CALL TO ORDER

President Carl Weisner called the meeting to order at 9:02 A.M.

INVOCATION

Member Cleveland provided the invocation. President Weisner mentioned that we shall keep those in our prayers that lost loved ones, including our Attorney Mead. Thoughts and prayers.

SAFETY MOMENT

Vice President Nelson mentioned while traveling this past weekend coming back from Nelson’s Camp there is water under the snow lil past Lockard Point; be cautious out there.

ROLL CALL/MEMBER EXCUSAL

Assembly Members present at the time of roll call:

Hannah Loon           Sandy Shroyer Beaver Miles Cleveland Austin Swan Sr.
Nathan Hadley Jr.      Lucy Nelson      Carl Weisner

Introduction of Staff and Guests

Clement Richards Sr.   Shield Downey Jr. Anna Crary Grant Hildreth
Hiram Walker           Nate Kotch     Damon Schaeffer Craig McConnell
Janine Bedford         Nelson Walker Ingemar Mathiasson Elizabeth Ferguson
Chris Cox              John Nichols    Margaret Hansen Blake Phillips
Ann Marie O’Brien      Chris Dankmayer Alice Davis Helena Hildreth
Clyde Ramoth           Angie Sturm   Tanya Ballot   Billy Bernhardt
Stella Atoruk

A quorum was present to conduct business.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

President Weisner summarized the agenda and provided the call in number for the audience. Agenda presented for approval for April 24, 2018. President Weisner mentioned that ACPM will call in under communications, Northwest Arctic Borough School District. Member Hadley request to add Ingemar Mathiasson and Hiram Walker to summarize previous report. Mayor Richards request to add Janine Bedford Teck to provide a brief report.

Member Carr motioned, Member Armstrong seconded to approve the agenda as amended. The motion passed unanimously.
APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

April 3, 2018 regular meeting minutes presented for approval.

Member Westlake motioned, Member Swan seconded to approve the minutes as presented; motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS AND APPEARANCES

Ingemar Mathiasson, Energy Coordinator provided an update on heat pumps; continuing collecting data. One may going to Kobuk soon, also expanding doing solar with it. Significate savings, trying to do a pilot project in Ambler.

President Weisner mentioned that summertime this cools your home although winter time snow can build up in the fan blades. He also verified the cost of the pump, does it require a larger outlet or standard size? Which requires a larger outlet. President Weisner ensure that this is on the website. Member Armstrong raised concern to village visits on how it works and encourage residents to sign up. President Weisner verified if maintenance would be a problem? Member Carr mentioned previous day she’d like this on the website, she would like a video for residents to see. Member Hadley mentioned that the monitors don’t provide clean air; most homes have monitors. It would be good to have a pilot projects to have the Elders would be nice to start with. Member Shroyer Beaver verified on how many Ingemar would like to do? She also verified the dollar amount; Member Shroyer Beaver suggest that the cigarette tax towards that.

Ingemar Mathiasson provided an update of Deering project, receiving a batteries will help with the wind turbines. Along with Buckland. Deering is interested in running water, require a big tank to reserve for wintertime. Hopefully get the whole village off diesel. Craig McConnell raised concern to number of pumps; if you reduce the electricity by half then AVEC will go broke. He learned at School District that you’d be fighting infrastructure; savings is not proportional to the usage.

Blake Phillips, ACPM provided a summary of the presentation of the three accounts as of March 31, 2018. Vice President Nelson raised concern to the earning; although with global war threat and such, did you say we may have a downturn or remain steady? She suggest to forecast and use the monies of the earning which aren’t budgeted. President Weisner verified of how often the investment policy is reviewed. Member Carr verified the long term policy although she thought it’s the practice to stay in long term.

Hiram Walker, VIF Capital Project provided a summary of a project for Deering; they’d like to have on the State Capital List for piped water distribution underground. He mentioned that he will work Mayor’s office and Borough Lobbyist to prioritize Deering Water Project.

Member Westlake raised concern the partnership with ANTHC and how will that fit in with the project. Member Loon verified the two items needed to be done prior to moving forward. Which is upgrade water plant and sewage outfall in the community. She raised concern what kind of structure is it; lagoon or cleaning, where does it go, what kind of upgrade do they need? Member Hadley expressed the importance of the commission working with the Mayor to speed up the process in Juneau, village in need of upgrades. Member Carr raised concern of what stage of the Deering project; completed or not. Member Hadley expressed
the importance of having running water, do the residents use the heat tapes about all winter? Member Loon mentioned that a Deering resident expressed to her the importance of dire need. Mr. Mathiasson mentioned that NANA, KEA and Department of Energy are big partners in the Energy Project also.

