

Aleutian Islands Waterways Safety Committee
Managing Board
DRAFT Meeting Agenda
October 30, 2018
9:30AM
Webinar

webinar instructions at end of this document

Invitees:

Mayor Joe Bereskin, Board Member
Captain Buddy Custard, Secretary/Treasurer
Mayor Frank Kelty, President
Shirley Marquardt, Vice President
Peggy McLaughlin, WSC Representative

Ex Officio:

Aaron Poe, ABSI
CDR Justin W. Jacobs, U.S. Coast Guard, Sector Anchorage (USCG)
LT David Parker, U.S. Coast Guard, Sector Anchorage (USCG)
Geoff Merrell, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC)
Bart Buessler, NOAA Office of Coast Survey
Jeff Williams, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Jeanette Alas, Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G)

Others:

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

- I. Call to Order Shirley Marquardt
- II. Agenda Approval.....All
- III. Review and Approve Meeting Minutes of May 16, 2018All
- IV. Reports
 - a. Secretary/Treasurer Report..... Buddy Custard/Tim Robertson
 - b. Committee Chair Report.....Peggy McLaughlin
 - a. November 8th meeting draft agenda
 - c. Facilitators Report Tim Robertson
- V. Membership Committee and WorkgroupsAll
 - a. Vacancies.....All
 - i. Ex Officio ADEC, Alternate – Lisa Krebs Barsis
 - b. Appointments.....All
 - i. Ex Officio ADEC, Alternate – Bernie Nowicki
- VI. Old Business
 - a. Sustainable Funding Plan

b. Pribilof Island concerns

VII. New Business

VIII. Next Steps Tim Robertson

IX. Review Action Items.....Sara Nichols

X. Set Next MeetingAll

XI. Adjourn

Meeting Materials:

1. May 16th meeting summary
2. Budget Report
3. November 8th Draft Agenda
4. Membership Roster
5. Funding Plan Key Concepts
6. Letter to Governor Walker

Webinar instructions

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <https://zoom.us/j/856235552>

Or Telephone: Dial: 646 558 8656 or 669 900 6833

Meeting ID: 856 235 552#

Aleutian Islands Waterways Safety Committee
Managing Board
DRAFT Meeting Minutes
May 16, 2018
2:00PM
Webinar

Attendees:

Captain Buddy Custard, Secretary/Treasurer
Mayor Frank Kelty, President
Shirley Marquardt, Vice President
Peggy McLaughlin, WSC Representative

Ex Officio:

Aaron Poe, ABSI
CDR Justin W. Jacobs, U.S. Coast Guard, Sector Anchorage (USCG)
Geoff Merrell, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC)
Bart Buesseler, NOAA Office of Coast Survey
Jeff Williams, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Others:

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

Call to Order

The sixth meeting of the AIWSC Managing Board was called to order by President Kelty at 2:05PM

Agenda Approval

Motion Custard, McLaughlin to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passes with non-objection.

Review and Approve Meeting Minutes of April 16, 2018

Motion McLaughlin, Custard to approve the Minutes of the April 16, 2018 Meeting as presented. Motion passes by non-objection.

Secretary/Treasurer Report

Captain Custard and Mr. Robertson gave an overview of the current figures prepared for the group in the following document: [180508 AIWSC Budget Report](#)

Committee Chair Report

Chairwoman McLaughlin reported that the last meeting of the WSC was well attended and the mission statements of both workgroups were adopted. The Committee also worked on tasking for the Workgroups and how the assignments fit into the proposed structure of the Waterways Safety Plan. Interested Committee Members signed up to help with the various assignments and the group has a solid way forward after the three-hour meeting. The next Committee meeting will be held in September.

Facilitators Report

Mr. Robertson reported that Nuka Research spent a lot of time on logistics organizing the second meeting of the WSC, as it was a webinar with over 35 people in attendance. The webinar software worked well but we would appreciate any feedback you may have for improvement. Utilizing the webinar technology is imperative to keeping the budget in check. There has been a lot of enthusiasm and participation in the process so far. Nuka Research will begin the organization of the next meeting in 60 days, and will let the Workgroups meet and work throughout the Summer. The 501(c)3 application is near completion. Nuka Research is seeking direction on the official address of the organization and will be reporting that the AIWSC show no expenditures currently, as all operations are working under the auspices of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant.

The group agreed that the address should be PO Box 175, Seldovia, Alaska 99663, and that the organization should report no expenditures at this time.

Membership Committee and Workgroups

Vacancies - Commercial Fishing, Alternate – Gary Covich

The resignation of Gary Covich was accepted by Non-objection.

