



**SOUTHWEST ALASKA MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE
BOARD MEETING**

January 17th, 2012 at 9:30 a.m.
Call-in information: 888.550.5602
Passcode: 2722 0305

AGENDA

I. Call to Order----- Ruby

Ruby called meeting to order at 9:40 AM.

II. Roll Call ----- Varner

Board present: Layton Lockett, Lamar Cotten, Alice Ruby, Kathleen Totemoff, Louise Stutes, & Joe Sullivan; *quorum established;* *Staff present:* Andy Varner & Erik Obrien.

III. Approval of Agenda ----- Ruby

Ruby moved to accept Agenda, Motion made by Stutes, 2nd by Lockett, Agenda approved.

IV. Consent Agenda----- Ruby

A. Board minutes for December 20th, 2012

Ruby moved to accept Agenda, Motion made by Stutes, 2nd by Lockett, Agenda approved.

V. Policy and Program Issues----- Varner

A. Economic Geography Study

Varner explained that after Retreat, Board identified a need to refresh the Southwest Alaska Economic Geography Study. Staff contacted Northern Economics, who have replied with a written proposal, to be covered by Mike Fisher. Fisher outlined the written proposal and the collection of data. Cotten questioned if adjusting scope after the initial scope outline submittal would add costs. Fisher signaled that adding or removing tasks after the project was under way should not add additional costs. Ruby mentioned that the collective CDQ organizations have recently submitted Decennial Reviews, which should have much of the data outlined in the scoping proposal regarding CDQ data. Ruby alluded to the importance of survey information, for both receiving information for the project, and informing community members of the project. Obrien asked if tax info could be used to glean information on fisheries ownership structure. Varner mentioned that he was interested in discussing the project timing, in regards to the busy summer fishing season, and the political season, and our ability to shop the report around when the report would have the most impact. Ruby mentioned that answering household income data around tax time in the Spring may increase response information. A discussion of survey effectiveness ensued as the board tried to balance costs with the benefits of returned survey data. A similar discussion of the cost and value of the Marine Exchange data ensued. Ruby requested further scope description of the marine transport and CDQ data collection and costs, to more fully vet the benefits of collecting that data for this report. Ruby clarified the funding mechanisms for this project. Varner confirmed that the money would come from the SSL account, and would require a formal Board resolution to allocate and spend the money. SSL funds were set aside to invest in projects that benefit the region. Staff questioned what degree the IMPLAN Model would capture multipliers of basic sector dollars that support additional business activity. Fisher explained that he should be able to address the Board’s comments in a week or so. Obrien suggested that maybe the Board should outline the project for Fisher: Cotten mentioned that the importance of the project was educational for regional leaders and leaders outside the region to identify the value of Southwest Alaska, on a semi-annual basis to keep the message constant. Collectively the Board agreed that a separate meeting to outline the project was necessary. Ruby mentioned the importance of shopping the project around with Legislatures in the lead up to the final project scope.

- B. *Proposed Conference Resolutions for Consideration*
 - a. *Support full funding for the Municipal Harbor Facility Grant pgm*
 - b. *Supporting efforts of the Alaska Congressional Delegation to secure Federal Revenue Sharing from Offshore oil and gas*
 - c. *Supporting twice-monthly ferry service out the Aleutian Chain as currently scheduled*
 - d. *Support current placement of Tustemena in the Vessel Replacement Schedule and urge design process*
 - e. *Others?*

Ruby mentioned topics such as PCE, Coastal Management and Energy are important and that Board/Staff should develop resolutions as they are important to the region; she will look into this and develop something to share with staff. Lockett agreed that Energy is an important topic. Varner notified the Board that there would likely be resolutions developed through the Energy Workshops on the Wednesday before the Conference.

C. *2013 Conference Update*

Varner confirmed that the Board had received the Conference Brochure, which had been received in Kodiak, but not in Dillingham. Ruby asked about Board member assignments, which Varner confirmed would be forthcoming. Varner reminded everyone of the pre-conference Board Meeting at 8:00 am. The Board suggested starting promptly at 7:30am so as to finish the meeting with time to attend the Energy Workshop. All agreed that coffee would be available at 7:00am, and the meeting could start no later than 7:30am. A discussion of Banquet options ensued after finding out LG Treadwell had to reschedule. Varner noted that Board needed to replace two seats from the Bristol Bay Region and that the Board Presidency would cycle to Kodiak. Kathleen Totemoff would be leaving the Board, although Ouzinkie mayor Dan Clarion indicated he was interested in representing Rural Kodiak. Varner notified the Board that we are still accepting Sponsorships and encouraged the Board to be vigilant about searching out organizations that might support SWAMC.

Meeting adjourned at 11:10am.

VI. Financial Report ----- Varner

- A. *November 2012 Financial Statements*
No action.

VII. Staff Report ----- Staff

- VII. Board Comments**
No Action.

IX. Adjourn ----- Ruby
No Action.

Next Meeting
February 20th, 2013 @ 7:30am
In conjunction with Annual Conference & Membership Meeting
Hotel Captain Cook, Anchorage, AK