



### Membership Resolution 15-03

#### **A Resolution of the SWAMC Membership Supporting the Full Funding for the State of Alaska Harbor Facilities Grant Program in the FY16 State Capital Budget**

**WHEREAS**, the majority of the public boat harbors in Alaska were constructed by the State during the 1960s and 1970s; and

**WHEREAS**, these harbor facilities represent critical transportation links and are the transportation hubs for waterfront commerce and economic development in Alaskan coastal communities; and

**WHEREAS**, these harbor facilities are ports of refuge and areas of protection for ocean-going vessels and fisherman throughout the State of Alaska, especially in coastal Alaska communities; and

**WHEREAS**, over the last 30 years, the State of Alaska has transferred ownership of most of these State-owned harbors, many of which were at or near the end of their service life at the time of transfer, to local municipalities; and

**WHEREAS**, in doing so, the municipalities inherited a significant financial burden given the deteriorated state of the harbor facilities at the time of transfer; and

**WHEREAS**, in response to this financial burden, the Governor and the Alaska Legislature passed legislation in 2006 creating the Harbor Facility Grant program (AS 29.60.800); and

**WHEREAS**, participating municipalities in the SWAMC region are pleased with the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities administrative process to review, score and rank applicants to the Harbor Facility Grant Program, since state funds may be limited; and

**WHEREAS**, for each harbor facility grant application, municipalities have committed to invest 100% of the design and permitting costs and 50% of the construction cost; and

**WHEREAS**, the SWAMC communities have greatly benefited from this program; and

**WHEREAS**, municipalities in the SWAMC region have offered to contribute the required match to participate in the Harbor Facility Grant Program; and

**WHEREAS**, completion of these harbor facility projects is dependent on the 50% match from the State of Alaska's Harbor Facility Grant Program; and

**WHEREAS**, the Municipal Harbor Grant Program has only been fully funded twice in the last eight years; and

– MORE –

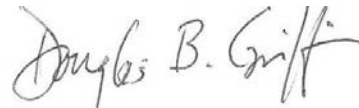
**WHEREAS**, during the last eight years the backlog of projects necessary to repair and replace these former State owned harbors has increased to over \$90,000,000.

**NOW BE IT RESOLVED** that the SWAMC Membership urge the Governor and the Alaska Legislature to recognize the importance of the program and support the full funding of the Harbor Facility Grant Program in the FY 2016 State Capital Budget.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference Membership this 6<sup>th</sup> Day of March, 2015.

IN WITNESS THERETO:

ATTEST:



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Alice Ruby, SWAMC President

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Doug Griffin, Executive Director