Appointments - Barges and Associated Tugs, Alternate – David Ridge

Motion Marquardt, McLaughlin to appoint David Ridge to the Barges and Associated Tugs, Alternate Seat. Motion passes unanimously.

Sustainable Funding Plan

Captain Custard and Mr. Robertson reported that they held a productive meeting regarding the future of the organization once grant funding has been spent out. The group discussed the balance between having a large enough budget to accomplish the mission of the AIWSC, and having an organization that is too bureaucratic to fund. All agreed that \$50k is not realistic considering the logistics involved in the region, and requested that the draft budget be re-worked to reflect Nuka Research's continued involvement, change the line item "Special Projects" to "Sustainable Projects". It was also suggested that legal and accounting costs should be increased, the need for travel costs to be analyzed, and including the allowance for the maintenance and publication of the Waterways Safety Plan. In consideration of the funding struggles of other Safety Committees, it was suggested that this group hardwire membership contributions into the over-all plan.

Pribilof Concerns

The group discussed the issue that some of the Pribilof groups have with the name of the organization not representing them as well as the Aleutian Islands. All agreed that a name change at this point would be cumbersome. Mr. Poe volunteered to follow up with his contacts to point out that the Scope of the AIWSC includes the Pribilofs and what, short of a name change, would they accept. Mr. Robertson suggested that the Board expand and that a permanent Board position be created for a representative of the Pribilof Islands and Alaska Peninsula.

Action Items

- Nuka Research will complete the 501c3 application making the official address of the AIWSC PO Box 175, Seldovia, AK 99663, and continue working with the attorney to process the application with the IRS.
- Captain Custard, Mr. Poe, and Mr. Robertson will meet again to discuss the revisions to the draft budget and work on a funding plan to bring back to the Board.
- Mr. Poe will reach out to the St. Paul community via Lauren Divine to feel out the situation and work on a way to convince them their involvement in the Committee is highly valued.

Set Next Meeting

Next meeting tentatively set for some time in June.

Adjourn

Motion Custard, Marquardt for adjournment. Voice Vote, Unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 3:29PM.

**Aleutian Island Waterway Safety Committee
Budget Report as of 9/30/18**

Phase	Tasks	Nuka Research	Professional Services	Expenses Meetings Travel
I	Facilitate Convening Workgroup – agendas, teleconference, summaries Stakeholder involvement webinar – organize, facilitate, report Drafting/revising documents – Charter, Bylaws Communications – email contacts, website			
	Budget	\$ 25,525	\$ 2,000	\$ 4,000
	Actual	\$ 24,983	\$ 630	\$ 1,859
II	Facilitate Board of Directors – agendas, teleconference, summaries Facilitate AI HSC – agendas, teleconference, summaries Administrative tasks Outreach and Communications Plan – email contacts, website Funding Plan – draft, circulate, and revise as necessary			
	Budget	\$ 46,610	\$ 2,000	\$ 13,000
	Actual	\$ 45,980	\$ 1,145	\$ 10,347
III	Facilitate Board of Directors – agendas, teleconference, summaries Facilitate AI HSC – agendas, teleconference, summaries Administrative tasks Outreach and Communications– email contacts, website Funding Plan – work with Board/Committee to implement Support Committee Work - research and draft work products			
	Budget	\$ 77,865	\$ 2,000	\$ 24,000
	Actual	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total				
	Budget	\$ 133,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 41,000
	Actual	\$ 70,963	\$ 1,775	\$ 12,206
	Balance	\$ 62,037	\$ 4,225	\$ 28,794

Aleutian Islands Waterways Safety Committee

Meeting Agenda

November 8, 2018

10:00AM - 3:00PM

UAA

Anchorage, AK

- I. Call to Order Peggy McLaughlin, Chair
- II. Introductions Peggy McLaughlin, Chair
- III. Housekeeping Actions Peggy McLaughlin, Chair
 - i. Meeting Protocols
- IV. Approval of Agenda
- V. Public Comments (limited to 5 minutes each)
- VI. Approval of Meeting Summary May 1, 2018
- VII. Reports to Committee
 - a. Ex Officio Reports
 - i. USCG CDR Justin Jacobs
 - ii. ADEC..... Geoff Merrell
 - iii. NOAA Bart Buesseler
 - iv. USFWS..... Jeff Williams
 - v. ADFG.....Jeanette Alas
 - b. Managing Board Report.....Mayor Frank Kelty
 - c. WSC Chair Report.....Peggy McLaughlin
 - d. Workgroup Reports
 - i. Waterways Safety Plan Workgroup..... Leslie Pearson
 - ii. Navigation Workgroup..... Captain David Arzt
 - e. Facilitator's Report..... Tim Robertson
- VIII. Old Business
- IX. New Business
 - a. Review and revise Waterways Safety Plan
 - b. Heavy Weather Guidelines
- X. Review Action Items and Set Next Meeting.....Peggy McLaughlin
- XI. Closing Committee Comments
- XII. Adjourn

