

**MEETING MINUTES**  
CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMISSION ON FEDERAL AREAS  
JUNE 6 & 7, 2014  
LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE  
1292 SADLER WAY, 3<sup>RD</sup> FLOOR  
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA

Full recording of today's proceedings can be found at <https://vimeo.com/97745843>

**Friday, June 6, 2014**

**9:00A.M. CALL TO ORDER**

**9:02A.M. ROLL CALL**

Commissioners present: Rod Arno, Senator John Coghill, Mark Fish, Representative Wes Keller, Teresa Hanson, Kathleen Liska, Warren Olson, Susan Smith, Ron Somerville, Charlie Lean, and Frank Woods  
Commissioners excused: Mike Meekin

**9:03A.M. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**Rod Arno** – Would like to move some issues from Unfinished Business up in the agenda.

**Director Leaphart** – Perhaps we can swap new business with unfinished business.

**Chairman** – Do we have a motion?

Motion – **Rod Arno**

Motion to approve to delay approval of the minutes until public comment at 11:30am

[Unknown] – Second

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM JANUARY 24 & 25, 2015**

**Chairman** – Delay approval of the minutes until tomorrow to allow for further inspection, as they are very long. Get with Karrie if you have any questions and they are also online if you would like to see the context of discussion.

**COMMISSIONER OPENING COMMENTS**

Time stamp on the recording at 15:12

**Chairman** – I have invited a caller, Senator Jennifer Fielder at 0930 to discuss the upcoming events of the American Lands Council. The intent is to build a relationship.

**Mark Fish** – Everybody here deserves a pat on the back. There is a lot to do this year and here we are sitting around this table. It speaks well of the dedication of the Commissioners, thank you.

**Warren Olson** – I think we have to mind that we've done a great job narrowing our issues and the combination of the dollars to bring forward. Also look at the western states and combine efforts. We need to join forces.

**Susan Smith** – Anxious to hear about Montana and Utah and I think Warren's comment is a good one, that a coalition with other western states will be good for us.

**Senator Coghill** – One of my main roles as Senate Majority Leader is to make comments on federal

action in the state. The right of the State to manage itself and the right of the federal government to manage the waters of the United States has left a lot of room for discussion. We are doing a FOIA to see if this was initiated by a third party and we are getting help from region 10. The Chicken mining area has not been as successful. We are not getting much assistance on our FOIA requests so we will modify that. The conservation unit planning is so complex that the people in these areas are overloaded.

**Kathleen Liska** – I'm excited to hear from the Senator about what's going on down south, In February, Lt. Governor Mead Treadwell gave us this sort of play books and it is amazing to read because two or three of the recommendations are to build coalitions with other states regarding land and water.

**Senator Coghill** – This is the final report and my dad was one of the chairmen. I have a copy of that and can get a copy.

**Teresa Hanson** – The recent things we have heard from the Native community about taking lands into trust is shocking and I would like to hear about it from both sides.

**Charlie Lean** – I just got back from North Pacific Council meeting and the hot issue was crab and salmon/pollack by-catch. What struck me was that the tanner and king crab are jointly managed and that has caused major problems. I had to plead for assistance from the federal government and the process isn't timely and other problems are not good conservation. I'm in favor of one entity having management authority and it says that's the State.

**Ron Somerville** – Federal overreach, one thing I want to emphasize is that federal overreach had been going on forever. We did a good job of documenting and the next step is to come up with recommendations.

**Frank Woods** – I was approached seven years ago to deal with federal issues and the problem has become there are not enough people. This board has helped me realize that we have to know the law. This is just one part and the devil is in the details. We get 35% of our money from the federal government. So the question becomes how do you drive the people and the money in this state of ours? How do we balance that out for our state?

**Rod Arno** – We've done a great job of identifying issues and I've been in this area for 35 years and I have never seen the response from the Department of Interior in the Federal Registry, the authority the federal land managers have.

**Chairman** – CACFA has been endorsed until 2021 along with some resources. I've set up an executive meeting today after this meeting to discuss our focus. The American Lands Council is a group of western states that have come up with a way to handle this. Representative Ken Ivory and I have been working together to get involved in the annual conference here in Anchorage in early August and the desire is to have a panel to discuss the issues that we are confronting and help us out.

**SENATOR JENNIFER FIELDER**

Time stamp on the recording at 37:30

A senator from northwest Montana, discussing her participation in the American Lands Council.

**KATHLEEN CLARKE – DIRECTOR, UTAH PUBLIC LANDS POLICY COORDINATION OFFICE**

Time stamp on the recording at 1:16:34

Discussing the level of conflict within the government, imposing legislation the agencies weren't following themselves. Utah has a lot of similar problems; the federal presence in Utah is 55%. When you consider the resources on and under these lands, it's phenomenal.

