



**SOUTHWEST ALASKA MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE
BOARD MEETING**

February 23, 2013 at 9:30 a.m.
Call-in information: 888.550.5602
Passcode: 2722 0305

BOARD ROOM, 3rd FLOOR, CAPTAIN COOK HOTEL

AGENDA

I. Call to Order

Meeting called 9:49am.

II. Roll Call

Layton Lockett, Shirley Marquardt, Paul Gronholdt, Dan O'Hara, Alice Ruby, Dan Clarion, Louise Stutes, Trevor Brown & Glen Gardner; quorum established.

III. Approval of Agenda

Gronholdt requested adding Board Correspondence, which was added to under Governance Issues. Without objections, consent agenda approved.

IV. Governance Issues

A. Action on Resolutions ----- Marquardt

Gronholdt suggested adding an education resolution. This was supported by the Board, who confirmed that education was a major theme of the 2013 conference. A discussion confirmed Board was in agreement with the 10, Member generated resolutions passed at the conference.

B*. Board Correspondence ----- Gronholdt

Gronholdt spoke to the need for the Board to support NPFMC appointments and catch share/bycatch. Gronholdt pointed out that Council appointments are contentious, but very important to communities. Obrien added that when Cotten was appointed 3 years ago, the governor did not select him, but was overridden by the Secretary of Commerce. Gardner thought Rep. Austerman was alluding, or sounded as if Cotten was on his way out. Stutes pointed out that Fields was not entirely supported by the community of Kodiak. Clarion interjected that Ouzinkie was 100% behind Fields. O'Hara and Lockett both would support Cotten. Gronholdt pointed out the importance of selecting Council members that have the best intention of coastal communities in mind. Stutes, suggested that any letter should be very general, and does not name individuals. Due to the lack of consensus about this issue, the Board determined that it would be best if individual communities or groups submitted letters of support for Council candidates.

Marquardt pointed out that the catch share/bycatch issue was similarly complicated and should not be addressed by this SWAMC Board. Gronholdt pointed out that SWAMC needs to support policies with the best intention of Alaskan communities, and often times decisions follow 6/5 votes, so as to the importance of selecting the correct candidates that have the best intention of

communities in mind. Stutes pointed out even the community of Kodiak could not get behind a particular issue. Gronholdt agreed that general support for communities is important, similar to what position Kodiak took with the Council in dealing with the catch share/bycatch issue. Marquardt offered that the Board would table this issue for now, and deal with it at the March Board Meeting.

C. Ratification of Board Elections ----- Marquardt
Marquardt confirmed the current Board; with no objections, the new Board is ratified.

D. Election of Officers ----- Marquardt
Officers are needed for President, Vice-President and Treasurer. As it is Kodiak's turn for the Presidency, Louise Stutes was named SWAMC President. One issue Stutes faces is whether she is going to retain her Kodiak Assembly seat. By unanimous vote, Stutes was voted in. Alice Ruby offered to take the Vice-President position, which was approved by unanimous decision. Layton Locket offered to take the Treasurer position, which was approved by unanimous consent.

E. Annual Meeting Debrief ----- Discussion
Obrien reminded the Board to take the evaluation. Gronholdt mentioned that questions need to be kept to questions, and not a sounding-board for a longer announcement; which takes away from our speaker's time. Stutes commended the quality of the conference. Ruby agreed, but offered that Break Out sessions need to become more organized, and follow an agenda. Some members feel that the unorganized structure did not allow them to have their thoughts heard. Gronholdt suggested moving the business meeting to the end of the day to retain participation. Lockett, thought the final panel was interesting, which enticed members to stick around; and suggested interesting topics should be kept for the last session. Board liked the evaluation. Varner posed the question: *Is it still worth having the Banquet?* Board consensus was that a lighter topic, or background music in the Whales Tale was preferable to another speaker. Although 2014 will be an election year and getting a Governor's debate is always a good draw.

F. Set the Date for the 2014 Annual Meeting----- Varner
Staff has been looking into dates, but this will require more coordination with other events that take place this time, but have not yet published their schedule. Board advised staff to consider *Fur Rondy*, as this can be a draw, but also makes getting hotel more difficult.

G. Calendaring/Board Meetings ----- Discussion
Board meetings are currently set to monthly at 9:30am AST. Gronholdt suggested holding meetings every other month. Marquardt, liked this idea, especially in the summer, but thought that holding meetings more often during the legislative session is prudent. Brown suggested setting it at 8 per year. Varner suggested setting the schedule with President elect Stutes, which can be suggested at the March Board meeting. Ruby suggested that meetings could be set tentatively each month by the Board. Obrien suggested setting meetings quarterly, and determining the rest as needed. Board agreed that this could be further discussed at the March Board meeting.

H. Varner Employment Agreement ----- Discussion
Executive Session

I. Northern Economics Study Proposal ----- Staff

Staff provided new Board members with an overview of Southwest Alaska Geographic Study (hereafter Study). Gronholdt requested more information on the fleet makeup of SW community's vessels. Obrien clarified the CDQ component of the Study, and the intent to be a case analysis of federal fisheries activities, as Pat Burden suggested a more complete picture could be determined through analysis of the CDQ program; staff needs to clarify the fisheries/CDQ component of the Study. Gronholdt pointed out that vessel makeup is still important and needs to be captured in Study. Ruby expressed concerns that the Study is not only a Literature Review, and the importance of new data; she also mentioned that some components seemed expensive in comparison to what we are getting. Ruby noted the importance of NorEcon presenting the material to key audiences to showcase the importance of our Region; she stated that this would be a worthwhile task to build into the current project. The Board discussed timing of the Study completion, and suggested that NorEcon could present the study at the Fall Board Retreat. Lockett noted his concern with the lack of data returned by surveying. Obrien offered a model that AEA used for energy assessment was to conduct in-depth case studies of selected homes. Ruby agreed that this was a good idea and that Board Members could help identify households. Ruby mentioned her concerns with the CDQ aspect of the Study, and reminded the Board that the six groups report quarterly in addition to the decennial report submitted in December 2012; and again mentioned worries that this aspect of the report not be simply a literature review. Ruby suggested talking to Wanetta Ayers, who might be able to shed light what we might hope to find from previously submitted CDQ Documentation. Marquardt advised Staff to go back to NorEcon and clarify Balance of Trade, CDQ and Timing of Report, and have this available for the March Meeting.

V. Board Comments

The conference was another success, good job and thank you to staff for the hard work.

VI. Adjourn

Adjourned 11:24am. Executive Session for discussion of Executive Director Contract.

Next Board Meeting – March 21st @ 9.30 AM