



# Northwest Arctic Borough

163 Lagoon Street  
P.O Box 1110 Kotzebue, Alaska 99752  
(907) 442-2500 Fax (907) 442-2930  
www.nwabor.org

Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly  
Regular Telephonic Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, November 23, 2021 – 9:00 A.M.  
Assembly Chambers – Kotzebue, AK

## CALL TO ORDER

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

## INVOCATION/MOMENT OF SILENCE

Member Loon provided the invocation.

## SAFETY MOMENT

Member Sampson encouraged safety while traveling in areas with strong currents as the ice is still thin and to let others know your travel plans.

Member Armstrong courage everyone to use their warm gear when traveling or engaging in outside activities.

Mr. Carl Weisner, Public Services Nursing, commented that PHN is offering Phizer vaccinations for young children ages 5-11.

## ROLL CALL/MEMBER EXCUSAL

Assembly Members present at the time of roll call:

Elmer Armstrong Jr.	Tanya Ballot	Delores Barr	Miles Cleveland
Sandy Shroyer Beaver	Hannah Loon	Walter Sampson	Dood Lincoln Carr
Nathan Hadley Jr.	Austin Swan Sr.	Reid Magdanz	

Introduction of Staff and Guests

Dickie Moto Sr.	Matt Mead	Angie Sturm	Eva Harvey
Helena Hildreth	Carl Weisner	Ingemar Mathiasson	Saima Chase
Fritz Westlake	Elizabeth Ferguson	Hans Nelson	Jimmy Brown
Tessa Baldwin	Greta Schuerch	Wendy Chamberlain	Verna Westlake
Cole Thurmond	Laura Mason	Lorena Walker	Corey Mulder

**A quorum was present to conduct business.**

## APPROVAL OF AGENDA



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Mr. Carl Weisner requested to add Mr. Colt Thurman, VPSO to Item G.(1) Communication and Appearances. Member Loon requested to add Hans Nelson to provide the Community Wellness Task Force update.

**Member Sampson motioned to approve the agenda as amended; Member Cleveland seconded. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.**

## APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Regular meeting minutes of October 26, 2021 as presented.

Member Magdanz requested to add the reason for why he and Member Carr abstained from voting on Resolution 21-58 regarding the KEA 100% renewable Power Project, as they both are Directors on the Kotzebue Electric Association Board. President Hadley commented that it will be noted.

**Member Sampson motioned to approve the October 26, 2021 Regular minutes as amended, Member Carr seconded. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.**

## COMMUNICATIONS AND APPEARANCES

### 1. Introduction of Mr. Cole Thurman, VPSO Trainee

Mr. Carl Weisner introduced Mr. Cole Thurman as a trainee onto becoming a full-fledged Village Public Safety Officer for the Northwest Arctic Borough.

### 2. Wendy Chamberlain/Corey Mulder, Lobbyist Update

Ms. Wendy Chamberlain, Consultant, and Ms. Corey Mulder provided a brief update on lobbying efforts.

### 3. Verna Westlake, Hans Nelson, Community Wellness Task Force

Mr. Hans Nelson, Community Wellness Task Force Member, provided an update on the Community Wellness Task Force.

**A Ten-minute break was taken at 10:13 am.**

**The meeting reconvened from break at 10:25 am.**

## BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

### 1. Budget, Audit and Finance Committee

Member Shroyer Beaver reported the committee met and reviewed the resolutions, ordinances and recommended for approval by the full assembly.

### 2. Financial Report, Angie Sturm, Borough Treasurer



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Ms. Angie Sturm, Borough Treasurer, provided a summary of Expenditure and Revenue Financials for the month ending October 31, 2021.

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS, ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCES & EMERGENCY ORDINANCES**

1. Ordinance 21-12 *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly amending Chapter 3.20 of the Borough Code to clarify calculation of Mayoral Leave, and for related purposes.*

**Member Carr motioned to approve Resolution 21-56, seconded by Member Shroyer Beaver. A roll call was conducted and the motion unanimously.**

## **ASSEMBLY REPORTS**

Member Sampson reported that he recently attended the Alaska Municipal League (AML) Conference and AML Board of Directors meeting and was re-elected to another three-year term on the AML Board.