**MIKE SCHECHTER – ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, STATE OF ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LAW**

Time Stamp on the recording 2:07:01

My seat is in the Natural Resources unit. I'm all over the place and I think that reflects a lot about the fractured approach of federal overreach in Alaska.

Current Caseload:

- Arctic National Wildlife Refuge 1002 area exploration;
- RS2477 issues;
- Pebble Mine, EPA threatened to assert it's authority under the Clean Water Act; and,
- King Cove emergency medical road to Cold Bay through the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge.

**11:30A.M. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Al Barrett** – My main topic is the Ambler Road, mostly wondering whether it is going to be restricted to Alaskans for their food gathering. I'm afraid that not all Alaskans will be able to use this road equally. Most of the land the road is on is State lands, with a small portion in Gates of the Arctic National Park, on which we have a right-of-way. I think, if we are using state funds, all Alaskans should be able to use it.

Time stamp on the recording at 2:32:36

**Maria Rental** – I'm a candidate for Lt. Governor. I'm here to circulate a petition so that we can get on the ballot. We will likely get 3 or 4% of the vote and have an influence on the debate.

Time stamp on the recording at 2:51:20

**MIKE SCHECHTER (PRESENTATION CONTINUED)**

Time stamp on the recording at 3:01:09

Questions from the Commission

**LUNCH BREAK**

Time stamp on the recording at 3:23:06

**MARY ELLEN TUTTLE AND MARK DAVIS – PROJECT MANAGERS, ALASKA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT & EXPORT AUTHORITY**

Time stamp on the recording at 4:26:43

**Ambler Road Project Update**

AIDEA is the State's development bank to create economic growth. The Governor transferred the Ambler mining district road to AIDEA in mid-2013 in order for it to become a public/private road project partnership instead of a private road project. This industrial road will create access to the mining district with known deposits of copper, zinc, lead, silver and gold. These are the top five elements prompting exploration. These areas have been of interest for decades and are not viable without ground transportation. Rail is about \$60M/mile. Route to tidewater probably uneconomical. Topography, wetlands, fishing, endangered species and migration patterns influence expense for the route. No final decision on a route yet.

**Motions on Changing Agenda**

Time stamp on the recording at 5:01:40

- Add Time for Open Items from Earlier
- Add Time for Testimony on AIDEA Presentation

**Rod Arno** – Move to propose agenda change to include extension of CACFA meeting tonight, 6-8pm

**Warren Olson** – Second

**Charlie Lean** – Conflict: work related teleconference

**Senator Coghill** – Question: purpose for extension?

**Rod Arno** – Agenda has unfinished business at 1pm regarding Overreach Committee, would like to address that before hand so it's not at the end of the meeting right before everyone leaves

**Executive Director** – Could free up agenda time in the morning, concerned about space availability

**Chairman** – I checked, we have the space for the meeting extension but no teleconference capabilities

**Ron Somerville** – Looking at items under New Business, need to have discussion, support motion

No objection

Motion – **Rod Arno**

Move to propose agenda change to allow testimony on the AIDEA presentation now, separate from the upcoming 3:30pm public participation period

No objection

#### **TESTIMONY ON AIDEA PRESENTATION**

Time stamp on the recording at 5:07:47

**Ron Yarnell** – Wilderness Guide in Brooks Range since 1971; hears lots of promises from AIDEA, like road closed to public, but always leave room that there is no guarantee it will be closed forever or reclaimed after, expect costs to be much higher (especially bridges) than the \$100M-\$300M proposed; people that attended the Bettles hearing were majority unsupportive of the road, AIDEA seems to downplay the opposition to this road in the affected area and does not listen to the people, AIDEA represents Nova Copper, mining industry, NANA, and does not represent others; does not understand how a public organization like AIDEA can work against the public, spend all this money, fight the opposition; need to read between the lines listening to testimony from AIDEA, who represents mining companies; people are not going to want to trade their livelihood for a job at a mine

Time stamp on the recording at 5:15:21

**Ron Somerville** – have heard a lot of testimony in Juneau from villages and these areas that say they need jobs, maybe they want specific types of jobs, but that isn't the case in these communities?

**Ron Yarnell** – I'm not saying they don't want jobs, they don't want this road, even if it means jobs, and that's what AIDEA, the State, are not hearing. Most people want to have a job, villages do not have the most opportunity, but the people living out there are not willing to trade their country, and opening up access, the reasons they live there, for a job at the mine or on the road or for the impacts it will have.

