



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, June 23, 2015 – 9:00 A.M.

Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly Chambers – Kotzebue, AK

CALL TO ORDER

Interim President Larry Westlake Sr. called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

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

Introduction of Staff and Guests

Reggie Joule	Judy Hassinger	Noah Naylor	Fred Smith
Wendie Schaeffer	Matt Mead	Winona Hawley	Tiffany Scott
Chloe Naylor	Kathleen Lansdale	Joanna Sours	Christine Hess
Ronzi Rizk	<i>Pauline Cleveland</i>	Stella Atoruk	

Quorum established to conduct business.

INVOCATION/MOMENT OF SILENCE

Member Miles Cleveland provided invocation.

AGENDA ADOPTION

Agenda for June 23, 2015 presented for approval. Mayor Joule request to add reorganization between communication and appearance and boards, committee and commission, move Ethics Report be moved to bottom of the agenda, add Resolution 15-32 and executive session under other business regarding finance.

Member Ramoth moved, seconded by Member Miles Cleveland to adopt the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously with nine yes and one no voting.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The meeting minutes of May 19, 2015 were presented for approval.

Member Ballot moved to approve the meeting minutes, seconded by Member Hadley. Motion carried unanimously with nine yes and one no voting.

REORGANIZATION

Member Nelson raised her concern regarding discussion yesterday regarding waiting until new elections in October. Although there is a need for Vice President, in absence of the presiding officer.

Member Vern Cleveland nominate Larry for President, unanimous consent. President Westlake thank the Assembly.

President Westlake open nominations for Vice President.

Member Hadley nominate Vern Cleveland, Member Weisner second the nomination, requesting unanimous consent.

Member Ballot nominate Miles Cleveland, second by Member Nelson.

Member Ramoth nominate to close the nominations.

Member Sampson joined meeting at 9:12 A.M. by teleconference.

**Break taken at 9:15 A.M.
Reconvene at 9:21 A.M.**

Secret ballot held, Member Miles Cleveland had six votes and Member Vern Cleveland had four votes.

COMMUNICATIONS & APPEARANCES

No communications and appearances.

BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Madam Chair Nelson congratulates President and Vice President. She mentioned that there was a Budget, Audit and Finance meeting yesterday. They have approved the committee minutes, no ordinances and six resolutions; majority had monetary value and renewals of existing contracts. All recommend do pass by the committee members. Also, have went through the monthly financials as of May 31, 2015.

Member Weisner verified if there was discussion regarding the transition for treasurer; was that covered during the meeting? Which is effective as of July 1, 2015 with Accurate Solutions.

Fred Smith mentioned there was a land committee held yesterday, all members were present. The committee discussed the current status of land selections and to review the priorities that were set in the past; upper Kobuk, Candle and Squirrel River areas. Other areas were also selected although it's in BLM hands not State; it will take a while for the transfer. Land Committee request a meeting with State DNR and Federal BLM to see if can expedite the Borough Land Selections.

President Westlake raised his concern regarding the transfer from Feds to State. Member Weisner mentioned the discussions yesterday regarding expediting the transfer; if go through then Borough should bill them because it's costly. Member Vern Cleveland raised his concern regarding land eroding; what would happen, if part of the land washed away.

PUBLIC HEARINGS, INACTMENT OF ORDINANCES AND EMERGENCY ORDINANCES

None presented.

ASSEMBLY REPORTS

Member Weisner mentioned the first hand understanding of Shell's drilling rigs that will be in the Chukchi Sea. They have met the key staff, and go over safety measures and spill prevention. As an advocate of this region we worked with them on the possibly for getting a training or education of youth from this area for getting the door open for joining this industry.

Member Vern Cleveland mentioned that he had traveled also to Seattle to look at Shell's drilling rigs. He mentioned that North Slope, Bering Straits and coastal areas that went on the tour. Thank you.

Member Hadley mentioned he attended a joint committee with the School District; they recommend to the School District for future construction and touch ups in the villages and Kotzebue. He also attended a meeting in Deering with Shell; good public meeting with residents whom are concerned about subsistence hunting in Good Hope Bay area. Which is used for providing for subsistence.

Member Nelson mentioned she also traveled to Seattle for the Shell rig site; first time lifted in a Frog, interesting on the safety and requirements. She expressed to be proactive about these things and be open minded. Thank you.

Member Ramoth mentioned he had the opportunity to travel with Assembly and North Slope to Seattle; great to meet the folks and ask questions, very productive.