Dr. Ann Marie O’Brien and Margaret Hansen, Northwest Arctic Borough School District raised a concern they have in regards to funding on where NWABSD fell in relation to the PILT agreement and Borough Assembly supporting the School District. Teck had recently sent a letter, which they received by email today. District caught between two parties saying it’s each other’s responsibility; she heard School District has all this monies which isn’t true as they go into their reserves. Monies from Teck had funded in the past all school counselors, career technical education teacher and youth leaders; advisors and coordinator for that program which they have had to cover the past two years. Dr. O’Brien expressed the importance of education. Mrs. Hansen thanked Borough for a copy of the letter, which we’ve received before School District. They have funded not knowing if the funding would be in. They have continued on and hoping to come to Borough to pay above and beyond the requirement. She mentioned that they have been paying for Inupiaq teachers at nine hundred and lunch to be served seconds at one point eight which isn’t covered. Mrs. Hansen mentioned that they have monies aside to pay for the PERS program for the unfunded mandate back to State as Borough. Mrs. Hansen raised concern if they have monies available that they are unaware of.

President Weisner raised concern to BAF committee regarding the audit from School District. Member Shroyer Beaver verified if School District received the letter today; so youth leaders haven’t been funded how long and agreed upon how many years. She verified the amount for Pre-Kindergarten; she also, verified the amount in reserves. Member Shroyer Beaver raised concern to if they were given to Administration, would like to see that. She raised concern to a response for the youth leaders program; if funding isn’t approved then what would be cut. Member Carr thank them for coming for the meeting; she clarified that she is the one that spoke up regarding the $12 M in reserves and travel is lil over $1 M for School Board. She verified if the budget is public like Borough’s; also what you have with reserves if Borough don’t fund. Member Carr mentioned it would be beneficial to see the budget. President Weisner mentioned that Vice President Nelson also works in the School District Finance Department.

Vice President Nelson ensure she disclosed the working relationship and the information is public upon written request. She clarified that the school board travel is $261 and not $1M; district has fund balance and restricted for used of specific reasons. Dr. O’Brien mentioned that education has been flat funded although cost increasing on a yearly basis. Member Hadley summarized what Borough went through during the PILT negations; they may have to be another year or so. We’ve made an obligation to the villages, they haven’t gotten a cut. President Weisner mentioned that the budget today would include $1.8 M for the water and sewer project, real balance best as we can although the school district request isn’t included.

Mrs. Hansen mentioned that they will continue to advocate for the kids, they will make cuts although don’t want to go back to 2005. She is hopeful they will find funds to offset
additional cost; would you consider the cigarette tax to education? Dr. O'Brien mentioned they are aware of all of the needs, appreciate your time. Thank you.

Janine Bedford, Teck apologize for the letter which was sent by hard copy last week to School District then again this morning to School District and Assembly. Although, she for understand they will fund the Youth Leaders Program; currently have a request for 2018-2020 of $750K which they believe is important. President Weisner expressed his appreciation for the Youth Leaders. Member Carr expressed gratitude for the funding. Member Shroyer Beaver recommends to email the response; suggest to get sooner than later.

Break taken 10:38 A.M.  
Reconvene at 10:55 A.M.

BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Chairperson Swan, Regulation and taxation of tobacco, alcohol, and marijuana provided a summary of the meeting held previous day. Ordinance recommend do pass for the marijuana excise tax. Other business had discussion on alcohol revenue on where to appropriate funds. President Weisner added that the ordinance is to build framework; aware of an application for retail marijuana. Member Loon mentioned that they discussed on where the funds shall go. Member Carr added she heard a suggestion of the funds go towards the heat pumps.

Madam Chair Nelson provided a summary of the Budget, Audit & Finance committee held the previous day.

PUBLIC HEARINGS, ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCES & EMERGENCY ORDINANCES

1. **Ordinance 18-02** an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly adopting Chapter 10.20 of the Borough Code establishing the Borough Community Utility Assistance Program, and for related purposes.