**Aleutian Islands Waterways Safety Committee Roster
February 20, 2018 Version**

Voting Members

Seat	Primary	Alternate
(a) At Sea Fish Processors	Chris Woodley	
(b) Commercial Fishing	Frank Vargas	
(c) Commercial Fishing Vessels <60feet		
(d) Passenger Vessels	Steven Gabelien	
(e) Cargo Ships		
(f) Tank Vessels	Ingo Rose	
(g) Barges (including cargo and petroleum) and associated tugs	Wyatt Morgan	David Ridge
(h) Assist Tugs (docking, rescue)	Chris Iszler	
(i) Port Director, Harbor Master, Local Government	Scott Brown	Ernie Weiss
(j) Terminal Operators	Jennifer Tungul	
(k) Oil Spill Response	Matt Melton	
(l) P & I Clubs	Bert Ray	
(m) Salvage	Todd Duke	
(n) Alaska Native Interest	Thomas Robinson	
(o) Conservation Organizations	Andrew Hartsig	
(p) Marine Pilots	David Arzt	
(q) Ship's Agents	Andrew Mew	
(r) Subsistence User	Karen Pletnikoff	
(s) AIWSC Managing Board Director	Peggy McLaughlin	Buddy Custard
(t) At Large	Leslie Pearson	Melissa Good
(u) Vessel Monitoring and Tracking	Ed Page	

Ex Officio Members (Non-Voting)

Seat	Primary	Alternate
U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)	CDR Justin Jacobs	LTjg David Parker
Alaska Department of Conservation (ADEC)	Geoff Merrell	Lisa Krebs-Barsis
NOAA, Office of Coast Survey	Bart Buesseler	Vacant
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Jeff Williams	
Aleutian Bering Sea Islands, Inc. (ABSI)	Aaron Poe	Vacant
Alaska Department of Fish and Game	Jeanette Alas	Miranda Westphal

Managing Board of Directors

Director	Office
Mayor Joe Bereskin	Member At Large
Captain Buddy Custard	Secretary/Treasurer
Mayor Frank Kelty	President
Shirley Marquardt	Vice-President
Peggy McLaughlin	HSC Chair

Aleutian Island Waterway Safety Committee
Sustainable Funding
Key Concepts

Funding philosophy

- Self-sustaining
- Cost effective
- Enough to keep organization functioning, relevant, viable
- Utilize in-kind services
- Utilize member's input and service
- Don't ask for more than needed
- Demonstrate value for funding
- Diverse mixture of sources
- Members/maritime community contribute first then seek outside funding

Funding related policies

- Members pay travel costs (possible exceptions)
- Keep budget below \$100k

Types of funding needed

1. Operational funds
2. Sustainable Projects
 - a. Waterway safety plan
 - b. Vessel traffic analysis
 - c. Outreach
 - d. Harbor Safety Conference

Possible sources of funding

- Contributions or Dues
 - Members
 - Other maritime industry
- Grants
 - Foundations
- Appropriations
 - Cruise ship head tax fund
 - State general fund
 - Federal
- Other
 - Selendang Ayu NRDA



October 10, 2018

The Honorable Bill Walker
Governor of Alaska
3rd Floor, State Capitol
PO Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Governor Walker,

Please consider the enclosed proposal for the use of excess Commercial Passenger Excise Tax funds to support the Maritime Safety Committees in Alaska. We hope that you will include \$200,000 in your budget for these organizations that are crucial to promoting marine safety in Alaska waters.

The Aleutian Islands Waterways Safety Committee was chartered in 2017 and is the most recently formed Maritime Safety Committee of its kind in our State. Our Committee is an Alaska non-profit organization formed for the purpose of developing and supporting Best Practices for maritime operations in the waterways surrounding the Aleutian and Pribilof Islands. The Committee consists of stakeholders including waterway users, marine pilots, Alaska Natives, environmental organizations, and ports in the region. The AIWSC is also supported by the U.S. Coast Guard and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation. The Committee is currently developing a Waterway Safety Plan to document best practices for vessels operating in the region.

