

Aleutian Islands Waterways Safety Committee Managing Board Meeting Summary January 31, 2024 1:00 – 1:30 pm (AKST)

Board Attendees:

Captain Buddy Custard (USCG, Ret.),
President

Peggy McLaughlin, Vice President/WSC
Chairwoman

Shari Coleman, Secretary/Treasurer

Mayor Joe Bereskin, Board Member

Others:

Sierra Fletcher, Nuka Research

Haley Griffin, Nuka Research

Call to Order and Approval of Agenda

The January meeting of the AIWSC Managing Board was called to order at 1:05 pm (AKST) by Captain Buddy Custard.

Motion Ms. McLaughlin, Ms. Coleman to approve the agenda as presented. Motion approved by non-objection.

Approval of Meeting Summary December 8, 2023

Motion Ms. Coleman, Ms. McLaughlin to approve the December 8, 2023, meeting summary minutes. Motion approved by non-objection.

Approval of Meeting Summary January 17, 2024

Ms. Coleman made one comment on the meeting summary from January 17, 2024. She stated that in the summary, it was written that Ms. McLaughlin was the individual who signed off on the acknowledgement of received funds from Alaska Chadux, when it was actually Ms. Coleman. The meeting summary will be revised to reflect this correction.

Motion Ms. Coleman, Ms. McLaughlin to approve the amended January 17, 2024, meeting summary minutes. Motion approved by non-objection.

Funding Updates

Captain Custard reported that AIWSC's Key Bank account was recently put on hold because the required paperwork for nonprofit corporations to file in Alaska was not processed. This was why when Alaska Chadux attempted to deposit a sum of money into the bank account it was rejected. As of January 30th, the forms were processed, and the Committee was placed back in good standing with the State of Alaska. Captain Custard sent the paperwork to Key Bank to reactivate the account and deposit the money from Alaska Chadux in the bank this week. He will send a quick note to the group once the bank account is updated.

Changes to Bylaws

Ms. McLaughlin recommended this discussion be tabled until the next Board Meeting.

Managing Board Vacancy

Captain Custard recommended this discussion be tabled until the next Board Meeting.

Membership Committee and Workgroups

Ms. McLaughlin expressed her concerns over appointing individuals to the Committee that solely hold a commercial interest in the Aleutian Islands region and those with a lack of experience working in the region. Ms. Fletcher suggested that additional criteria for committee appointments could be written into the Bylaws when they are reviewed.

Motion Ms. Coleman, Ms. McLaughlin to ratify Resolution 24-02, appointing Kyle Watson to the alternate Salvage Organization seat. Motion approved by non-objection.

Facilitator Contract Discussion

Ms. Coleman asked how the Board was going to approve a contract if there are no funds yet. Ms. Fletcher offered a few different alternative options to the written contract for payment in some capacity. Ms. McLaughlin added that the Board should sign a contract for work completed, then work to obtain funding over the next few weeks. Captain Custard asked Sierra to send the Board an invoice for services rendered so far, and once the bank account is reactivated, he can work with Nuka to send out contribution letters. He also said to include the costs of maintaining the website.

Captain Custard stated he would be meeting with state legislators on January 31st and that he will be starting a conversation with his lobbyists to ask for state funding for the AIWSC. Ms. McLaughlin suggested to create a whitepaper for why the AIWSC deserves funding on behalf of the Board as a whole. She expressed the importance for the Board as a whole to stand as one voice.

Set Next Committee Meeting Date

After reviewing the Doodle Poll sent to the Committee for member availability, it was decided via a consensus that the Committee meeting will take place on March 1st, 1:00-3:00pm on Zoom. Ms. McLaughlin asked if, prior to the meeting, there could be a discussion via a call or email to establish agenda items and any other planning needs. Ms. Griffin offered to draft an agenda and send it to Ms. McLaughlin for her review.

Motion Ms. McLaughlin, Ms. Coleman to set the Committee Meeting date for Friday, March 1st, from 1:00 – 3:00pm AKST. Motion approved by non-objection.

Review Action Items & Next Steps

- Ms. Griffin will revise the January 17th, 2023, meeting summary. *complete*
- Captain Custard will update the Board when the Bank account is reactivated. *ongoing*
- Ms. Griffin will send out the date for the Committee meeting. *complete*
- Ms. Griffin will send Resolution 24-02 to Ms. Coleman for signature. *complete*
- Managing Board will review the WSC Bylaws. *ongoing*
- Ms. Griffin will develop an agenda and will work with Ms. McLaughlin to finalize the agenda and other materials for the committee meeting. *ongoing*

Set Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Managing Board will take place on May 13th, 10-11am (AKST) on Zoom.

Adjourn

Motion Ms. Coleman, Ms. McLaughlin to adjourn the meeting at 1:43pm. Meeting adjourned.

Meeting Materials:

1. Meeting Summary – December 8th, 2023
2. Meeting Summary – January 17th, 2024
3. Resolution 24-02 Committee Appointment