Mayor Richards recommend do pass, had in depth discussion during the Retreat and several meetings to meet the needs for all eleven villages. He commends the Assembly for moving forward. John Nichols of ANTHC and Chris Dankmayer of Maniilaq provided a summary of this agreement; four goal – bring cost down by two thirds, schools and commercial enterprises by half, reduce number and cost of emergencies, provide regional training and support for the water plant operators and lastly requirements for the community to be involved to save money.

Member Cleveland raised concern to delinquent account to be part of this agreement. President Weisner mentioned a resident raised that concern, not a bail out of what is owed although effort to reduce communities expenses for water and sewer. Member Carr mentioned that the honey bucket is still not in the Museum like when previous Senator Georgianna Lincoln wanted; she'd like to thank ANTHC, Maniilaq, School District and Teck for us to move forward for better water and sewer. Also, thank you to
Administration and everybody. Commend Mr. McConnell and schools for keeping upkeep throughout the Region. Member Westlake mentioned glad to hear working with villages; have local hire and billing can be difficult. Member Armstrong expressed his gratitude to include all the villages. Member Hadley raised concern to village visits, is there an agreement with each village if they have a delinquent account.

Member Swan thank them for the reach out even though they don’t have water and sewer; sure would like to keep updated on the program in Kivalina. Member Hadley raised concern to what benefits the operators. President Weisner pointed out that operators would still be employed by respective city office; program would provide training and support. Member Looch expressed gratitude for this partnership. Selawik has a freeze up every year. She raised concern to utility billing, will it go to City of Selawik or go to its own account for parts and labor? Also, she understand Selawik isn’t eligible although when eligible will they get projects in the future. Member Cleveland raised concern to those that get water from the pump, is there a charge to get from the hose? Member Carr mentioned an opportune time for us to work with the parties involved.

Mrs. Hansen expressed the importance of reviewing the minute’s financials every month and ensure the taxes have been paid. She encourage residents to run for city council in all the villages. Mrs. Tanya Ballot called to verify if village visits will be done to share information with the leadership in case of questions or concerns. She encourage the Assembly and Administration to keep the momentum going for improving water and sewer in the Region. She’d like to see Mayor and key staff have more presents in all the villages; how can you know the needs of each community if no building relationship? Sending the same message to Tim Gilbert of Maniilaq, Wayne Westlake of NANA and Dr. O’Brien at School District to work together to improve the quality of life in each village. Mr. Clyde Ramoth of City of Selawik called to support Ordinance 18-02; he expressed the importance of educating our residence of budgeting their monies because of the high cost of living. Mr. Billy Berhardt of Kobuk raised concern to upgrades in the villages and regarding training; although the operators don’t pass the tests but they are still employed. He also raised concern to council members don’t pay their bills then no one wants to pay which is the biggest problem.

Member Westlake mentioned that shut offs during the winter time is costly; possibly look at valves. Mr. Bernhardt echoes Mrs. Ballot’s comment regarding all entities working together. Member Carr mentioned possibly in coordination with Margaret’s office or city office maybe dividends then won’t be threaten to shut off.

**Member Hadley motion to enact Ordinance 18-02, seconded by Member Westlake. Motion passed unanimously.**
2. **Ordinance 18-03** an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly establishing the FY19 Village Improvement Fund budget.

Mayor Richards recommend do pass. Madam BAF Chair Nelson mentioned the committee recommend to bring to full Assembly. She summarized the program since the memorandum of agreement with Tech that started April 25th. She raised concern with Legal Crary regarding the employment body if under Mayor or VIF; which would be under Mayor. Member Hadley verified if Administration received a letter requesting that the employees come out of the general fund; which he understood they wanted. Member Loon mentioned it's appropriate to put in the general fund. Vice President Nelson suggests overtime you can make the change, ordinance before us and make changes possibly at the next meeting. Member Carr echoes Vice President Nelson's comments; she suggest Legal sends a letter to the commission. Member Carr clarified the voting process regarding the fiscal year voting.

Member Hadley motion to enact Ordinance 18-03, seconded by Member Armstrong; motion passed by majority with Member Cleveland and Swan voting no.

3. **Ordinance 18-04** an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly providing for the establishment and adoption of the line-item budget for Fiscal Year 2019.

Mayor Richards recommend do pass. Mrs. Sturm summarized Ordinance 18-04 for second reading. Vice President Nelson mentioned during the BAF meeting they have discussed salaries; ensure cost of living increases and had clarified and the committee recommend do pass. President Weisner commends the Administration and Assembly for passing the budget.

