



SWAMC Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

April 15, 2021

- I. Call to Order ----- 9:05 a.m. by President Gronholdt**
- A. Roll Call ----- Marquardt**
yes Mary Swain, yes Paul Gronholdt, _____ Julie Kavanaugh, _____ Myra Olsen,
yes Alice Ruby, yes Layton Lockett, yes Joe Sullivan, yes Terry Haines,
yes Glen Gardner, Jr., yes Dennis Robinson, yes (at 9:18) Darren Muller
- II. Approval of Agenda ----- Gronholdt**
Sullivan moves to approve agenda, Gardner seconds, Lockett moves to amend agenda to add item D. under Consent Agenda “Board Resolution FY21-06”, Sullivan seconds, no objections, roll call vote taken, all in favor, agenda approved as amended.
- III. Consent Agenda ----- Gronholdt**
- A. *BOD Meeting Minutes, February 18, 2021*
B. *BOD Meeting Minutes, Pre-Conference BOD Meeting, March 3, 2021*
C. *BOD Meeting Minutes, Post-Conference BOD Meeting, March 8, 2021*
D. *Board Resolution FY21-06: Thanking Rebecca Skinner.*
Robinson moves to adopt Consent Agenda, Gardner seconds, no objections, Consent Agenda approved.
- IV. Governance & Policy ----- Gronholdt**
- A. *January 2021 Financial Statement* – Robinson moves to approve January 2021 FS, Sullivan seconds. Marquardt provided a brief overview of the FS and notified Board of a potential upcoming change to SWAMC’s contract with Foraker to reduce costs. Roll call vote taken, all in favor, FS approved.
- B. *February 2021 Financial Statement* – Gardner moves to approve February 2021 FS, Sullivan seconds. Marquardt provided a brief overview of the FS. Roll call vote taken, all in favor, FS approved.
- C. *FY21 Budget revision reflecting additional Supplemental Funding* – Marquardt provided an overview of the changes made to the original SWAMC FY21 budget to address significant financial changes that have occurred throughout the fiscal year, including primarily the receipt of \$400,000 of Supplemental grant funding from EDA. Robinson moves to adopt the revised FY21 Budget, Sullivan seconds, Board members engage in discussion about project priorities within SWAMC’s CEDS as reflected in the budget. Roll call vote taken, all in favor, FY21 budget revision approved.
- V. Management & Program Issues ----- Marquardt**
- A. *ATB update on Broadband Project* – Marquardt provided an overview of the latest on the “Broadband-in-a-Box” Plan that SWAMC is working on under contract with Harold Johnston of Aleutian Tribal Broadband. Harold has been working with Keith Comstock of the State of Alaska and assisting local tribal and municipal entities. Harold’s final report is pending; progress has been delayed slightly due to COVID. Robinson provided additional information on Broadband opportunities and updates from Unalaska’s efforts. Ruby expressed concerns about how local utilities will be able to continue providing services in the case of outside internet providers coming in and providing services separately, thereby reducing revenue for local utilities and potentially causing their core service, electricity, costs to have to increase to make up for it. Board members further discussed how regional improvements in internet are playing out locally in their communities.
- B. *Update on the R&R Plan progress* – Marquardt explained the process that staff went through working with McKinley Research Group in survey development to make sure the survey felt regionally appropriate for the Southwest Alaska audience. Staff also compiled a list of key regional contacts for the MRG staff to conduct one-on-one interviews with. Staff plans to travel to the region, with MRG staff if possible, to conduct in-person outreach. Several board members mentioned local surveys that were conducted in their communities; Marquardt requested that local surveys be shared with staff if possible so they can be incorporated into SWAMC’s R&R Plan.
- VI. Staff Report ----- Marquardt**



- A. *Staff Report* – Marquardt provided overview of the last two months. Highlights included SWAMC’s participation in ongoing ARDOR meetings and how valuable being a part of that group has been; finalization of the PNNL Marine Renewable Energy kelp project report; semi-annual progress and financial reporting for both EDA grants; and updates to the SWAMC website, including posting information about current projects.

VII. Board Comments / Other Business

Board members provided various updates.

VIII. Adjourn Time: Robinson moves to adjourn, Lockett seconds, meeting adjourned at 10:36 am by **President Gronholdt**