Time stamp on the recording at 5:18:07

**Jill Yordy** – Clean Water and Mining Program Director, Northern Alaska Environmental Center; problem with transparency at AIDEA, mentions a lot of studies being done but not publically available, no reports or study data since DOT's 2011 reports, curious why more recent data isn't included in EIS request for a project of this scope; confusion about relationship between AIDEA and Nova Copper, traveling together, yet mine plans are not being included in an EIS with the road study, those impacts should be studied together; June 4 AIDEA Board meeting, at least four people testified to the board

directly on concerns with the project, one of those comments was the potential conflict of interest with Dowl, working for Nova Copper and primary contractor on this project; relationship between this project and failed Rock Creek Mine by Nome, same leadership at Nova Copper, not a good track record with developing Arctic mines, that mine failed, numerous violations, worker deaths

#### **AIDEA RESPONSE TO TESTIMONY**

Time stamp on the recording at 5:23:35

**Mark Davis** – In process of EIS, which is not a building permit, helps with financing, Record of Decision issues and then the AIDEA Board decides whether it is economically viable project, have to have a return on the investment; model will include reclamation of the road; costs of road addressed in the EIS; route DOT picked does cross lands owned by Native Corporations, will need permission to cross, matter of possible negotiation; some discussion of moving road at party requests, including DOI request, planning some reconnaissance of another route (which explains shifting of the proposed routes)

**Mary Ellen Tuttle** – In terms of what has been expressed by the public, a lot of concerns, have not seen but have heard of resolutions passed against it, are not blowing those concerns off, but have heard from a lot of people, including those in Bettles, who are interested in access to lower cost of living and need for jobs, especially on Kobuk side; feels some responses were taken as threats but not intended to be so; as for data availability, big delay between getting study reports finished and reviewed, hope they will go in with permit application and be made available; conflict of interests, Dowl used to be owned partially by NANA, and some preliminary work was done on Nova Copper site, DOT did not see it as a conflict of interest, contractors need to be independent with federal agencies to work on EIS; Nova Copper has an MOU with AIDE to work together and investigate potential road, but project is not designed to go just out to any one particular mine but to increase exploration as well as production, expect several mining companies to use this to explore mineral resources, not associated with one mine, potential for exploration and production will be addressed in EIS under cumulative impacts

**Senator Coghill** – excused for panel at UAF

Time stamp on the recording at 5:31:50

#### **LENORE HEPPLER – EASTERN INTERIOR FIELD MANAGER, BLM**

Time stamp on the recording at 5:33:55

Eastern Interior RMP Process (furthest along), had public comment, developed draft plan, took comments, have been incorporating public comments, developing proposed RMP, State and government-to-government consultations, will come out in the fall; Bering Sea and Central Yukon RMPs, have done scoping, reports are online, looking at Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs), seeking nominations from the public and comments on the existing ones, comment period is through August;

Time stamp on the recording at 5:39:20

**Rod Arno** – Concerned about having a new or combination alternative in the Final, is that a possibility?

**Lenore Heppler** – Public comment, review, incorporation, the alternative is almost never exactly one of those but it is within the range of those alternatives given

**Rod Arno** – No second chance for comment on that combination alternative?

**Lenore Heppler** – 30-day protest period where anyone who has participated in the plan can protest it, and a 60-day Governor's consistency review to determine consistency with state laws and plans

**Charlie Lean** – Existing Ungalak River ACEC for Central Yukon isn't on the map

**Lenore Heppler** – I'll talk to them about discrepancies between the descriptions and the maps, it may be that old plans and new plans have different areas, may not be in the new planning area, will check

**Chairman** – When was the last time ACEC nominations were solicited?

**Lenore Heppler** – Usually done during a planning process

**Chairman** – How many come from organizations, industry, local residents?

**Lenore Heppler** – When we did the Eastern Interior, we got one proposed for ~2M acres in the upper Black River area from the environmental groups and the village of Chalkytsik; the two new plans are doing a more robust effort, will probably get more comments

Time stamp on the recording at 5:44:50

**Kathleen Clarke** – Do ACECs go into the National Landscape Conservation System?

**Lenore Heppler** – No

**Chairman** – Why does that matter?

**Kathleen Clarke** – The National Landscape Conservation System is its own entity, has its own budget, where W&SR, W areas, WSAs are being placed, start to see disappearance of multiple uses very quickly

**Lenore Heppler** – In Alaska, it does not apply to the White Mountains or ACECs but does apply to the Steese National Conservation Area, six BLM-managed W&SRs, and Iditarod National Historic Trail

**Kathleen Clarke** – Be cautious of ACECs and diminishing multiple uses

**Lenore Heppler** – The area needs special management protection or it does not become an ACEC, by definition they have to have some kind of protective management different from surrounding lands

Time stamp on the recording at 5:48:35

**Ron Somerville** – Fighting with BLM over wilderness studies, we were promised a lot of things with ANILCA, 13 amendments to Wilderness Act since then, concerned about quasi-wilderness management by agencies, which stops multiple use management on BLM and USFS lands

**Charlie Lean** – Confused by table, more than half of the ACECs fall outside the boundary

**Lenore Heppler** – Will have to research it, send clarification to Executive Director Leaphart

**Susan Smith** – Concerned with agencies not following their own procedures, possible a new alternative could arise different from the preferred alternative, may include issues from other alternatives, our biggest concern is the new issues brought up by groups that get incorporated in the final alternative that were not a part of any alternative