Member Armstrong motion to enact Ordinance 18-04, seconded by Vice President Nelson. Motion passed by majority with Member Carr voting no.

4. **Ordinance 18-05** an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly amending Title Seven of the Borough Code to adopt a marijuana excise tax and for related purposes.

Mayor Richards mentioned that with the potential store opening then Borough is reading to receive taxation for sale of marijuana.

Member Carr motion to enact Ordinance 18-05, seconded by Member Cleveland. Motion passed unanimously.

5. **Ordinance 17-08-am-02** an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly
approving and adopting a second amended line-item budget for fiscal year 2018.

Mayor recommends do pass. Mrs. Sturm summarized Ordinance 17-08am02 for second reading.

**Member Armstrong motion to enact Ordinance 17-08am02, seconded by Member Loon; motion passed unanimously.**

6. **Ordinance 17-09-am-01 an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly establishing the amended FY18 Village Improvement Fund budget.**

Mayor Richards recommend do pass; establishing the budget. Mrs. Sturm summarized Ordinance 17-09am01.

**Member Loom motion to enact Ordinance 17-09am01, seconded by Member Hadley. Motion passed unanimously.**

President Weisner anticipated in depth discussion regarding the FY19 budget; oversight of requesting reconsideration of contribution to education to consider to meet the Teck and Borough's effort at least in the middle. Mayor Richards suggest to discuss right now. Member Carr raised concern to President Weisner's process, can you present and offer without Assembly's input or vote.

**ASSEMBLY REPORTS**

Member Westlake mentioned he traveled to Seattle on 19th and 20th on Climate change; important issue on our hands although we deal with every day. He suggest to have it on the upcoming North Slope joint meeting, effecting all of us. Member Westlake heard that Greenland uses trash for heat, we may need to look into.

Member Armstrong mentioned good meeting, thankful for the presentations. Good meeting.

Member Loom attended her first Arctic Encounter's conference; enjoyed subsistence discussion. Something we need to be engaged in each year, believe we can do more by sharing. The next meeting was suggested in the Arctic and not Seattle.

Member Carr also attended the Arctic Encounter's conference. Finland had excellent ideas on Economic Development; such an eye opener. When we meet with North Slope there are number of ideas from this symposium, important to keep involved. Remind the Assembly on our budget, we've set our priorities and she believe school need to set; if we move forward with ANTHC it's going to take a lot.

Member Hadley mentioned he attend the Arctic Encounter in Seattle; suggest to continue
attending these conference. Would like to attend AML also. He invites all to stay informed to make decisions for the future.

Member Shroyer Beaver attended the Arctic Encounter in Seattle; she enjoyed the global warming studies although we are not a study, we live the life style. She expressed that we need to be invited to the discussion, not after the discussion. Ivory have been banned; we as Alaskan use ivory although we live off the animal. Seriously hope they bring the Symposium to Alaska which is doable here. It may bring employment opportunity to our youth along with promoting our culture and lifestyle.

President Weisner also attended the Symposium in Seattle; he also had the opportunity to meet with Coast Guard to convey what is needed in Northwest Alaska. Governor Mallot also attended; hope to have representation at next year’s conference.

MAYORS REPORT
Mayor Richards summarize written report; glad the budget had passed. Have met with North Slope Mayor to discuss a joint meeting. Doyon and North Slope would like to have joint working relationship on the Ambler Mining Road project. IRT wasn’t able to make it to Kivalina regarding the Road project due to weather.

Vice President Nelson thank Mrs. Ballot for her comment regarding visible in Northwest Borough; suggest village visits. Constituents comment regarding staff traveling south and/or southwest.

Mayor Richards presented a hand out of School District’s financials, possibly review next meeting. He mentioned if we entertain then it would impact the budget.

President Weisner verified the Kivalina IRT efforts, positive development coming soon. He ensure that School District will be involved.