Member Miles Cleveland mentioned he traveled to Seattle with the group; a lot of good memories of working on rigs before. Also, made a trip to Greenland and Iceland with

Christine and Fred; great trip. As you read on the report from Christine there is a lot of information; great representation from Borough staff.

Fred Smith summarized their trip to Greenland which was part of the Alaska contingent; first part focused on Arctic Mining Conference, countries from Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Greenland and Canada at the conference. Also toured the school similar to the magnet school, then on to Nuuk where they met with different Federal State Agencies. Christine mentioned that Greenland have the largest National Park; they are looking at developing a Citron Mine which is also a zinc and lead mine. She summarized her written report.

President Westlake mentioned that he went there in the 1980's and there wasn't an airport, how did you get there?

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Joule gave a brief overview of written report. Every department within the State will be affected by the cuts from oil revenue. Also reported there was a successful search last night. Qatnut starting beginning of July. Yesterday there was a handout on National Oceana Association is going to have two boats in the Kotzebue Sound this summer doing work, depths on ice and bottom mapping in addition to the Coast Guard activities. Mayor Joule also attended the Governor's sustainable Alaska Future; where the transition team had discussed the budget challenges. There is a reductions throughout all services; every Alaskan need to realize that this real and its coming. We have less oil to depend on; one or two special sessions this Fall. Would like to take this opportunity to thank the people who work hard here at Borough and Search and Rescue. Mayor request flexibility to present Judy with a gift before her leaves.

Member Sampson excused at the moment.

Mayor Joule mentioned that there is upcoming events if the Assembly is interested; provided a list of Arctic Circle Assemblies. Would like to have consideration of Shipping and Port Development in August and the Arctic Energy Summit in September.

President Westlake mentioned that the Arctic Assemblies would fall on our meeting date although the Goodhope Bay, what kind of containment are they suggesting? Is that just for the summer season?

Mayor Joule added that some communities that are close; how much of the nine hundred eighty thousand gallons are they going to use? Whatever they might be able to use there are some coastal communities that would benefit for whatever may be left behind. Also, there is a Coast Guard training that is going on today. Wendie Schaeffer mentioned Coast Guard is here today and tomorrow, at the Fire Hall doing classroom training on easement command systems and spill response. There is staff from Public Services staff, local fire department, representative from Deering and Kivalina; following the training they will bring two connex of spill response materials.

Member Miles Cleveland raised his concern regarding the hiring process for Ridge Construction in Ambler; have hired about thirty locals which some of have been gone for a while and come back. Ridge had a day off because they couldn't get to the fuel system because NANA stopped them from crossing a certain part of the road they created. This is creating a problem for shareholders not working; thank you to former Mayor Morgan for pushing over the years for gravel sources. Contractors need to take advantage of this weather.

Member Weisner raised his concern regarding the budget during the legislative session; how will Kivalina School and road to the school, how did that hold up?

Member Ramoth mentioned great job to staff, seeing hard work with limited staff numbers. For preventive numbers and spill response; have we talked with folks at Red Dog, are they available for spill response at the Port Site? Search and Rescue, Fire; are we reaching out to the villages for training regarding CPR, First Aid or fire training?

TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Mayor Joule mentioned the discussion regarding minimize travel on Sunday; he suggest different options. President Westlake believes that a lot can be done on Monday afternoon, can we still work in the BAF and work session. Mayor mentioned that we can do evening work session; not sure how energetic would be. We have discussed BAF meetings being quarterly; Member Nelson mentioned that the BAF and Work session can be done one to five. Member Vern Cleveland raised his concern regarding the upcoming times, would like to leave it the way it is, don't know why changing it. President Westlake mentioned that most of them like to spend Sunday at home; code states meeting on Tuesday. Member Ramoth mentioned that he likes to rest on Sunday also.

Budget, Audit and Finance – July 27, 2015 at 1:30 P.M.

Work session – July 27, 2015 at 3:00 P.M.

Regular Meeting – July 28, 2015 at 9:00 A.M.

Member Ramoth motion to approve the next meeting dates of July 27 and 28th; seconded by Member Miles Cleveland. Motion carried unanimously with one no voting.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

None Presented.

Break taken at 10:22 A.M.

Reconvene at 10:35 A.M.

RESOLUTIONS

1. **Resolution 15-27** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly authorizing a professional services agreement with Accurate Accounting Solutions LLC to serve as the*

Borough Treasurer and for related purposes.