**Lenore Heppler** – A valid concern and there are guidelines on new things, need a supplement, would have to do more public comment; Eastern Interior plan had an error about leasing in the White Mountains and we did a supplement

**Rod Arno** – That did happen with National Park Service in the Nabesna ORV issue, new alternative were not in the initial alternatives for review, hoping that will not happen with Eastern Interior

**[from audience]** – Did the State or anyone sue on that?

**Director Leaphart** – No, discussion took place but State opted not to sue, same thing happened in the vehicle management plan

**Frank Woods** – Draft has to be re-advertised, common citizen cannot understand this process and it is a huge paradigm shift from years past

**Lenore Heppler** – It has to be within the range of proposed alternatives, need supplement for substantive changes between draft and final

Time stamp on the recording at 5:56:25

**Kathleen Clarke** – Is the Governor taking advantage of the 60-day consistency review, because you ought to point out that it is inconsistent with state law and with federal law, you get on the record there, sometimes you have to sue just to be in the arena, can't settle without us present, it takes money but it's a tactic that has been used to diminish public access and multiple use, need to use the tools of the trade

**Chairman** – To qualify as a factor in a 60-day review, does it have to be a court action?

**Kathleen Clarke** – Comes directly from Governor and goes to the agency, we take advantage of it

**Director Leaphart** – Most recent example was Delta River management plan, it was appealed and denied

Time stamp on the recording at 5:59:10

**Rod Arno** – Some of the placer mining rules are changing, things that have come up since the deadline

for comments on the RMP, how will those be addressed in the Record of Decision or final alternative?

**Lenore Heppler** – There are two different things going on, do not intersect much, RMPs are making land allocation decisions, you've probably heard about the Instructional Memorandums coming out which are more refined direction on current regulations, expecting those to be signed in the next week or two

**LENORE HEPPLER (PRESENTATION CONTINUED)**

Time stamp on the recording 6:01:05

Temporary use permit for ASAP line being processed, center line bore hole drilling, seismic studies Fortymile Mining District, some miners lost claims, looking to permit under authority of ANILCA Trapping cabins, one permit is being processed and second is underway

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

Time stamp on the recording at 6:03:40

- USFS will be doing a plan amendment under the new planning rules, were told plan would use same rules under which it was initially developed
  - o State sending letter today to USFS asking for extension of 30-day comment period and public meetings explaining difference between old and new planning rules
  - o Cooperating Agency Status MOU being reviewed by Governor's office
- USFS Tongass Advisory Committee creation, FACA charter, 15 members, 5 alternates
  - o **Rod Arno** – Why no consumptive use organizations, all nonconsumptive and a forester
- Regulations effective today regarding establishment of experimental wood bison population
  - o **Ron Somerville** – State will still have difficulty managing if on federal lands
  - o **Rod Arno** – No mention of them being federally managed at customary and traditional
- Governor asked for funding under Forest Restoration Act, restoration projects in Tongass and Chugach, landscape treatment areas under Farm Bill, some correspondence in the meeting packets, just lands within National Forest System, up to State to identify areas in need of restoration

**3:00P.M. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Time stamp on the recording at 6:15:55

*None in the room or on the phone*

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT (CONTINUED)**

Time stamp on the recording at 6:16:15

- Determinations of need for closures prepared by National Park Service to support temporary regulations to preempt BOG regulations on denning, brown bear over bait and expanded seasons for wolf and coyote; determinations outline need for restrictions and history
- Issues with National Park Service compendium closures, temporary but are actually permanent

**BREAK**

Time stamp on the recording 6:34:03

**MITCH ELLIS – CHIEF OF THE REFUGE SYSTEM IN ALASKA, U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE**

Time stamp on the recording at 6:44:10

Agency Status Report:

- There are 16 national wildlife refuges in Alaska, the largest being ANWR at 19 million acres and the smallest being Izembek at 300,000 acres for a total 78 million acres of which about 19 million acres is wilderness.
- The major statute in guiding management on the refuges is ANILCA.

**SARA LONGAN – DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND PERMITTING, STATE OF ALASKA  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

Time stamp on the recording at 7:23:00

We are an annex of the Commissioner's office and a core component of the team of 21 employees who review and management large projects within the state. We have large project coordinators that work with mining companies, oil and gas companies, to coordinate the permitting process on the federal, state and local level. It's important for us to have a seat at the table.

