



Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly
Regular Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 30, 2018 – 9:00 A.M.
Assembly Chambers – Kotzebue, AK

CALL TO ORDER

President Carl Weisner called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. Hope everyone enjoyed the Memorial weekend. He provided a summary of the agenda and encourage listening audience to call in and comment.

INVOCATION

Member Cleveland provided the invocation.

SAFETY MOMENT

Member Carr encourage listening audience to watch your children when out and about; have observed children on the rail and berms. Have a safe Spring.

President Weisner expressed his appreciation of the Search and Rescue; the boat needs attention with leveling and changing prop. He encourage volunteers to come to Borough and participate.

Legal Mead mentioned that although the weather is good during the day be sure and keep safety at forefront. They went skiing and hit a snow slide but his friend dislocated his shoulder; be sure and bring safety gear.

Member Loon in Inupiaq. She encourage Mothers and Parents to watch your curious children; right after ice break up they are curious. Member Loon expressed the importance of wearing personal floatation while boating.

ROLL CALL/MEMBER EXCUSAL

Assembly Members present at the time of roll call:

Elmer Armstrong Jr.	Kirk Oviok Jr.	Dood Carr	Larry Westlake Sr.
Hannah Loon	Sandy Shroyer Beaver	Miles Cleveland	Austin Swan Sr.
Nathan Hadley Jr.	Lucy Nelson (10:20A)	Carl Weisner	

Introduction of Staff and Guests

Clement Richards Sr.	Shield Downey Jr.	Matt Mead	Grant Hildreth
Hiram Walker	Nate Kotch	Dickie Moto	Charlie Gregg
Ingemar Mathiasson	Helena Hildreth	Wesley Goodwin	Ethel Weber
Clyde Ramoth	Angie Sturm	Tanya Ballot	Silvano Viverios
Josephine Howarth	Zach Stevenson	Walter Sampson	Jaime Lambert
Willie Towksjhea	Marlene Moto-Karl	Darlene Snyder	Janet Kiyutellek
Jessica Walker	Stella Atoruk		

A quorum was present to conduct business.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agenda has been presented for approval for May 30, 2018. President Weisner request to add Zach Stevenson under communication to discuss Federal Subsistence Board, VIC and Grant writer will present under resolutions and ordinances. Member Loon request to add Resolution 18-07. President Weisner verified with Mayor to add Ordinance 17-08am03. Member Hadley request to add Ingemar Mathiasson regarding heat pump and revolving loan. Member Loon verified if Maniilaq and ANTHC shall be present for VIC Resolution.

Member Carr motioned, Member Cleveland seconded to approve the agenda as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

April 24, 2018 regular meeting minutes presented for approval. President Weisner informed the audience if they'd like a copy of the minutes to contact the clerk.

Member Carr motioned, Member Loon seconded to approve the minutes as presented; motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS AND APPEARANCES

President Weisner invited Zach to update the Assembly on Federal Subsistence Activities. Mayor Richards request to add Enoch Adams request for funding for the Whaling Commission which may be discussed during the budget amendment.

Zach Stevenson, Subsistence Council Coordinator provided a summary of the Northwest Arctic Subsistence Regional Council does and actions taken. Wildlife proposals were recently received to protect animals, plants and fish that are used to provide traditional foods. In April the meeting was held, the Board received fifty-two proposals that were submitted by Regional Advisory Councils throughout the state; and forty-six were reviewed. Of that number seven were from this area although six were approved; Wildlife proposal 18-41 and 42 (Moose), 18-43 (Brown bear), 18-45 (Caribou), 18-46 and 18-47 (Closed caribou except Federal Subsistence), 18-48 and 18-49 (Registration hunt Caribou) and 18-32 (Caribou dates) which were all approved. Two proposals were denied 18-44 requested regulations of brown bear hides and modification of using as bait.

Ingemar Mathiasson provided an update of the heat pumps and possibility of having a revolving loan fund. He stated that State would like Borough to take the lead and provide a ten thousand; if expanded would be a sixty-five thousand dollar project which is ongoing. Also, have a solar power heat pump to be installed in Kobuk Tribal office since left out of original deal. As for the revolving loan fund can use online billing provide possibility of appliance like a heat pump for solar arrays on a household? There is a Panasonic heat pump in Kotzebue that will be collaborative to put on a house to see what kind of savings.

