

**COOK INLET REGIONAL CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL
TELECONFERENCE
April 3, 2020
Approved Minutes**

Members Present by Teleconference: John Williams, Robert Peterkin, Gary Fandrei, Molly McCammon, Walt Sonen, Grace Merkes, Bob Flint, Deric Marcorelle, Michael Opheim, Kyle Crow

Members Absent: Carla Stanley (excused), Paul Shadura (excused), Rob Lindsey (excused)

Staff Present by Teleconference: Michael Munger, Susan Saupe, Vinnie Catalano, Jerry Rombach, Lynda Giguere, Vaito'a Heaven, Maddie Jamora, Shaylon Cochran, Cindy Sanguinetti

Others Present by Teleconference: Scott Arndt, Kodiak Island Borough; Captain Sean McKenzie, USCG; Lt. Bart Buessler, NOAA Coast Survey; Heather Crowley, BOEM; John Dale, 17th District, Juneau

1. CALL TO ORDER/ APPROVAL

President John Williams called the meeting to order at 9:01 am. Roll was called, establishing quorum.

Gary Fandrei moved to approve the agenda. Deric Marcorelle seconded. The agenda was approved.

Reviewing the minutes, Mr. Fandrei pointed out that Mr. Catalano was noted twice as attending on December 6. He should only show as present by teleconference.

Kyle Crow moved to approve the minutes as amended. Gary Fandrei seconded. The motion passed.

- **Agency Ex Officio Directors Remarks**

Captain McKenzie, USCG, Sector Anchorage, reported while the staff is doing tele work on split schedules all mission essential tasks such as the command center and oil pollution responders are ready to go. Vessel boarding is done on a case-by-case basis, maritime commerce continues uninterrupted under additional protocols and Captain of the Port orders as necessary.

Heather Crowley, BOEM, reported her agency is also working via telework. The team has begun the environmental analysis process for the 2021 Cook Inlet Lease Sale.

Lt. Bart Buessler, NOAA, Coast Survey, stated his office is also teleworking and holding off on survey efforts. Chart work is progressing.

- **CIRCAC Member or Public Comment**

Kyle Crow asked about CG transfers. Captain McKenzie said more guidance is expected, but transfers scheduled more than 30 days out will likely be delayed. Mr. Crow asked if there would be an update on

Commissioner Brune's comments regarding relaxing environmental compliance. There was no DEC representative at the meeting.

2. SPECIAL BOARD RECOGNITION PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Williams announced the following recognitions:

Catherine Berg, NOAA	5 years
Eric Klein, EMC Public Member	5 years
Michael Opheim, Alaska Native Organizations	10 years
Scott Hamman, PROPS Public member	10 years
Carla Stanley, City of Homer representative	15 years
Rob Lindsey, City of Kodiak representative	20 years

Certificates will be mailed.

The Volunteer of the Year Award was presented to Deric Marcorelle.

3. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Williams reported the Executive Committee had met once since the last Council meeting to review budgets and banking, to receive updates on industry, grant funding, the Furie bankruptcy, employee benefits, personnel matters, CIRCAC elections and appointments and the scholarships. Projects were reviewed and all regulations are being followed.

4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Munger reported the Triennial Recertification application has been submitted. CIRCAC submitted comments for the DEC scoping process and launched a successful outreach effort resulting in a number of resolutions opposing change to the regulations. PWS RCAC and CIRCAC worked well together.

With the slowdown in the economy oil production will need to be throttled back since there is reduced storage capacity.

CIRCAC began working remotely before the mandate; everything is going well. The RCAC is financially solvent. The Executive Director hopes to sign the funding agreements for the next three years within a few weeks.

Kachemak, LLC looks to be the winning bidder for Furie.

The Executive Director welcomed Mr. Shaylon Cochran who will ultimately replace Ms. Giguere later this year. He also welcomed Mr. Arndt who has been appointed to represent the Kodiak Island Borough and thanked Mr. Crow for his years of service.

Hilcorp has canceled the shallow hazard survey until next year, dependent on oil prices. Exploration activities in Cook Inlet have slowed, if not ceased. If pipeline throughput ceases it is not impossible to restart, but it is problematic.

The financial report is in the packet and CIRCAC is in a good position.

5. STAFF REPORTS – STATUS OF PROGRAMS & PROJECTS

- **Administration** – the report is in the packet. There were no questions.
- **Environmental Monitoring** –the report is in the packet. There were no questions.
- **PROPS**- the report is in the packet. There were no questions.
- **Protocol**- the report is in the packet. Chairman Robert Peterkin said the committee is operating well by teleconference.
- **Public Outreach**-Shaylon Cochran said he is pleased to have joined CIRCAC in early February and is learning a lot from Ms. Giguere.

6. CALENDARS & MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Rombach reported that 16 scholarship applications were received. Ten finalists will be interviews via teleconference in mid-April. He expressed appreciation for the Scholarship Committee.

Many activities have been canceled, including the Kachemak Bay Shore Bird Festival. The IOSC has been postponed.

*****Closing Comments*****

Deric Marcorelle thought it was a good meeting.

Molly McCammon said AOOS is waiting to swap out the lower Cook Inlet wave buoy which could lose battery at any time.

Grace Merkes thanked the staff for organizing the meeting.

Kyle Crow said he had learned a lot in the last three years; he was grateful for the opportunity and thanked the Council for its patience and help. He will stay abreast of the RCAC’s work; he has respect for the organization.

John Williams thanked Mr. Crow, saying he was an asset with a lot of experience and knowledge.

Bob Flint commended the President for a great job keeping the meeting going; he appreciates staff.

Walt Sonen seconded Mr. William’s comments regarding Mr. Crow saying he’d enjoyed his astute, knowledgeable and timely input.

The meeting adjourned at 9:54 am.