

Due to the Covid-19 virus, we were unable to gather in Kenai for our annual meeting on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Like everyone, we're learning to adjust to this new reality. Beginning March 16<sup>th</sup>, CIRCAC staff began working from the home. The safety and health of our staff and council members are our top priority, and so council business is being conducted remotely via teleconference for the foreseeable future while we continue reviewing options for video conferencing.

Though brief, we were still able to complete important work at the annual meeting, including board elections and appointments. We're happy to welcome Mr. Scott Arndt to the Council, who will be representing the Kodiak Island Borough. And Dr. John Morton is a welcome addition to the Environmental Monitoring Committee.

Our outreach campaign regarding the Department of Environmental Conservation's proposed changes to spill response regulations also continues. The public comment period closed in March. We are analyzing those comments which, by a heavy majority, called on the state to leave current regulations intact or expand on them. Staying engaged in this process remains one of our top goals in 2020.

We are nearing completion of an assessment of Cook Inlet pipeline infrastructure, working in partnership with ADEC and several local, state and federal entities. We brought together a panel of experts from a variety of fields to analyze the 300-plus miles of land and subsea pipelines within the Cook Inlet basin. Now in the third phase, the panel is working on proposals for specific, practical risk reduction measures with measurable outcomes. Recommendations from the panel will create the framework to address any potential concerns that could compromise the integrity of critical infrastructure.

A complete board packet is available online at: <https://www.circac.org/who-we-are/council-meetings-minutes/>

We are looking forward to our next board meeting in Seldovia on August 28<sup>th</sup>, contingent on any public health or travel mandates in effect at that time. Please stay safe and healthy as we all look forward to a quick end to the current public health emergency.