Member Hadley mentioned that with the savings can help each village; important that Borough take the lead he believes to help the economy.

Liaison Walter Sampson in Inupiaq; thank you for the opportunity to provide a report from Rural CAP and Veterans Affairs. He expressed the importance of working together with

other entities to provide services for our people. Rural CAP is currently recruiting for CEO's, interviews will be taken; work with major organizations to build homeless shelters and look at small homes. Hopefully can bring costs down with small homes although need help with land base and partners that can take over the projects. Weatherization will be continued, if any problems let Rural CAP know.

Liaison Sampson reported that Veterans' organizations; for the past year the Veterans administration in DC had major changes and affects all programs throughout the nation. Although there were two people to help with forms but had to await the program in Alaska. He mentioned he have been working with Nelson with Alaska Federation of Natives to help the Veterans with Native Allotment; currently trying to expand the window so veterans can apply.

Member Carr thank Walter for his continued work. She raised concern regarding the day care in Kotzebue and encourage administration to work with NWALT because it is lacking. Member Shroyer Beaver raised concern of Rural CAP includes head start. She verified with Liaison Sampson of a number of veterans that went through the native allotment application process. Member Loon thank Sampson for his work, she would like Assembly along with him to visit head start programs in the Bethel Region. Mayor Richards thank Liaison for his service, thank you for Inupiaq speaking and dedication to the Assembly. Member Hadley raised concern regarding veterans, is there other benefits for younger veterans.

Break observed at 10:06 A.M.

Reconvene at 10:20 A.M.

BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Member Carr summarized the Budget, Audit and Finance meeting held the previous day.

Mayor Richards provided a draft agenda for Joint Meeting with North Slope Borough for July 9, 2018.

Assembly Member Loon thanked Member Carr for her report; she mentioned that Mr. Willie Goodwin came forward for a funding request for AWEC.

Member Loon mentioned that she attended May 23rd VIF meeting; she is glad Teck is guiding the committee although close to Assembly meeting although overload for staff.

Vice President Nelson mentioned she attended the planning meeting with North Slope Borough; good to review resolutions in place and update from last meeting which was 2015. Mayor Richards request the Assembly to review the agenda for the joint meeting with NSB. Member Carr request to add Arctic Marine Mammal Coalition; she recommends under the caribou discussion.

Member Swan motion to approve the agenda for Joint NSB/NWAB as amended for July 9, 2018; seconded by Member Westlake, motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS, ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCES & EMERGENCY ORDINANCES

None presented.

ASSEMBLY REPORTS

None presented.

MAYORS REPORT

Mayor Richards summarized his written report.

TIME & PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

June 25-26, 2018 is scheduled if needed although the Joint Borough meeting is scheduled July 9, 2018 then regular July 23-24, 2018. Government Affairs Kotch mentioned depending on actions taken today then we'd need the second reading at June 25-26, 2018.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

1. **Ordinance 18-06** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly amending Section 6.16.350 of the Borough Code to increase the credit card limit for the Borough Travel Clerk.*

Mayor Richards recommend do pass, cumbersome when one person does the travel; need flexibility for travel needs. Member Carr raised concern to the amount limit.

Member Carr motion to approve Ordinance 18-06 for first reading, seconded by Member Westlake. Motion passed unanimously.

2. **Ordinance 18-07** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly amending Section 11.08.010 of the Borough Code to clarify use of Village Improvement Funds, and for related purposes.*

Mayor Richards recommend do pass, strengthen the Assembly commitment to not use the funds. Mrs. Webber and Mrs. Ballot provided a summary of the ordinance. Mrs. Ballot mentioned that each community has unique needs, we look forward to the efforts.

Member Shroyer Beaver motion to approve Ordinance 18-07 for first reading, seconded by Member Carr. Motion passed unanimously.