Member Carr raised concern to the VIF Commission meeting tomorrow if the Assembly can attend. President Weisner extends the invite although unbudgeted. Vice President Nelson recommend a representative voted by the body to provide the Assembly information. President Weisner mentioned he listens in when available. Member Hadley mentioned a public notice of action taken after the meeting. Member Carr verified if able to attend; Nelson Walker encourage the Assembly to attend although due to budget constraints then available to all members. Member Cleveland suggest the Kotzebue members then you are more than welcome to attend. Member Shroyer Beaver expressed the importance of seeing a report; although when appointed on a committee then that is the practice. Member Loon requested VIF minutes which shall solve the issue of what has been happening. Member Hadley mentioned he sits on the commission with no voting power. The reports come from VIF, if requested then given.
TIME & PLACE OF NEXT MEETING
President Weisner mentioned May 28-29, 2018 although May 28th is Memorial Day. Assembly suggest May 21-22, 2018 which may change.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES
None presented.

RESOLUTIONS
None presented.

OTHER BUSINESS
None listed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION
None held.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS
Dr. O’Brien thank the Assembly for important decisions for the communities; appreciate your time and listening to School District. Thank you.

*Clyde Ramoth, Selawik in Inupiaq. He suggest one of the Assembly members to translate some of the ordinances to Inupiaq or possibly put in simple English. Also, Selawik School had ran out of stove oil and had to borough from AVEC although unsure of why. Communication is key, working together is key. To Ingemar, more power to you.*

ASSEMBLY COMMENTS
Member Westlake had no comment.

Member Hadley look forward to Ordinance 18-02, will help with villages and operators getting training. Homes and schools will be getting a discount. Thank Mayor for working with Assembly. In future he’d like to see the VIF employees come from General Fund.

Member Swan mentioned good meeting; appreciate that you all want to help the communities.

Member Cleveland mentioned sometimes it’s hard to translate technical language; thank you all for good meeting. As we discuss VIF, sometimes down the road if we don’t watch then we might breech the contract. He suggest Teck to let us know in plain English to where the Assembly understand before going too far.

Member Oviok thank President, Mayor and staff for good meeting. Glad Mr. Walker went to Selawik; one of the questions at the community meeting they had asked how will it benefit Kotzebue? He suggest to invite ANThC and Maniilaq for a joint meeting, we can work together. He thank you for the Search & Rescue for letter of support for the snow machine.

Member Loon excited for good work session yesterday, although differences we agreed at the end. Thank you to guests for presentations; thank you ANThC for working with
Borough. Thank staff, believe the VIF commission shall be from general fund. Thank Mayor and staff for getting packets before Seattle trip. Thank you working on budget.

Member Carr thank guests for attending. On budget. Teck entrusted Borough on the agreement; villages pick and choose what to do and Assembly’s responsibility at end of the day. Cities and IRA’s need to come together and agree what you’re going to move forward on. Grateful to move forward on water and sewer; commend the villages for setting priorities. Thank you for being here.

Vice President Nelson strongly encourage Mayor to communicate with constituents; haven’t seen a newsletter in a while. Continue to go to KOTZ Radio and put Borough’s face out there. Have constituents come forward with issues although we need a public relations group. She stated they get comments regarding code of ethics; code on website under clerks’ section. Any person may file a written complaint with Borough Mayor, Clerk or Attorney by any official; will be forwarded to clerk for administrative processing. In order for something to be done, need to be written. Elections coming up, encourage you to sign up for those interested. Thank Tanya for commenting regarding village visits. Had good discussions on ordinances; we’ve got a lot of needs and financial requests. Thank you for coming, thank the administration and this body.

Member Shroyer Beaver added she look forward to ANTHC and seeing results. On VIF/VIC we all want it successful; do our homework, good people on the commission. She always support kids; more than anything to better the lives with water and sewer. Safe hunting. Gradations coming up, good luck. Sending condolences to Matt. Wish well to Chuck too.

Member Armstrong mentioned tough when discussing ordinances. Thank Teck, possibly next meeting can work something out. Thank VIF/VIC for attending. Thank you.

Elder Representative Downey in Inupiaq. Our Borough lives under the mercies of tax payers and industries; we are lucky not to pay property taxes. Expressed the importance of contingency of responsibility of the Assembly. He suggest public safety first; also, with burial assistance always needs help. Thank you for participation. Thank you for ordinances.

MAYORS COMMENTS

Mayor Richards’s thank you for working with Administration; good meeting, lot of discussion. Glad everything passed. Look forward to working with ANTHC. When traveling be safe, take extra gas, let someone know where you’re going. Look forward to next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Member Shroyer Beaver motion to adjourn, seconded by Member Carr to adjourn at 1:10 P.M.