**4:30P.M. ADJOURN FOR THE DAY**

Time stamp on the recording at 7:43:48



Full recording of today's proceedings can be found at <https://vimeo.com/97745901>

## **Saturday, June 7, 2014**

### **8:00A.M. CALL TO ORDER**

#### **Recording begins in the middle of the first presentation (one hour late)**

Time stamp on the recording at 0:00:00

#### **GREG DUDGEON – NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**

Time stamp on the recording at 1:11:15

##### **Alaska National Park Update**

- Lake Clark GMP EA;
- The Alaska stand alone gas pipeline;
- Katmai begins construction of a new barge landing a road (July 2014); and,
- BLM has created a new survey of the southern boundary of Denali Nation Park to cover the curvature of the earth.

#### **BREAK**

Time stamp on the recording at 0:56:46

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Time stamp on the recording at 1:08:33

#### **CHAD PADGETT – STAFF TO CONGRESSMAN YOUNG**

##### **DOI/BIA – Proposed Regulations – Taking Land in Trust**

This has not been introduced. The background is that the Congressman is trying to solve a problem, that we are not continually fighting over resources and to model other states in how they manage resources.

#### **11:30A.M. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Time stamp on the recording at 2:00:13

**Mary Bishop** – Limiting my comments to the topic of Taking Land in Trust. Most of my information comes from “American Indian Law.” Alaska is one of six states that is under Public Law 208, which grants the states no authority to tax or regulate Indian Land; also, the tribes retain the right of sovereign immunity unless there is a signed waiver. The Venetie case, settled in 1990, went to the U.S. Supreme Court because the village wanted to tax the contractor who was building a new school.

Time stamp on the recording at 2:06:18

**Joan Frankovich** (by phone) – I'm with the National Park Conservation Association. I wanted to be helpful in sharing more of the big picture. The National Park Service budget is currently \$2.6 billion that translates to 1/14 of 1% of the federal budget or .007%. What the average American family spends on the National Park Service is \$2.56 and there is a multiplier of 10 in contributions to our economy.

Time stamp on the recording at 2:29:37

**Carey Mills** – The appeal from the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court ruling stated only that the United States' failed to take action on the RS2477 40-mile trail. That stems from a Congressional mandate that no rule shall take effect unless express action is taken by Congress.

Time stamp on the recording at 2:34:22

**Al Barrett** – I'm here to express one more time my feelings that the Ambler Road, if it is being built with state funds, then all Alaskans should be able to use that road.

Time stamp on the recording at 2:51:14

**Email comment read aloud**

Time stamp on the recording at 3:00:03

**LUNCH BREAK**

Time Stamp on the recording at 3:13:36

**CHAD PADGETT (PRESENTATION CONTINUED)**

Time stamp on the recording at 4:38:19

**Director Leaphart** – There are a lot of inconsistencies but they will go through this comment period through June 30, 2014.

**Representative Keller** – I propose we don't need to take any action at this time.

**CHAD HUTCHISON, LEGAL STAFF FOR SENATE MAJORITY LEADER COGHILL  
EPA/COE - Proposed Regulations – Definition of "Waters of the United States"**

Time stamp on the recording at 4:43:30

**Director Leaphart** – The EPA expect us to continue on, extend the comment period, and there will be more litigation. In their view, this is not going to be the final word on this. This gives the agencies a lot of latitude but it is a significant expansion of their authority under the Clean Water Act.

**Chad Hutchison** – This is a timely matter since leadership has been conferring with the legislature, focusing on wetlands determinations and permafrost and, since the state is mainly permafrost or discontinuous permafrost, the Army Corps of Engineers has been overextending its authority to include permafrost as waters of the United States.

**BREAK**

Time stamp on the recording at 5:36:38

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Time stamp on the recording at 5:48:06

**IMPLEMENTING SUMMIT RECOMMENDATIONS**

Time stamp on the recording at 5:48:10

**Rod Arno** – Motion that CACFA contract with a public relations company to take the recommendations from the overreach summit, and summary session in February, winnowed down to about six pages, to take the information from the whole packet, and have a public relations firm take that information and disseminate it to the 90% of the people in Alaska that don't think like we do, who cannot be just handed those six pages; have something produced before the one-year summit anniversary, have that product produced timely and take it to other meetings, sportsmen groups, Chambers of Commerce, the media, community groups, neighbor and clubs, get it on the radar that we have recommendations; also, provide per diem for the commissioners to get out to these groups and clubs to distribute the information.

**Motion [5:51:52] – Rod Arno**

To contract with a public relations firm to work with CACFA to produce a public relations effort designed

to educate Alaskan policy makers and the public about the magnitude of the federal overreach problems in Alaska, the impacts to state sovereignty, and the solutions and the recommendations prepared by CACFA.

The product should be designed to focus on the main and most high profile issues in the CACFA report and to encourage policy makers and the public to become engaged in an effort to correct these problems. This product should be included recommendations on mechanisms to maximize the exposure of the message. This product should be required to be delivered by the one year anniversary of the overreach summit that took place last August.