President Westlake thank Rosny for being here and enjoy your weekend.

Member Weisner move to approve Resolution 15-27, seconded by Member Vern Cleveland. Motion passed unanimously with one no voting.

2. **Resolution 15-28** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly authorizing a contract for legal services and for related purposes.*

Member Ramoth move to approve Resolution 15-28, seconded by Member Ballot; passed unanimously with one no voting by roll call vote.

3. **Resolution 15-29** *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 move to approve Resolution 15-29, seconded by Member Ballot; passed unanimously with one no voting by roll call vote.

4. **Resolution 15-30** *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.*

Member Ramoth moved to approve to approve Resolution 15-30; seconded by Member Vern Cleveland, passed unanimously by roll call with one no voting.

5. **Resolution 15-31** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly authorizing a professional services agreement with Drake Construction for heavy equipment maintenance and repair, and for related purposes.*

Member Vern Cleveland raised his concern on which village will be first, or just any village. Member Ramoth raised his concern regarding if a village tribe transferred equipment to the City and paperwork not finalized, would Drake be able to still work on the equipment? Member Ballot thank Borough and Administration for doing things like this, really helps our villages.

Member Hadley moved to approve Resolution 15-31, seconded by Member Vern Cleveland; motion passed unanimously by roll call with one no voting.

6. **Resolution 15-32** a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly accepting additional grant funds from Shell Exploration and Production Company and approving research projects funded under that research grant agreement, and for related purposes.

Member Vern Cleveland moved to approve Resolution 15-32, seconded by Member Hadley; passed unanimously with one no voting by roll call.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ethic Committee conducted an inquiry and investigation with assistance of independent counsel to address two separate occasions of potential code of ethics; as a result of the Ethics Committee recommendation the Assembly adopted certain corrected action for Member Clyde Ramoth and Member Carl Weisner. And, to remove Carl Weisner as President for remainder of his term.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Member Ballot move to go into Executive Session at 10:55 A.M. to discuss financial matters of Northwest Arctic Borough, seconded by Member Weisner. Passed unanimously by roll call vote with one no voting.

Reconvene at 11:45 A.M., no action taken.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Pauline Cleveland of Noorvik called over teleconference thanking Borough for airing the meetings over KOTZ; interesting today since school is out I'm able to listen. First of all, thank Miles for supporting Airport Project in Ambler, hope NANA will lift the trespass issue. Recently heard they had to fly someone to another village in order to medivac to Anchorage. Hope NANA lift trespass. Had trouble in our villages about closing post offices; hoping some organizations can help get workers there. Another thing, need some grant writers to help out villages. Search and Rescue, first response is critical; not sure when Troopers can get involved. It would be good if all organizations can put some money away so people can tap into before losing someone. We need more jobs in the villages from all organizations; hear on radio job opening but they are all in Kotzebue. We have fax and computers. Probably to School District, like these organizations, sometimes we are overruled; sometimes we have more candidates in one village. It has been discussed before, coming from a village side. Also, you know we are all in one district, unsure of this although it would be great if each representative sit in each meeting; like a Borough Assembly sit in NANA Board, Maniilaq or School District. She has been with the School District many years, she thought that would be a good idea. Want to make sure some kind of reports or concerns they have; would be real helpful. Also, Larry had mentioned erosion; big problem in some villages, had saw it on Facebook. We need funding to go out and get projects going; maybe start from one village, most serious and pin on that. Our villages don't have a big community place. Also, had that questions on native allotments; had brought up to one of the NANA meetings. If you are losing your

allotment call NANA; it maybe happing to someone else too. Thank you for a good meeting.

ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

Member Ramoth thank President, Mayor and hard-working staff; good meeting. Sitting on Land Committee meeting, learned a lot. Preventive measures, a lot of folks don't use the personal floatation device, they are available at Maniilaq or every household has them; make a habit of wearing them even winter time. Dry season for Alaska, be careful out there camping or picking. Safe travels.

Member Vern Cleveland thank you for good meeting, thank people of Noorvik for search of Paul Henry, successful search. People of Kiana, Selawik, Kotzebue and Noorvik; wouldn't stop, went night and day. When they found the sno-go they knew the body was out there; they wouldn't give up, thank all the guys that went out. Thank you to people of Noorvik for donating food. Also, finances for Cities and villages, finances are very low, finances with State are going down and Cities are coming to closure. Congratulations to Larry and Miles; thanks for a good meeting.