Member Loon reported that she attended the AML November 15-17, 2021 and they also met with Department of Transportation and Denali Commission. She also attended the COVID taskforce meeting on November 18, 2021.

Member Carr reported that she attended the AML Conference and she thought that was a great gathering with the AML focusing on the rural and State of Alaska hubs. She also mentioned the Newly Elected Officials (NEO) had good training sessions.

Member Cleveland attended the AML Conference and the meetings with Denali Commission and Department of Transportation.

Member Magdanz reported that he attended the NEO training and the AML Conference, and he thought the NEO training and the Local Government Conference went very well. He commented on the importance of the region to work together in regard to the federal infrastructure package that was recently passed in Washington, DC.

Member Shroyer Beaver commented the homelessness and childcare sessions she attended were good. She commented about working with the school district on the training opportunities for heavy equipment, operators and driver's licenses. She appreciated the meeting with Department of Transportation and that our assembly is on the ball to discuss the issues that we should be working on.

President Hadley reported that he also attended the AML Conference, and he was



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impressed with Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) water and sewer program. He also reported that he and Mayor Moto met with the Department of Interior and discussed the Ambler Mining Road Project and with the Department of Transportation, regarding the Cape Blossom Port project.

## MAYORS REPORT

Mayor Dickie Moto Sr. allowed each Department Director to provide updates from their respective departments. Mr. Carl Weisner, Public Services and Acting Director of Public Safety, Mr. Fritz Westlake, Community and Economic Development Director, and Eva Harvey, Planning Department Director briefly highlighted their reports that is included in the meeting packet. Mayor Moto reported that he is working hard to accommodate the people in our region such as the VPSO program and he has plans to travel to the village for outreach purposes. He met with NANA CEO John Lincoln and Maniilaq CEO Tim Gilbert to build our presence to the cities and tribes and also partnerships for our region.

## TIME & PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

Mayor Moto recommended a Regular meeting on December 27-28, 2021 with the BAF Work session Meeting on Monday, December 27, 2021 at 1:00 pm and the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, December 28, 2021 at 9:00 am.

**By unanimous consent of the Assembly the next meeting dates of December 27-28, 2021 were recommended, as set in code.**

## INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

1. **Ordinance 21-13** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly to approve the 2030 Comprehensive Plan, and for related purposes.*

Mayor Moto summarized Ordinance 21-13 and recommended approval.

**Member Carr motioned to approve Ordinance 21-13 for first reading with enactment at the next Regular meeting, seconded by Member Armstrong. A roll call was conducted and the motion unanimously.**

## RESOLUTIONS

1. **Resolution 21-61** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly Approving an Assembly donation under the FY22 Budget for the Boys & Girls Club Alaska.*

Mayor Moto summarized Resolution 21-61 and recommended approval.

**Member Carr motioned to approve Resolution 21-61, seconded by Member Loon.**



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**A roll call was conducted and the motion unanimously.**

**2. Resolution 21-62** a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly Approving an FY22 Ground Lease for Storage of Equipment and related purposes.

Mayor Moto summarized Resolution 21-62 and recommending approval.

**Member Swan motioned to approve Resolution 21-62, seconded by Member Carr. A roll call was conducted and the motion passed unanimously.**

**3. Resolution 21-63** a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly to approve a Memorandum of Agreement for Consolidated Management of Independent Power Producer Revenues, and for related purposes.

Mayor Moto summarized Resolution 21-63 and recommending approval.

**Member Magdanz motioned to approve Resolution 21-63, seconded by Member Loon. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.**

**4. Resolution 21-64** a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly Approving an extension of a real property lease in Noatak with the State of Alaska for School District fuel storage, and for related purposes.

Mayor Moto summarized Resolution 21-64 and recommending approval.

**Member Carr motioned to approve Resolution 21-64, seconded by Member Armstrong. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.**

## AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Ms. Greta Schuerch, Teck Alaska Red Dog, clarified the new hires is November 30 and the December 15 is required for employees and visitors entering the Anchorage Office.