**Chairman** – I object. This is important stuff and we should understand it, bring up any concerns. Instead of going through a real Robert's Rules type thing, if we have a consensus, I will remove my objection and we will go to a vote. Let's have a discussion first. Object because it is a little too firm for me, I would like CACFA to "explore" a contract. This presumes more process later on, have Executive Committee take approval action, not just dump this on the Director, could be \$1000 or \$10,000, need more interaction with the Commission.

**Ron Somerville** – Use the word "attempt" instead of "explore."

**Chairman** – "Attempt" is fine.

**Kathleen Liska** – Would it also accompany a communications strategy, broader to include strategy on how we do this, take advantage of op-eds, not just a one-time thing but an ongoing, how do we continue to engage communication-wise.

**Chairman** – Where would we insert the words?

**Kathleen Liska** – It's the word "product," does it include strategy?

**Rod Arno** – The product is just one DVD of a summation in the report. A finished product

**Ron Somerville** – "The product should include recommendation" change to "products"

**Mark Fish** – Under "products" we have more leeway, get this into a form factor that public can grab and run with themselves, take a product we produce and utilize it even in absence of our guidance, on several different medias, need it in a printed format for those not online, in electronic format easily passed around on smart devices, would include audio and video, right to add the word "products" to add latitude

**Ron Somerville** – Make "product" into "products." First sentence is public relations effort, presumes DVDs leading into presentations, all the things discussed here, whatever the Executive Committee decides and returns to Commission on cost

**Kathleen Liska** – "Attempt" is that a request for proposal?

**Chairman** – That would be part of it.

**Director Leaphart** – Going out to bid, minimum 30 days, doubt we could make the one year anniversary date, an initial product by that date might be complicated.

**Kathleen Liska** – Could there be a subcommittee instead of the Executive Committee?

**Chairman** – Yes.

**Senator Coghill** – There will be a lot of refinement of this, this is more focus than a broad strategy question, this is a part of a strategy but is not a broad strategy; refinement could happen under multiple meetings, a subcommittee would be a better way to do this or we'll be here till next spring trying to decide, somebody working on YouTube style, animation style; every media outfit is embroiled in political stuff, it may be difficult to get this done between now and November

**Susan Smith** – I use MS Publisher to do brochures for my job, if we get to a point where we have materials but do not want to engage a firm, I could work on brochures.

**Chairman** – Kathleen, continue to chair this, if you have interest from Susan, use it. I anticipate as chair that someone will have to hit the road with a checkbook, do not want to put this all on Stan, at some point anticipate a teleconference on the findings and guidelines.

**Charlie Lean** – Navigable waters and RS2477s, get asked on-the-spot, not good at describing the issues without hours to think about it, this would be very valuable; if we're going to do different media, should anticipate having a contractor as a better presenter than ourselves

**Warren Olson** – Second line, "educate Alaska policy makers," do we name the Governor or Trustees, we need someone at that level educating those people, because they will make decisions to go after settling state sovereignty and state issues, maybe I'm talking about a lobbyist

**Rod Arno** – No need to narrow scope of who a policy maker is, if this could get crafted for the public to understand it, putting restrictions on it is not necessary; commissioners listened to people at the summit and this is a culmination of what came from that

**Frank Woods** – Stan's leaving, it's always been up to Stan, I would like to see a permanent way of dealing with issues, a simple format, responding to recommendations

**Warren Olson** – I'm trying to eliminate a question from the public on who the policy makers are, take time to define who will make decisions, need to be more specific and have influence at that level.

**Director Leaphart** – Policy makers could include city and borough officials, they are affected by these overreach issues and they have tools, too; confining it to a list short circuits effort a little bit

**Chairman** – Having Governor engaged is part of the strategy, have this discussion on the record

**Kathleen Liska** – Part of this is who is our audience and what is our ask, for educational purposes and for something to be done, get people to act, it's the grassroots that will motivate policy makers, what do we want them to do, this is not just to disseminate information, for their benefit, not CACFA's benefit; we should look at Facebook, database of people, real-time information, immediate dissemination to a base and then they send it out, timely information; there will be legislators on these social media pages, and they will hear from people in that grassroots level dialogue

**Mark Fish** – Develop a process, as we do this, that process will become apparent by the feedback we get from the public, form and function and they'll tell you what works and what doesn't, can customize and refine, the internet is a quick process of refining messages to create efficient pipeline

**Chairman** – We're doing subcommittee work now; with the changes, I remove my objection.

**Ron Somerville** – Second.

No objections

Motion [6:14:10] – Rod Arno

CACFA Commissioners are authorized to utilize the products of this effort, including powerpoint presentations, printed media, to actively present this issue and CACFA conclusions and recommendations to organizations, communities, clubs, Native groups, within their area and, if necessary, other locations in the state. Travel and per diem will be authorized for this effort.