3. **Ordinance 17-08am03** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving and adopting a third amended line-item budget for Fiscal Year 2018.*

Mayor Richards recommend do pass. Mrs. Sturm provided a summary of Ordinance 17-08am03; one of the major highlights of the increase of two hundred thousand from PILT revenue. Although President Weisner suggest to have the narratives highlights the changes to reflect match obligation of one hundred twenty-seven thousand for the Deering Water & Sewer Project. President Weisner request a summary detail of Mayor Donation requests. Vice President Nelson request Mrs. Sturm provide a descriptive narrative; she'd like to know why stated that constituents state a lot of travel south and not to villages. Vice President

Nelson raised concern to the increase of consultants for? She expressed that the Assembly or Administration maybe can do better ourselves with media. Member Loon raised concern to consultant monies; village people are the experts. She expressed the importance of accountability, some of the monies are not going back to Borough area. Member Carr verified if there are the applications on the website. Member Westlake raised concern to the fishing grant; unsure if there are residents from Ambler or Selawik fisherman. He suggest those monies for Boys & Girls Clubs or something the villages can use.

Member Loon mentioned that she don't see the wellness account on the budget. For the fishing grant she don't think it's fair when it's only for Kotzebue. Mayor expressed this isn't only for Kotzebue. Member Shroyer Beaver mentioned she'd like to see wellness camps although would be nice to have in the villages. Member Carr mentioned that Mr. Greene said it is for all the villages; she'd like this on the website with up to date information.

Member Loon mentioned that a constituent raised concern regarding the fishing permit is commercial; what about village subsistence fishing grant. She expressed that youth wellness isn't on the budget although have been discussed verbally. Member Westlake raised concern to the ones that received these grants, did they have a permit? He suggest a percentage of the monies be for subsistence purposes. Member Loon request to have monies aside for summer youth activities. Member Oviok thank you for your commitment for the youth. Member Carr motion to approve the fishing grant be fifty-fifty percent to subsistence and commercial; seconded by Member Westlake. Mrs. Sturm clarified if this remaining amount for FY18 and FY19. Motion passed unanimously to have the grant half and half subsistence and commercial.

President Weisner mentioned Vice President Nelson will be leaving the meeting approximately at noon. Member Westlake raised concern to Public Services supplies/Search & Rescue monies, does this include snow machines and outboard motors with the FY18. He mentioned that the villages are having hard time with Search & Rescue equipment; he stated they need upgrades of all and need a budget for that. Member Carr requests Borough pitch in to purchase lifejackets 'kids don't float donated by Northwest Arctic Borough'; so many kids go swimming without. Member Westlake mentioned in the past when there used to be RFP's to get a good deal on the snow machines and outboards.

Vice President Nelson raised concern of the threshold; would like to ensure department heads are going to Mayor. She would like budgets are not exceeded and practice in place; if expected then an amendment would be made although based on expenditures. Vice President Nelson recommends the amendment was to support the Deering Water & Sewer Project although see budget changes and transfers between departments; she wants to ensure there is a practice in place. Although she supports the Deering Project but to keep practices in place. Appreciate to attend by teleconference.

President Weisner raised concern to monies available for the Search & Rescue boat needs. Member Shroyer Beaver expressed the importance of staying in line with the budget, we need to put out there that Borough can't keep skimming department budgets because of a deadline. Member Westlake mentioned that if the narrative were in detail then it we've have less discussion. He believe Public Services would be able to look for grants for the snow machines and outboard motors; working together it's what we are all about.

President Weisner mentioned that the Assembly have decided to keep the contribution to education flat because we've invested into partnership with Water & Sewer which is designed to lower the cost of all residents including school as well. In addition, Teck made a change to partially fund the Youth Leadership at the amount of seventy-five thousand. President Weisner had suggested to fund twenty five thousand to have them fully funded. Member Carr expressed she thought the Assembly have dealt with the issue and moved on; not in favor due to huge commitment with the priorities. Member Loon mention we are following the agenda. Mayor mentioned that Enoch Adams request to hold off on his request.

Member Armstrong motion to approve Ordinance 17-08am03 for first reading, seconded by Member Carr. Motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTIONS

1. **Resolution 18-04** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving the unincorporated Community of Noatak for participation in the FY19 Community Assistance Program.*

Mayor Richards recommend do pass, only tribal community within this Borough to receive funding through the community sharing program.

