

**COOK INLET REGIONAL CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
Teleconference Kenai Office
December 14, 2018
Approved Minutes**

Members Present: John Williams, Robert Peterkin, Gary Fandrei, Paul Shadura, Deric Marcorelle

Members Present by Teleconference: Walt Sonen, Grace Merkes, Kyle Crow

Members Absent: Molly McCammon (excused), Carla Stanley, Rob Lindsey, Bob Flint (excused), Michael Opheim (excused)

Staff Present: Michael Munger, Jerry Rombach, Vaito'a Heaven, Maddie Jamora, Cindy Sanguinetti

Staff Present by Teleconference: Susan Saupe, Vinnie Catalano, Lynda Giguere

1. CALL TO ORDER/ APPROVAL

President John Williams called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Roll was called, establishing quorum.

Robert Peterkin moved to approve the agenda. Gary Fandrei seconded. The agenda was approved.

Vinnie Catalano gave a safety briefing.

2. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

- **2019 Proposed Budget**

Gary Fandrei moved to approve the 2019 Proposed Operating & Program Budgets. Deric Marcorelle seconded.

Mr. Munger noted that the budget mostly mirrors the 2018 budget. The CPI increase added \$30,000 to the funding. Wages, health insurance and the Public Outreach budget have increased.

Ms. Heaven added that the slight increase in rent for storage, in office supplies, and that subscriptions and publications have been combined. The legal budget has slightly decreased.

Mr. Shadura sought verification that the audit was clean. He asked about the wages and travel budgets.

The 2019 Proposed Operating & Program Budgets was approved.

- **2019 Meeting Schedule**

Robert Peterkin moved to approve the 2019 Meeting Schedule: April 5 – Kenai, September 6-Seldovia, December 5 & 6-Anchorage. Gary Fandrei seconded.

Mr. Peterkin asked whether the December dates correspond with PWSRCAC's schedule, which has not been set. Mr. Munger urged Council members to attend when invited to PWSRCAC's Science Night and Volunteer Appreciation Party.

The meeting schedule passed.

- **Financial Audit/Tax Preparation FYs 2018-2020**

Jerry Rombach reported that the Executive and Audit Committees selected Lambe, Tuter & Wagner to prepare CIRCAC taxes and conduct the Financial Audit for the years 2018-2020. While not objecting to the choice, Mr. Shadura noted that Foraker suggests switching auditors every 3 years. Mr. Peterkin clarified that the recommendation is to go out to bid every 3 years. Lambe, Tuter & Wagner's bid was lower and they have a good record.

3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Munger said he is proud of how the Council and staff conducted themselves in response to the earthquake on November 30. He is writing a letter to the Sheraton management addressing concerns over the lack of emergency procedures or emergency lighting. No meetings will ever be held there nor should CIRCAC representatives stay there. There has not been any contact from management. Mr. Catalano conveyed he was told by hotel staff that there were no regular drills of safety measures. The letter will note that individual hotel staff members did make a real effort to accommodate guests. A letter of appreciation will be sent to the Paris Café for taking Sheraton guests in. The individual stories of staff and board members will be memorialized.

Mr. Munger announced that Bill Osborn had passed away.

Maritta Eledge has resigned and Vaito'a Heaven has accepted the full time position. Maddie Jamora has taken the Administrative Assistant part time position. The Executive Director thanked the board for supporting the employees, saying most have worked for CIRCAC for a long time, contributing to the effectiveness of the organization.

PROPS allocated an additional \$31,000 toward the Pipeline Risk Assessment. DEC has contributed \$200,000, which is under contract. Additionally, CIRCAC has been awarded a Technical Assistance grant equaling \$88,000, which will be used to develop a public website regarding the pipeline infrastructure and linked to circac.org. The grant will also be used to directly engage Cook Inlet operators and representatives of communities and other stakeholder interests to elicit recommendations generated through operator/public dialogue to enhance pipeline safety and response. A public/operator workshop will follow. Mr. Shadura requested more information regarding the stakeholders whose input would be sought.

The Cross-Inlet Pipeline is in service. The Executive Committee approved a resolution to be presented to Hilcorp at the April Council meeting. The last saleable oil left Drift River.

The Harbor Safety Committee is fully functioning. A letter has been written to the Governor seeking funding for the HSC from the cruise ship tax.

Mr. Munger and PWSRCAC signed a joint letter of support for legislation to permanently authorize the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to ensure the Federal Government is able to pay for expeditious oil removal and uncompensated damages associated with oil spills. Nationally, crude oil will be taxed after refineries at \$.08/barrel to support the fund with a floor of \$5 billion and a ceiling of \$7 billion. With the letter the RCAC's provided a requested list of projects that could benefit from the proposed \$20 million Response & Prevention grant program.

Collaboration with PWSRCAC continues to evolve and improve. The two shared a booth at Pacific Marine Expo.

Mr. Munger is working with Marathon to collaborate on a scholarship to the AVTEC Marine Academy. PROPS approved funding from their Special Opportunities budget.

A new ADEC Commissioner, Jason Brune, has been appointed by the administration. The Spill, Prevention & Response Director was asked to resign; the new manager has no spill response background.

The Executive Director has been in discussions with the Coast Guard regarding sites that pose a potential spill risk, but the agency does not have the funding to develop a public document. Mr. Munger recommended seeking funding through the Congressional delegation or the Rasmussen Foundation.

Admiral Bell may attend the April meeting. Mr. Munger recommended the Admiral convey his concerns about the Sheraton's lack of emergency response following the November 30 earthquake.

Mr. Shadura asked about the Coast Guard Re-authorization bill, which has now been signed. Mr. Munger said he has been in touch with the Coast Guard but they don't yet know what it means. He will keep abreast of the issue.

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

Walt Sonen complimented Vinnie Catalano for the professional way he oversaw the evacuation after the earthquake.

Kyle Crow requested more advanced receipt of packet material in hard copy.

Vinnie Catalano stated the evacuation was an example of staff team effort. He's thankful it went well. He expressed appreciation for Council approval of the budget.

Paul Shadura expressed appreciation for the opportunity to pose questions and receive answers. He thanked staff for making the arrangements. He's happy to stay on the ground floor from now on.

Deric Marcorelle said he feels closer to everyone following the terrifying experience of the earthquake.

Robert Peterkin said it was scary on the 6th floor; he's glad he wasn't in the elevator or on the 15th floor. He mentioned the irony of the tour to the OEM the day before. He thanked staff.

Gary Fandrei echoed praise for the staff. He appreciated getting to fly on the only flight home to Kenai on November 30th.

Vaito'a Heaven thanked the staff and board for their patience as she learns her new job and trains Ms. Jamora. She's enjoying it.

Michael Munger also thanked the staff, saying it's the strength of the organization. He thanked the board for its support.

John Williams thanked all for attending.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 am.