The AIWSC Organization faces the same funding struggles other Maritime Safety Committees are facing in Alaska. Sustainable funding is critical to the operation and administration of the organization and development of a Waterway Safety Plan to document best practices for safe marine operations

I thank you for your consideration of this request for funds.

Respectfully,

Tim L. Robertson, Committee Facilitator
for
Frank Kelty
Managing Board President
Aleutian Islands Waterways Safety Committee

Cc: Mike Navarre, Commissioner Department of Commerce and Economic Development
Fred Parady, Deputy Commissioner Department of Commerce and Economic Development

Proposal to utilize excess Commercial Passenger Excise Tax funds to support Harbor Safety/Waterway Safety Committees in Alaska

Request: To add an item to the Governor's Budget for FY20 to appropriate \$200k from the Commercial Passenger Excise Tax funds to support Harbor Safety and Waterway Safety Committees in Alaska.

Amount: \$200,000.00 to be split evenly between the four non-profit organizations.

Justification: A Harbor Safety Committee or Waterway Safety Committee is an organization composed of marine operators, waterway users, and government entities that utilize, regulate, or oversee port operations for a particular waterbody. These committees develop and adopt a Harbor/Waterway Safety Plan which embodies Best Practices for prevention and safety of maritime commerce in that area. The US Coast Guard (USCG) recognizes Safety Committees as a key to safe, efficient and environmentally sound operations (USCG NVIC 01-00). Safety Committees are not mandated or funded by the Federal Government, but are encouraged and recognized by State and Federal agencies and have been established in coastal areas throughout the contiguous U.S.

In Alaska Maritime Safety Committees are comprised of representatives of the maritime community including but not limited to cruise ships and other passenger vessels, fishing and fish processors, communities/ports, oil and cargo vessels, marine pilots, maritime agents, local and international shipping, Alaska Natives, and other non-governmental organizations with a stake in marine issues in the region. The committees also include Ex-officio members including: AK Departments of Environmental Conservation and Fish and Game, USCG, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA),

There are three Safety Committees in Alaska:

[Aleutian Island Waterway Safety Committee](#)

[Arctic Waterway Safety Committee](#)

[Cook Inlet Harbor Safety Committee](#)

These committees are established as Alaska non-profit corporations. A fourth Waterway Safety Committee has been proposed for Southeast Alaska.

Funding for Alaska Harbor/Waterway Safety Committees through the Alaska Commercial Passenger Excise Tax is consistent with the purposes of both State and Federal statutes, because they **enhance the safety and efficiency of interstate and foreign commerce.**

The State statute is based on the Federal Marine Security Act of 2002 which amended 33 USC Section 5 to provide:

(b) No taxes, tolls, operating charges, fees, or any other impositions whatever shall be levied upon or collected from any vessel or other water craft, or from its passengers or crew, by any non-Federal interest, if the vessel or water craft is operating on any

navigable waters subject to the authority of the United States, or under the right to freedom of navigation on those waters, except for--

(1) fees charged under section 208 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (33U.S.C. 2236); or

(2) reasonable fees charged on a fair and equitable basis that--

(A) are used solely to pay the cost of a service to the vessel or water craft;

(B) enhance the safety and efficiency of interstate and foreign commerce;
and

(C) do not impose more than a small burden on interstate or foreign commerce.

The compatibility of the Maritime Safety Committees with the federal statute can clearly be seen in the mission statements of the three Committees:

Aleutian Islands Waterway Safety Committee

The mission of the Aleutian Islands WSC is to enhance safe and efficient maritime operations in the Aleutian Islands by fostering a productive exchange of information among mariners and other stakeholders and establishing and promoting best practices. The purpose of the WSC is to provide a deliberative forum for mariners, resource users, and the public to discuss matters of waterway safety and management and establish best practices for safe operations for both local and transiting vessels. The WSC is responsible for the development, update, and dissemination of a Waterways Safety Plan for the Aleutian Islands Waterways.

Arctic Waterway Safety Committee

The mission of the Arctic Waterways Safety Committee is to provide a proactive forum for identifying, assessing, planning, communicating, and implementing operational and environmental measures beyond statutory and regulatory requirements that promote safe, secure, and efficient use of the Arctic Waterways.

Cook Inlet Harbor Safety Committee

The mission of the Cook Inlet HSC is to enhance marine safety and environmental stewardship through collaboration of the maritime community and other stakeholders. The purpose of the Cook Inlet HSC is to provide a forum for identifying, assessing, planning, communicating, and implementing operational and environmental practices beyond statutory and regulatory requirements that promote safe, efficient and environmentally sound maritime operations in the Cook Inlet.