Ms. Lorena Walker, Kiana resident, thanked the assembly for the good information provided during this meeting. She commented their IRA Council have discussed the VIC term limits and she was concerned about when they would have their next community meeting.

## ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

Member Magdanz reported that the AML Conference and NEO training was helpful in regard to the parliamentary procedure and conflict of interest topics. He expressed his appreciation to the Planning Department and those who helped work on the



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Comprehensive Plan for 2030. He expressed his appreciation regarding the resolution for the work we are doing in this region on energy, and he thanked Mr. Ingemar Mathiasson and Mr. Fritz Westlake and the tribes and communities who are working on solar and battery projects. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and be safe as our rivers and creeks are still freezing up.

Member Cleveland commented that this was a good meeting, and he thanked the administration for their preparation. He commented about the meeting with Department of Transportation (D.O.T), Commissioner Mr. Ryan Anderson in regard to the importance of keeping our road from the clinic to the airport open.

Member Barr commented that she appreciated all the updates and the information that was provided. She thanked the administration for good reports in providing updates. She wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and to continue to be safe. She expressed her condolences to those who have lost their loved ones during this time.

Member Ballot thanked everyone for a good meeting and that the new administration is doing good as we move forward work together with the assembly and she is also looking forward to the retreat. She sent her condolences to those who lost their loved ones and Happy Thanksgiving to all.

Member Armstrong gave his condolences to families who have lost their loved ones and that we had some good discussions. He is also looking forward to the Assembly retreat.

Member Swan gave an update on the Kivalina School construction project which due to be completed in October 2022.

Member Loon congratulated Member Sampson for another three years serving on the AML Board of Directors and his service in the Armed Forces. She thanked Mayor Moto and the administration for the department reports and is looking forward to Assembly Retreat. She encouraged the Kivalina Boys and Girls Club to be opened up for the youth. She is glad that the City of Shungnak has joined the CUAP so their water and sewer bills can be lower. Lastly, she welcomed Mr. Cole Thurmond to the VPSO program.

Member Shroyer Beaver expressed her condolences to those who have lost their loved ones. She wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and she encouraged everyone to think of others who do not have a home to share a thanksgiving dinner with. She mentioned that her mother-in-law recently passed away and this is our first thanksgiving without her. She thanked Mayor Moto and his staff for their work.



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Member Sampson thanked Member Shroyer Beaver for her comments and that it is hard to have no emotions at times. We have to go through this together for our children and grandchildren. He commented about the importance of the Wellness task force to address the issues we are going through today. Lastly, he thanked the administration for their updates and to the Assembly for their participation.

Vice President Member Carr thanked Mr. Cole Thurmond for coming to meet the Assembly and it is good to see someone who is committed to working here in the Northwest Arctic Borough. She thanked Teck Alaska, Ms. Verna Westlake and Mr. Hans Nelson for the Community Wellness Task Force presentation as this is something the residents need to take responsibility on an individual basis. She encouraged caution to the administration when traveling to the villages to take precaution and she thanked the COVID taskforce for taking the lead for everyone. She recommended that if the numbers continue to rise that we should keep the school closed till after the Christmas break. She thanked Maniilaq for the testing site at Bering Air. She thanked the Planning Commission and the Ms. Eva Harvey, Planning Department, for the completion of the 2030 Comprehensive Plan. Lastly, she encouraged everyone to practice safety measures by using a mask and that she mentioned this at the Alaska Municipal League Conference. She expressed her condolences to those who lost their loved ones and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving to all.

President Hadley wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and that this year we have to follow our mandates again with COVID pandemic. He thanked the mayor and staff for all the information provided and they have been meeting with Ms. Jen Jarvis regarding the upcoming Assembly retreat.

### **MAYORS COMMENTS**

Mayor Moto thanked the staff for their good work and working together on issues that affect the residents of the borough.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Member Carr motioned; Member Loon seconded to adjourn. With no other business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 12:39 PM.

