

**Aleutian Islands Waterways Safety Committee
Managing Board Meeting
Minutes
January 15, 2020
9:30AM – 12PM
AMPRN Boardroom
1400 W Benson Blvd #420, Anchorage, AK 99503**

Attendees:

Mayor Joe Bereskin, Board Member *webinar*
Captain Buddy Custard, Secretary/Treasurer
Peggy McLaughlin, WSC Representative

Ex Officio:

Aaron Poe, Aleutian Bering Sea Islands, LCC (ABSI)
CDR Justin W. Jacobs, U.S. Coast Guard, Sector Anchorage (USCG) *webinar*
LT Mateusz “Matt” Lemanski, U.S. Coast Guard, Sector Anchorage (USCG) *webinar*
LCDR Bart Buessler, NOAA Office of Coast Survey
Bernie Nowicki, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC)
Jeanette Alas, Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G) *webinar*

Others:

Tim Robertson, Nuka Research and Planning Group *webinar*
Sara Nichols, Nuka Research and Planning Group *webinar*

The 11th regular meeting of the AIWSC Managing Board was called to order by Secretary/Treasurer Custard at 9:35am.

Agenda Approval

Motion Bereskin, McLaughlin to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passes unanimously

Approval of Meeting Summaries - September 4, 2019 and December 10, 2019

Motion McLaughlin, Bereskin to approve the summaries of September 4, and December 10, 2019. Motion passes unanimously

Secretary/Treasurer Report

Buddy Custard and Tim Robertson reported that as of this time the organization is still operating on funds provided through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant – current balance = \$32,000. Operations expenditures total \$28,000. AMPRN staff will work to set up a bank account, after which Nuka Research will be able to establish a Paypal account. 2019 expenditures will be reported through the grant but for 2020, independent accounts need to be established.

Committee Chair Report

Peggy McLaughlin reported that the Committee held four meetings in 2019. The Waterways Safety Plan was passed and published. As for next steps, they will be looking to revise some navigational pieces and tighten up the Plan.

Facilitators Report

Tim Robertson reported that the WSC has come a long way and we are ready to hit our stride. Moving forward, the organization can set the pace and determine how active you want it to be. There are currently 30 volunteers working for the committee which is a great thing, but the Board needs to ensure sustainability and set a pace that is maintainable. There are external relationships that need to be cultivated and maintained. Find a balance between not burning people out but making sure the organization doesn't get stagnate.

WCHSC Conference Report

Tim Robertson reported that it was a good conference comprised of all the HSC chairs on the West Coast. He encouraged the Board to take advantage of this networking opportunity every year. Consider funding the Chair's attendance for the next one.

Membership Vacancies

- a. At Large, Primary - Leslie Pearson is resigning from her Committee seat. Nuka Research will draft a 'Thank You' letter expressing the Board's appreciation for her invaluable input and drive in getting the Waterways Safety Plan to where it is today.
- b. Oil Spill Response Organization, Primary - Matt Melton is no longer with Chadux and has not provided a letter of resignation nor a response to efforts to reach him regarding the status of his seat.

Motion Custard, McLaughlin to declare the Oil Spill Response Organization, Primary Seat vacant. Motion passes unanimously

Membership Appointments

- a. Resolution 2020-01 Committee Member Re-appointments

Motion McLaughlin, Bereskin to adopt Resolution 2020-01 re-appointing the listed members for three (3) year terms expiring in December 2023. Motion passes unanimously

- b. Morgann Machelak – Ships Agents, Alternate; Melissa Good – At Large, Primary; Chris Burns – Oil Spill Response Organization, Primary

Motion McLaughlin, Bereskin to appoint Morgann Machelak as Ships Agents, Alternate and Melissa Good as At Large, Primary for three (3) year terms ending December 2023; Chris Burns as Oil Spill Response Organization, Primary for the remaining term ending December 2020. Motion passes unanimously