Member Armstrong motion to approve Resolution 18-04, seconded by Member Westlake. Motion passed unanimously.

2. **Resolution 18-05** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a memorandum of agreement with the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities for road maintenance activities for the Kivalina Road, and for related purposes.*

Member Swan raised concern to regarding who to direct road maintenance; if Borough works with this planning stages he would like to streamline activities stay in line with municipal factors. He declares City of Kivalina be contacted with contracted with road maintenance.

Mayor Richards recommend do pass, critical part of the road to help with scoring for funding for the road; although there was an issue on whom would be liable. He would like

to move forward to get the funding from State. Member Carr mentioned during BAF everyone was in favor although concern and reality was on whom who maintain the road; she would like School District involved to where it can be done in a timely manner. Member Loon confirmed the three components which will be addressed by the IRT Program; the application is will be submitted for this purpose. Member Westlake mentioned he supports the resolution although concerned about the funding and partnership.

Member Swan motion to approve Resolution 18-05, seconded by Member Carr. Motion passed unanimously.

3. **Resolution 18-06** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving written procedures for the Village Improvement Commission, and for related purposes.*

Mayor Richards recommend do pass. VIF Commissioner Ethel Weber and Tanya Ballot provided a summary of Resolution 18-06; Mrs. Weber thank Marie and Nelson for their work. President Weisner verified if this is approved today then it goes out to the villages. Member Carr expressed her gratitude to the commission and administration of VIF; thankful to President she is authorized to sit in the meetings. She suggests to Mayor that we celebrate this milestone. Mrs. Weber mentioned that a young adult had expressed the importance of saving our language; thank you to VIC staff also.

Member Carr motion to approve Resolution 18-06, seconded by Member Cleveland. Motion passed unanimously.

4. **Resolution 18-07** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly supporting funding for the Deering Water Treatment Plant Project, and for related purposes.*

Mayor Richards recommend do pass; as the amended budget has passed this gets the funding for Deering's match of \$126,029 to bring addition \$1.7 Million for their Water & Sewer. Member Carr raised concern regarding setting a precedent for any community; we can't just say no and to find means. President Weisner mentioned that Borough have assisted Ambler with fuel before also. Member Hadley thank the Assembly for the friendly amendment.

Member Loon motion to approve Resolution 18-07, seconded by Member Carr. Motion passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

None listed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None held.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Willie Towksjhea mentioned a lot of have changed throughout the years; we used to go to front street and help each other's. Front Street is all cement, no one comes around. He expressed the importance of alcohol, homelessness, and the policeman now days hurting our people. When are we going to be heard? Mr. Towksjhea expressed hardship; he don't think anyone would be able to live in his house. No heat, water & sewer, food and although he welcomes people that need a place to stay. When are people going to realize alcohol is hurting; City if making money out of alcohol and spend on something we don't need. In jail they are starving our people like prisoners of war. Where and when will our people have jobs? Why don't State of Alaska don't hear us? We are cut off heating assistance and food stamps lowered. He suggest a letter to Governor to make food stamps and heating higher.

Marlene Moto-Karl of Deering called to raise concern on Elections and people creeping up our land and using our gas; people causing drama and leaving trash on tundra. Haven't been able to get caribou this year due to weather. Too much alcohol and drugs; when are my concerns going to get heard. When will Election training be? Teachers never voted in last local and region, hopefully they vote; someone need to mention in their inservice they should set up example. People need booklet of ordinances to follow; should be taken care of the right way. Mrs. Moto-Karl raised concern regarding the stolen stuff on Facebook site Stolen in Alaska; this last winter she saw a broken machine but disappeared, Ski-do. Thank you.

Clyde Ramoth of Selawik in Inupiaq; good meeting, communication is key; good to hear the Assembly hears the village needs. Good to hear of the fishing grant to include subsistence. He raised concern regarding spring clean-up, although a lot deaths in Selawik they haven't scheduled and would like to have the bikes for fall clean-up. Whether City or Tribe; or can Planning Committee eligible to plan and host the clean-up? Thank you for your hard work.