**Chairman** – I object, same process if we would. Last sentence cannot stand, should be “may” and not “will.” I carry responsibility for authorizing and I would feel a lot better if it is on a case-by-case basis.

**Frank Woods** – Second

**Ron Somerville** – It is actually worded this way because of the bylaws requiring a vote of the commission to authorize it, no one can just travel without authorization. This gives the authority to do it, which would not exist otherwise. Do it now, whoever goes is up to the Chairman or the Committee.

**Chairman** – [Reads Item 20 of the Bylaws] You’re thinking of Item 18, certify expenditure. We’re talking about travel, we’re just saying travel not in the context of a meeting, it needs to be authorized. I feel like this motion says we are voting to cover the cost and leaves it open as to whether it should happen, allows unilateral travel and expectation of payment because of this motion.

**Ron Somerville** – I was reading the out-of-state travel part of the bylaws. I can see your point.

**Chairman** – Put “may” in there covers it, it’s covered in the bylaws

**Director Leaphart** – It is covered in the bylaws.

**Warren Olson** – I would say outside the state, too, cover both items.

**Chairman** – My knee jerk is this product is focused on Alaskans, but that does not prevent us from doing it, keeps it out of a blanket approval.

**3:00P.M. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Time stamp on the recording at 6:20:40

**Daniel Mott** – property owner in Slana, spent a lot of time hunting and fishing in Nabesna, opposes plan to restrict ORV travel off the Nabesna road; used to be able to access Tanada Lake, Copper Lake, for trout fishing, sheep hunting, been shutting down trails for maintenance, NPS says they got sued and have to do it, they say they are working on the trails and will open up certain ones, Tanada Lake trail closed right after my last sheep hunt and, unless you’re a resident, you can’t access it and I cannot afford to fly in; used to go lake trout fishing, tow in a raft, can’t do that anymore; went moose hunting off Caribou Creek Trail and then IT shut down; talking about shutting all the trails down to those who are not local or subsistence; lake trout fishing in Tanada Lake is a sport fishery, I hope no one is subsidizing off it; I have a 10-year-old son, we can’t hike in, towing a boat, to go fishing, I can’t drag him in to go sheep hunting, he wouldn’t make it that far, but we could go on an ATV and hike in from a point further in

**Director Leaphart** – You have a cabin there in the park?

**Daniel Mott** – No, it’s next to the park, behind the four-mile road system, I access it up the Slana River then up Grayling Creek, three or four cabins in that area, some live in there, a mile off the Tok Cutoff

**Director Leaphart** – You do not cross into the park to get to your property?

**Daniel Mott** – No.

**Rod Arno** – Thank you for your time to call in and give a voice from the public. If the rulemaking becomes regulation there will be no more recreational access on the Tanada, Copper or Boomerang; disallowing recreational access to reroute for conservation, which constitutes a new trail and you lose ANILCA protections; you'll be walking up that trail with your ten-year-old from now on.

**Warren Olson** – Do you know the milepost number between Glenallen and Valdez, where if you lived 50 feet north of it you'd be a subsistence user?

**Daniel Mott** – I wasn't aware there was a milepost marker. I heard Valdez has lost enough people we may be considered rural in the future. I oppose that system.

**Susan Smith** – I don't know if you heard my rant earlier, but I am an inholder on the other side of the park and have been working on this issue, it is not a dead issue in our mind, we are outraged by it, they breached their own process, ANILCA violations, this fight is not over yet; we encourage you to voice your opinion and share it.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS (CONTINUED)**

Time stamp on the recording at 6:29:28

**Mark Fish** – Want to keep these two motions separate.

**Warren Olson** – Mechanical thing, we know from the bylaws the Executive Committee or Chairman need to authorize travel, I think we should do it right now.

**Susan Smith** – This has already been an issue, outside travel, weren't we considering sending someone to Utah?

**Chairman** – Disagree with Warren.

**Director Leaphart** – Have to follow state travel policies, out-of-state travel has an extra layer of approval.

**Susan Smith** – What if we include language that it is on a case-by-case basis.

**Chairman** – Solution from Executive Director to just say "according to the bylaws" covers that

**Teresa Hanson** – Change topic to first sentence, strike "within their areas" and the rest of that sentence and just say "and the Alaskan general public" after "Native groups"

No objection

**Charlie Lean** – At the beginning, I would say Commissioners "and staff"

**Teresa Hanson** – Are we allowed to do a CACFA website Facebook page? And Tweet and do other social media in the name of CACFA.

**Director Leaphart** – State entities have those pages, there are policies and procedures for setting them up and requirements for making updates to them or additions.

**Chairman** – Read amended motion as it now stands. Warren, you can object, vote, converse.

Amended Motion [6:35:55]

CACFA Commissioners and staff are authorized to utilize the products of this effort, including powerpoint presentations and printed media, to actively present this issue and CACFA conclusions and recommendations to organizations, communities, clubs, and Native groups, and the Alaska general public. Travel and per diem may be authorized in accordance with the Commission bylaws for this effort.