AIWSC Funding

- NRDA Funding Proposal

LCDR Buessler provided a [written report](#) to the group. There is hope that this is a potential source of funding for AIWSC if we can quantify what this group does to the prevention of the amount of oil that gets on the beach. Although, this is not a near-term resource, the process of applying needs to start soon

- There was a recent incident in the identical location of Selendang Ayu in which the navigation portion of Waterways Safety Plan was referenced.
 - Vessel tracking with amount of fuel being hauled through AIWSC geographic scope? Provide it as an example – useful to decision makers.
 - AMPRN will analyze and pull data together to help in the NRDA application – near misses, transients, etc.
 - Geofencing project could present some technology to list as a proactive/preventative measure
- Excess Head Tax Fund
 - McLaughlin will bring request for support in this effort to the Harbor Association - could give weight to our Legislative request.
 - Custard will reach out to Hoffman as a potential ally to Micciche in the Legislature

AIWSC Funding Structure – Committee Contributions

Nuka Research provided a draft letter to AIWSC Members asking for internal funding. These would be tax deductible contributions

- \$2,000 recommended as a starting amount - raising \$10K for 2021 would sustain the organization.
- Custard will work with Robertson on some edits before sending the letter out.

Board Officer Elections

Resolution 2020-02 – *action postponed until full Board in attendance*

- Managing Board Vacancy

Board members decided to advertise the vacancy to current WSC Members to see if there is interest for a person to serve at the Board level.

Poe will reach out to the Pribilof tribes (include text from Nuka Research announcement).

Communication Plan for Waterways Safety Plan

Communication Sub-committee's recommendations have some have budget implications - hard copy distribution, CD/thumb drives, staff time.

- Some partners would be able to help with the costs (Unalaska Port, etc.)
- Nuka Research will continue to work on further shrinking the size of the digital document. AMPRN has capability to email the individual ships with the smaller plan. Custard can experiment with vessels to see if they can download small version.

2020 Budget Review and Approval

Motion McLaughlin, Bereskin to approve the 2020 Budget as presented. Voice Vote, unanimous. Motion Passes

Review Action Items

- Buddy Custard
 - Set-up Bank accounts on behalf of AIWSC with AMPRN staff and seed \$
 - W/ Steven Gabelein will analyze vessel traffic data and compile statistics appropriate for NRDA Funding application
 - Set-up funding sub-committee (LCDR Buesseler, Aaron Poe, Steven Gabelein, Bert Ray, Tim Robertson) and begin work on NRDA application and Legislative appropriation
 - Talk to AK Legislators in Juneau about supporting the Excess Head Tax Initiative for Alaska Maritime Safety Committees
- Peggy McLaughlin
 - Bring Legislative Appropriation request to the attention of State Harbor Association and solicit their support
 - Work with Tim Robertson to develop agenda for next WSC Meeting
- Nuka Research
 - Draft 'Thank You' letters to Frank Kelty and Leslie Pearson
 - Notify Committee Members of appointments and new seat terms
 - Circulate previously sent letters to Governor Walker regarding the Excess Head Tax Initiative
 - Set up Special Board Meeting for the week of Feb 2 (30 min) for election of Board Officers and possible discussion of next WSC Meeting
 - Set up meetings of the various AIWSC Workgroups in preparation for a Spring WSC Meeting

Adjourn

Motion McLaughlin, Bereskin for adjournment. Motion passes by non-objection. Meeting adjourned at 11:18am.

Meeting Materials:

1. September 4 meeting summary
2. December 10 meeting summary
3. Expense Report
4. West Coast Harbor Safety Committee Summit Agenda
5. Membership Roster
6. Current Expired Seats table of responses
7. Resolution 20-01 WSC Seat Appointments
8. Machelak Resume and LOI
9. NRDA Funding Report from LCDR Buessler
10. Draft Contribution Letter to WSC Members
11. Frank Kelty Resignation Letter
12. Resolution 20-02 Officers
13. Communications Committee meeting summary
14. Draft 2020 Budget (submitted separately)