Member Ballot thank you; kind of a long winter, springtime for all you people camping, be concerned for one another, help each other's. Know where everyone is, maybe looking at a hot summer; fire safety is something need to be careful about. We hardly had any snow, ground will be pretty dry. When out there be careful; yesterday I also comment yesterday regarding gun safety for residents. He thinks we can all work together; can avoid any further accidents if we become more responsible on putting guns away.

Member Nelson congratulate Miles and Larry for being officers of our Assembly. Remind general constitutes that notice of general election is out there, accepting petitions for candidates until August 22nd. Take the time to participate as candidates and run for seats that are important to you. Also, talk about being proactive about different things; there will be a new ordinance coming forward for tobacco tax, excise tax and make sure people informed, have heard at village level and understand the logistic of it all and why we are considering new resources and policies. We also had Maniilaq Tobacco Prevention to talk about what their purpose is; people need to make a choice about smoking. Want to make sure if you have questions please contact the Borough or ask representatives. Commend administration through May 31st you continue a balanced budget, really important to stay on top of cost; commend staff for upholding that for as many years she has been here.

Member Hadley mentioned with construction going on this summer; remind to Borough to make recommendations for local hire to the construction companies. Important for local people in the villages to go to work and provide to their families. Congratulations to President Larry and Vice-President Miles. Also, to the villages you can also include your taxes to help with your budget; he express his concern regarding villages going through hard time with city limits employing or taking care of bills to function with; each village can do that also.

Member Schaeffer states his shame on legislature behavior; really intruded by lack of leadership and dragging on and what could have been taken care of in the regular

session. He read some of the reports or constituents letters from some of the list players; the ones from residents of Johnson and Craig basically said it all; pretty much said it all. Hopefully can be more responsive to supporting rural areas. Also, concerned about Shell Oil and thinks the position to their project and drilling of Chukchi Sea; demonstrating what incompetence what in true to make sure nothing happens like what have happened to drilling sea. He haven't heard anything about the long term drilling answer; will global warming it has an impact on oil camps and things like that. Another issue regarding legislature is to find other alternatives to oil revenue; regarding the Ambler Mining District in our backyard. Remind folks about the EIS state; if we ever have an administration that is going to handle Native Health then the issue of comments will hardly say anything. He believes the Bornite project will be focused on just being like Red Dog; comparing apples and oranges. The Bornite Project is in the heart of caribou country and that type of impact; real challenge to impact positively rather than our way of life will be held safe or in turn of all activity happening. Once pass the EIS study; we shouldn't let up our concern regarding that kind of thing. Culture concern are just as important that need to be held holey and be held accountable to those kinds of potential accidents. In regards to any discussions regarding in successful in getting any funding from the mining industry as Cominco. Thanks to Judy Hassinger for her service to the Borough. Thank you.

Student Representative Chloe Naylor mentioned summer is here and kids are playing out; reminder kids to wear life jackets when swimming. Please be careful and mindful to Tula and Judy for all your years of service. Congratulations to President Larry and Vice President Miles for nomination.

Member Greene had no comment.

Member Miles Cleveland thank the Assembly for voting him as Vice-Chairman for the next three meetings. Thanks to the NANA Region for prayers during loss of daughter and financial help that you have given to our family. And the trip to Greenland and Iceland was right timing although sad at the end made him able to stay with his daughter for few days on the return trip; thank you for that. Not our plan; God's plan that we fulfill and we go through those hard times; but still have joy in the heart because of Our Lord Jesus daily. Thank Judy for her hard work throughout the years; welcome to the financial person stepping in. Thank you.

President Westlake thank the Assembly for confidence in him; will do best for next three meetings before next election. Congratulations to Miles, he will back me up. They are predicting a warm, hot summer; fire concerns, City should have something out so they can access the fire right away; water container if possible. A lot of swimming, our children will be out there everywhere; make sure they have floatation devices. He have worked with Judy for many years, we will miss her; we have another finance director in a few days and wish her good luck.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Joule thank Judy; wonderful job keeping the finances of this Borough in good stiff. She have done a tremendous job. First of all, there is a report of a small fire on Goodhope Bay,

BLM has been notified and they will respond to that. In regards to the Ambler Road; administration will check with NANA. Mayor mentioned they have heard that Post Offices weren't closing although having reduced work hours; will check on. Thank the people who work for the Borough, see you next go around.

ADJOURNMENT

Member Ramoth moved to adjourn; with no other business to conduct, the meeting adjourned at 12:13 P.M.