Darlene Snyder called regarding the graveyards behind AC, have been happening for years. She contacted an ex-school board member regarding having an assembly with the children about destruction of sacred things; they are our people there. There are broken figurine, flowers thrown all over; she don't think Friends Church would do anything about it. Something needs to be done, she would like Borough to step up; would really appreciate a fence possibly. It's a disgrace when someone sees kids destroy our loved ones crosses; we have the obligation of saying something when something is wrong. Thank you.

Janet Kiyutelluk of Deering called regarding Elder abuse; she hear of them being hungry and cold. She suggest to have a donation box at hospital, AC lobby or post office. Janet mentioned she hear of Elders hurt because of family member drinking in their home; sad to see. Although the alcohol store have been voted she encourage to keep trying to close it; keep voicing out to the young people that we are losing our Elders. Wish the Elders can voice out their concern. Thank you for able to call in.

Jessica Walker called regarding position held at the Borough, Mayor informed her to call him directly.

ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

Member Carr raised concern to if the food bank is open here in Kotzebue; she'd like to have that information on the website. She is grateful for the passing of the resolution; glad the Assembly is welcome to attend. Member Carr continually ask for accountability from Mayor and staff, on behalf of constituents. She is thankful that the whole Assembly being here and attending BAF.

Member Loon mentioned sensitive for Elder Abuse, speaking for others hunger, no heat. If you need assistance talk to the Mayor. Thank you Mayor and staff on getting information; thank you Angie, if we'd have narratives months ago we've wouldn't be questioning and distrustful. She apologize. Thank you clerk and staff; to constituents call when you have questions. Thank you.

Member Shroyer Beaver mentioned good meeting; happy to hear about VIF. As mentioned yesterday she know the communities know what their needs are. She expressed the importance of savings and investments; 2031 will be here before we know it. We are fortunate to have this negotiated contract for our people; commend the Assembly and our people for working diligently, to Mayor and staff. Let's remember 2031, pretend it isn't there. Thank you.

Member Armstrong mentioned good meeting; lot of discussion on resolutions and ordinances. Thank Mayor, staff and Assembly; let's continue to move forward with all the issues. Thank you.

Member Swan thank staff for work, VIF commission and Assembly for making things better for our communities. Thank you.

Member Oviok thank Mr. President, Mayor and staff. He missed the comment regarding the Rural CAP on housing on health issues that go Anchorage, sometime our people don't qualify for housing because the policy or procedures. Regarding the VIC, he attend; strong leadership with their chairperson. Good meeting.

Member Hadley thank Mayor, staff and presenters. Thank you for the amendment to resolution 18-07, also thank VIC staff for working hard. Congratulations to commissioners for working on guideline and application. There will a lot to handle.

Member Westlake mentioned good meeting; thank VIF staff for getting where we are today, now villages can get priorities in. Regarding the changes in the budget, glad it happen that way. We got to work together and share; support our young people and everyone that needs it.

Elder Representative thank staff for accommodations, President, Mayor, VIF staff and commission. We've made great strides to help our people, disagree to agree at times. We need to keep going at the rate we are going. Good job, thank Mr. Towskjae for commitment; we need to help our Elders, a lot isn't reported. Be cognizance of what is going on, All kind of abuse going on; children. Commend VIF for great strides.

President Weisner mentioned he is thankful for Member Westlake and Loon's request for subsistence and commercial fishing; great to meet our mission and vision. His kindly request that administration consider when awarding commercial grants that they prioritize the requirements from Coast Guard.

MAYORS COMMENTS

Mayor Richards thank President and Assembly. He mentioned good meeting; lot of discussion which shows your commitment. Our staff is committed to meet your challenges and concerns. Happy that VIF and VIC for coming up with application and guidelines, commend the Assembly for passing; milestone itself. Best opportunity for the communities to improves the lives. Elections coming up, Mayor's seat and some Assembly seats; accepting June 4th until August 17th. Those that want to be challenged, fill out those petitions; as Mayor he have seen the needs and concerns of the Region. Very honor and humbled to be here, he plan to rerun whether reelected or not up to the people. Hunting time, be safe; take extra gas and let some know where you're going. Thank Legal. Thank Willie, stop by my office and any Elders feel free to call. Here for the Region, look forward to excited times.

ADJOURNMENT

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stella Atouk". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Stella" and last name "Atouk" clearly distinguishable.