borough of \$14,200.00 to change out Deering, we have additional funds to change lights. The national fishermen will have an article on Kotzebue Fishing and Borough's loan program. The trail staking for Deering to Kewalik have started; four wheelers to Buckland for firefighting. Delivered fire extinguishers to all the villages. Side by side four wheelers going to Kiana, Noorvik, Noatak and Selawik. Five snow machines going to outline communities and replacing old equipment which will be made available to the VPOs'. For the month of September we will work on Fall Preparedness, working with ATC to build a new cabin for Riley Wreck for shelter cabin. Mayor Joule provided a summary of the Arctic Policy Commission discussions happening globally in addition to that Christine had put a timeline together. Week of the Arctic will be beginning of October. Mayor also mentioned that the Assembly have went into executive session regards the strategy of the financial impact of the Borough; although no action have been taken. The audit has been done and have a clean audit, formal presentation will be at the November Assembly meeting. Also during BAF had a brief discussion regarding Sulianich of how to be self-sustained. During the work session there had been some discussion regarding purchasing new vs used equipment. Mayor also mentioned that handouts from City of Kotzebue regarding the Annexation, also asked by

Administration to communicate with the other land owners. Also heard an update of the Selawik Water & Sewer; and heard some boulders have been unloaded in the river up the Kobuk about twenty-six miles above Kiana. Drake Construction have been contacted and will see what actions need to be taken with the river being busy at this time. Regional Strategy is scheduled from October 14-16, 2014; NWALT have invited one or two from each community.

Mayor Joule mentioned he have received a letter from the Governor regarding sitting on an Advisory Board for Tax Provisions as they relate to municipal; Fred and himself have attended one of the meetings. The intent is to cap the total of twenty-five percent of each jurisdiction which the Governor will present during the legislature. NWALT have scheduled some of the villages for a meeting after the Education Summit, they have traveled to Selawik so far.

President Sampson verified the absentee dates to vote for the Elections.

Member Ballot motion to approve Mayor's report, seconded by Member Greene. Motion carried unanimously although no response from Member Ramoth.

TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday, October 27, 2014 at 9:00 A.M. – Budget, Audit and Finance

Monday, October 27, 2014 at 1:00 P.M. – Work session

Tuesday, October 28, 2014 at 9:00 A.M. – Regular meeting

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

Monday, October 13, 2014 at 1:00 P.M. – Special Meeting

Member Vern Cleveland moved, seconded by Member Miles Cleveland; motion passed unanimously.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

None presented.

RESOLUTIONS

- 1. Resolution 14-42** a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly to approve the purchase of equipment for the City of Kobuk and for related purposes.

Fred Smith provided a summary of the resolution; this is part of the legislative grant which was received last year; have worked with City of Kobuk as to what was needed. They have preferred a front end loader with accommodations of bucket of parts.

Member Ballot raised his concern regards to purchase new equipment verse used equipment in the future.

President Sampson also raised his concern regarding when applying for grants be sure and apply for training funds so that they can be trained to run the equipment.

Member Vern Cleveland motion to approve Resolution 14-42, seconded by Member Miles Cleveland; motion passed unanimously.

2. **Resolution 14-43** a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly supporting AIDEA's evaluation of an Industrial Road to the Ambler Mining District and petitioning AIDEA for involvement in financing opportunities.

Mayor Joule provided a summary of Resolution 14-43; this is not saying we support the road it says it supports the EIS to provide the outcome of the road. It doesn't commit the Borough to anything although there are opportunities of benefit to the Borough.

Member Greene requested an Inupiaq translation so that the residents don't think that Borough is supporting the road.

President Sampson reported that with his retirement he has started a consulting firm, Sampson LLC and he will be consulting with DOWL/HKM related to the Ambler Mining District and the Road Project.

Member Hadley motion to approve Resolution 14-43, seconded by Member Vern Cleveland; motion passed unanimously with no response from Member Ramoth.

3. **Resolution 14-44** a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly supporting the Borough's grant application for public safety housing projects in the region and for related purposes.

Mayor Joule provided a summary of Resolution 14-44, have been working with Remote Solutions and at stage three of this grant process.

Member Ballot motion to approve Resolution 14-44 as presented, seconded by Member Greene; motion passed unanimously with no response from Member Ramoth.

OTHER BUSINESS

No other business presented.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

No audience comments presented.

ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

Member Hadley had no comment.
Member Ballot had not comment.

Member Vern Cleveland requested an explanation of why Borough is not attending AFN, we have been going for years; is international travel more important than Alaska Federation of Natives? Also would like to consider having a consultant for the Assembly, would like to have one so that they know what is happening in Juneau; he haven't received any e-mails.

President Sampson requested a budget amendment for consulting before the next meeting so that the pricing can be reviewed. Yesterday we have heard the needs from Selawik and other communities have needs, we need to have a sufficient budget in regards to the needs.

Member Miles Cleveland had no comment.

Member Greene had no comment.

Member Westlake had no comment.

Elder Representative had no comment.

President Sampson provided absentee voting information to the residents of the Borough; encourage everyone to the polls during the Election. Thank you for the good meeting.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Joule had Brenden Ryan provided an update in regards to the boulders in the water above Kiana. Brenden have talked with Drake Construction; Drake had sent a barge to upriver and it had to come back because it have run into the ground. In terms of concerns of boats hitting the boulder they will hit the sandbar before hitting the rocks with that they have two options, have a smaller barge in Kiana load the rock onto that or wait until next year when they can bury it. They are willing to put warning buoys in that area which is very shallow.

Member Vern Cleveland mentioned that the barge should have a GPS; don't know they missed the channel by a hundred feet that is the worst part of the river. If the ice comes up next spring then it'll be too late, need to do something about it right away. Thank you.

Member Miles Cleveland mentioned that burying it is not the answer, pass the message along; it will resurface the boulder.

President Sampson mentioned all the changes happening today; even Noatak is just as shallow as used to be. Getting hard to find the channel; at one point this summer you can practically walk across the whole river. Administration will work with Drake on this issue.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Vern Cleveland moved to adjourn. With no other business to conduct, the meeting adjourned at 10:16 A.M.