



**SOUTHWEST ALASKA MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE  
BOARD MEETING**

September 27, 2012 at 9:30 a.m.  
Call-in information: 888.550.5602  
Passcode: 2722 0305

**AGENDA**

- I. **Call to Order**----- **Marquardt**  
Meeting was called to order at 9:35 AM by Director Varner.
  
- II. **Roll Call** ----- **Varner**  
*Board present:* Layton Lockett, Shirley Marquardt, Paul Gronholdt, Lamar Cotton, Patrick Jordan, Alice Ruby, Kathleen Totemoff, Louise Stutes, Trevor Brown & Glen Gardner; quorum established. *Staff present:* Andy Varner, Erik Obrien & Cameron Dean.
  
- III. **Approval of Agenda** ----- **Marquardt**  
Hearing no objections, Agenda approved.
  
- IV. **Consent Agenda** ----- **Marquardt**  
A. *Board minutes for August 21, 2012*  
Hearing no objections, Consent Agenda approved.
  
- V. **Policy and Program Issues** ----- **Varner**  
A. *Board Retreat and LNG Facility Tour October 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>*  
Varner explained that on the 25<sup>th</sup>, we would hold a one day Board Retreat at the BP Energy Center, same as last year. Directions and additional material will be sent by email. Varner confirmed with LNG Facilities director in Nikiski, Peter Micciche that our group would be arriving on Friday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, this was confirmed by Micciche. Micciche is running for the Senate, so will likely be open to ideas for moving gas to Coastal Alaska. Draft schedule for the Board Retreat is as follows. Mikunda Cottrell will provide financial overview. Information Insights and Your Clean Energy will provide an overview of regional energy planning in the Bristol Bay and Aleutians, and scope for this project. Cameron will provide STEM update. Andy and Erik will provide Broadband update as we near our Broadband Strategy, RADE Project. Staff will revisit SWAMC work plan as described in our CEDS Document, to refine and update areas of interest to the region to ensure that we are focused and on track as an organization. Board can feel free to suggest additional topic areas. Lunch will be provided and the group can schedule dinner for an informal event. Those traveling to Nikiski for the LNG tour will leave the morning of the 26<sup>th</sup> from Anchorage

Ruby suggested Legislators provide an update, potentially as a lunch presentation. Varner will look into participation. Marquardt suggested that the range of LNG potential should be included on the agenda, as well as arctic policy, towards infrastructure development to position the State for the

anticipated Arctic activity. Varner suggested that someone from the Governor's Office should attend and provide info on the subject. Ruby suggested that the Governor and Legislators are scheduled at different times to avoid any political ambiguities. Ruby noted that leadership could address maintaining access to funds, as reserves were diverted to disaster mitigation; and secondly, for a report as to the "feel" from the Capital. Varner suggested that the Governor's Office could address State Sponsored visits to Asia or other large Capital investments that may be planned. Varner pointed out that a discussion of LNG prior to the Nikiski field trip could frame any important questions we may want to address in regards to LNG supplied to Alaskan coastal communities. Varner also suggested opening up an invitation to Legislators, or other interested parties that may want to participate in the site visit. A discussion of lodging ensued, where Marquardt notified that the group the Hotel Captain Cook was offering a \$99 rate for public business.

**B. Annual Conference and Membership Meeting, February 20<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>d</sup>**

Staff developed a draft agenda for the Conference. Wednesday the 20<sup>th</sup> will likely be a dedicated Energy day, where we will focus on Regional Energy planning, with some additional forums included. The draft theme for this conference will be Regional Connections to highlight Arctic activity, resources development, broadband and transportation, all items that we will be addressing this year. Scheduling details are listed on Agenda. Marquardt suggested looking into the company *Accelerate*, who are making innovations in the transport of LNG and regasification at point of destination, at a much lower cost than was previously available. These advancements open up a whole range of possibilities to using and accessing the resource. Marquardt heard this presentation at a discussion of gas shipping possibilities at the conference in Valdez. Cotton raised concerns in regards the potential panel of the UAA Debate team addressing the Pebble-Fisheries issue. Marquardt suggested that framing the debate around Process for resource development instead of the specific Pebble project. Totemoff agreed that taking a broader view might be more appropriate. Locket agreed as well, and liked the idea of the Debate team participating. Cotton was encouraged to pursue a discussion of transportation issue, especially with the importance of Air Taxi to the region. Locket agreed this was important. Cotton thought it was important to have the Processing Industry discussion, but wanted to be sure that we were prudent about how the panel was framed so that it remained focused. Cotton suggested hosting a legislative panel. Board provided general support for a Legislative update. Board did not provide overwhelming support for *Gaining Quota* panel. Marquardt provided support for CDQ discussion. Marquardt suggest DJ Vanas, author of *The Tiny Warriors* provides a great motivational speech. Locket agreed that he was one of the greatest speakers he had ever seen. Varner suggested that this might make a great Banquet presentation.

**VI. Governance Issues----- Varner**  
*Nothing to report*

**VII. Financial Report ----- Varner**

**A. August 2012 Financial Statements**

Groundholdt moved to hear Financial Statement. Varner stated that our finances are good. Member funds was met in the Budget, but the total number of members is short.

**VIII. Staff Report----- Staff**  
Obrien highlighted the efforts of the STEM Coordinator, and that program's importance to SWAMC's overall efforts.

**IX. Board Comments**  
Cotton commented on the challenges of determining residency, and the fact that many individuals who do not reside in the Borough for the majority of the year, yet call the Lake and Pen home.

**X. Adjourn ----- Marquardt**  
Meeting adjourned at 10:53am.

**Next Meeting**  
October 25/26, 2012, Board Retreat in Anchorage