



Northwest Arctic Borough

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF:

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

Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly
Budget, Audit & Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 25, 2014 – 9:00 A.M.
Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly Chambers – Kotzebue, AK

CALL TO ORDER

Madam Chair Lucy Nelson called the meeting to order at 9:00A.M.

INVOCATION

Mr. Miles Cleveland provided the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Budget, Audit and Finance Committee Members Present:

Miles Cleveland Sr.	Walter Sampson	Carl Weisner	Lucy Nelson
---------------------	----------------	--------------	-------------

Other Members Present

Vern Cleveland Sr.	Hendy Ballot Sr.	Clyde Ramoth	Larry Westlake Sr.
Nathan Hadley Jr.			

Introduction of Staff and Guests

Reggie Joule	Judy Hassinger	Noah Naylor	Fred Smith
Matt Mead	Chris Hatch	Ingemar Mathiasson	Wendie Schaeffer
Kathleen Landsdale	<i>Christine Hess</i>	Stella Atoruk	
<i>(telephonic)</i>			

A quorum was present to conduct business.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agenda presented for November 25, 2014 for approval. Mayor Joule removed Alaska Permanent Capital Management and add Resolution 14-56 and Resolution 14-49am01.

Member Weisner motioned, Member Miles Cleveland seconded to approve the agenda as amended.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Minutes of October 27, 2014 Budget, Audit and Finance presented for approval.

Member Miles Cleveland motioned, Member Weisner seconded to approve the minutes as presented.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Judy Hassinger provided a summary of the financial report ending October 31, 2014; which is four months into the fiscal year. Member Sampson verified other state on the pie chart for the general fund on revenues.

Member Ballot raised his concern regarding the continuous contribution to Chukchi Library. Madam Chair Nelson provided a brief history of the request by the Library. Member Ballot mentioned that since the first donation, is it mandatory for Borough to keep contributing? Madam Chair Nelson mentioned that the Assembly had requested what the monies have been spent on; also, that Borough should not be the only one to contribute to the Library. Member Sampson mentioned that during the last meeting we have heard of the petition; he mentioned that this is the only public library in the Borough. Member Vern Cleveland verified if there is any other library besides Kotzebue. Member Ballot mentioned that residents have raised their concern regarding all the monies going to Kotzebue and not to any outline villages; concern about fairness to everyone. Madam Chair mentioned that they can maintain and control the contributions; this is not a mandatory donation. Main purpose is to provide for our constituents.

Member Westlake verified if the VSPO monies, is that State pass thru money? Does that include VPO? Madam Chair mentioned that there is also Department of Justice which is Federal pass thru. Member Westlake verified if the funding increases annually for the VPSO/VPO; he think that we need to consider that they are not being paid enough and should be discussed during a budget hearing.

COMMUNICATIONS AND APPEARANCES

None presented.

PUBLIC HEARINGS, ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCES & EMERGENCY ORDINANCES

1. **Ordinance 14-01 am 01** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly providing for the establishment and adoption of the line item budget amendment for the Fiscal Year 2015.*

Member Sampson asked what Borough get from the Energy Steering Committee for the monies expensed.

Member Weisner recommend do pass.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

None presented.

RESOLUTIONS

1. **Resolution 14-53** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a Fiscal Year 2015 Alaska Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, Recreational Trails Grant in the amount of \$100,000.00 for the Northwest Arctic Borough Inter-Village Trails Mapping Project.*

Member Ballot verified with the changes in policy under DNR enable the tribes to apply for funding under IRR eligible to put these winter trails at their request. Member Sampson verified if we get any funding from Feds to take care of public asset; he mentioned need to look into Fish and Wildlife. Member Ramoth mentioned that he welcomes Susan Georgette, Selawik Wildlife Refuge Manager and they provide staff for trail staking between Selawik-Ambler, Selawik-Noorvik, Selawik-Buckland and Selawik-Kiana he believes.

Member Weisner recommend do pass.

2. **Resolution 14-54** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a contract with KEA to purchase and install LED equivalent lights in Borough Communities and for related purposes.*

Member Weisner verified the shortage of street lights; Deering had one street light which now has twenty-four. Kotzebue is the one that is has a shortfall; some discussion of where the City would like to locate them; he would like that on the list for the future. Member Westlake asked how far AVEC has gotten with changing the lights in the villages; although Borough should push harder and make that happen. Member Sampson requested information on how Deering has completed this, did they hire a certified electrician to put the lights up? Member Westlake asked if something can be done with KEA since AVEC can't do it.

Member Weisner recommend do pass.

3. **Resolution 14-55** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly accepting a \$50,000.00 grant from Shell Alaska to fund Search & Rescue equipment and facilities, and for related purposes.*

Member Ramoth asked if there is a village that has an organized team, can they apply for this grant like this?

Member Miles Cleveland recommend do pass.

4. **Resolution 14-56** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly authorizing the transfer of certain heavy equipment to the City of Shungnak, and for related purposes.*

Member Westlake verified if there is a dollar amount for this transaction.

Member Miles Cleveland recommend do pass.

5. **Resolution 14-49am01** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a professional services contract with Legislative Consultants in Alaska for FY15 and for related purposes.*

Madam Chair Nelson asked if any comparisons have done with Cities, Maniilaq or Borough as to what they are paying. Member Sampson thanks the Administration for the resolution; when requirements to one contractor, let's make it across the border equally we receive a monthly summary report of all contracts. Madam Chair Nelson mentioned that it's fair and equitable to streamline cost to pay but still need to consider bottom line; we are still at deficit of one point three million dollars. So when consider increase contract we need to look at that as well. Member Westlake thank the Mayor for the increase and the way the contract states don't know what will happen in Administration. Member Ballot mentioned that he had talked to a couple lobbyist during AML; the forecast for obtaining funding for the next few years will be hard.

Member Hendy Ballot recommend do pass.

OTHER BUSINESS

No other business discussed.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

No comments provided.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

No audience comments presented.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 10:15 A.M.

Carl Weisner motioned to adjourn.