**Ron Somerville** – Strike printed and put “other” media?

No objections

**Teresa Hanson** – Grammatical correction “~~and~~ Native groups”

**Chairman** – Remove my objection

**Teresa Hanson** – Second

No objections

Motion [6:37:45] – **Rod Arno**

It is proposed that CACFA Executive Committee promote and fund collaborative efforts with other states and national organizations to address Alaska’s federal overreach issues common to the states.

**Chairman** – Object. The fund part bothers me, the other states may squirm, says specifically in-state. May be justifiable, but better be on a case-by-case basis and be covered by a discussion like this.

**Ron Somerville** – Labored over that in drafting.

Amended Motion [6:39:14]

It is proposed that CACFA Executive Committee promote collaborative efforts with other states and national organizations to address Alaska’s federal overreach issues common to the states.

**Ron Somerville** – Second

No objections

Motion [6:39:50] – **Rod Arno**

That CACFA begin the process of preparing for other special subject summits by soliciting recommendations and formats. Subjects can include issues like fish and wildlife management, public land access, ESA modification, and encouraging mineral development, etc.

**Chairman** – Discussion special subject summit. Can I put you [Rod] in charge of a proposal?

**Senator Coghill** – Access is a hot topic. Solicit from who? Having a subcommittee makes this better, because they can come in with recommendations.

**Kathleen Liska** – I think that it would be excellent to assign a topic to each commissioner instead of tasking one person so we can all come back to the next meeting with individual ideas. I agree access is the first one, but if there are other issues also.

**Chairman** – Fish and wildlife, I assume Ron would be on that.

**Ron Somerville** – I would like to help with some things Kathleen is handling.

**Chairman** – Rod is the chair of the subcommittee; agree access is huge. That is subcommittee work beyond this meeting. We want a report back from subcommittee chairs.

**Mark Fish** – This motion ties in with the first, start interfacing with the public, close coordination between the two will give us a better product.

**Chairman** – We have a specific action, with general wording, Rod is the subcommittee chair.

**Director Leaphart** – All these recommendations came from the summit, refer to website were all the documents and video are available, those are significant, helpful resources.

**Rod Arno** – Gives us a little slack in what needs to come from staff. Gives new Executive Director time to familiarize themselves with the job while commissioners are working on materials that are still fresh. Won't have to go out and do all the fact-finding; not rush right in, make sure we take information we got at the summit, while it's timely, and legislature can see what we did with the money that they gave us. As new staff comes on, we can go ahead and have another summit. We all agree access would be the next logical one that would draw the most interested public. That's what we were thinking about when Ron drafted these up.

**Ron Somerville** – Second

No objections

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Time stamp on the recording at 06:47:10

**Chairman** – Let's use the retirement of our Executive Director maybe as the first item of business. What are you going to call your subcommittee?

**Kathleen Liska** – Communications Subcommittee

**Chairman** – You're going to come back specifically on that with recommendations on looking for a contract, we don't have to do that separately?

**Senator Coghill** – There may be an inexpensive way of doing it, interview-style, highlight accomplishments and mission.

**Director Leaphart** – The recommendations in the packet were for internal use, before distributing them, it's not attributed to the Commission, if you will allow me to send a hard copy on Commission letterhead that these recommendations were derived from the summit, the October meeting and the work session so that it is readily accessible and attributed to Commission and our work; cannot tell who they came from.

**Susan Smith** – Have we distributed it to anyone? D.C. delegation?

**Director Leaphart** – Annual Report distribution.

**Susan Smith** – Did we ask for comments back? What is feasible, what is not, what are they interested in?



Face to face or by letter? Meet with them to see what they think or what we can do?

**Director Leaphart** – Clarify, this is what has to be done by each entity and put that in a letter to each entity, and recommend they consider and let us know feasibility. I got some feedback on the Annual Report, thank yous because they participated, they get a lot of stuff, an extra reminder, prodding, let them know it takes action on their part to make it happen.

**Kathleen Liska** – Thumb drives we passed out?

**Director Leaphart** – To judiciary, but every legislator got a CD with the Annual Report.

**Kathleen Clarke** – Should request meetings with the delegation. None of them are going to say they do not have time for you when they are in town, you are the voice of the people. Find out who is doing specific topics, access etc., and flatter committed staff, ask what you can do to help.

#### **REOPENING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERIOD**

Time stamp on the recording at 6:54:30

**William Colmer** – current Valdez resident, calling in about Nabesna Road access, encourages more access and not restricting access or designating it to just subsistence users; long-time Alaskan, primarily recreational hunting and fishing in that area, many of those trails, it has been spiraling inability to access and take kids, grandkids, on lots of trips to utilize those resources, hunting and fishing in there; found out about this meeting through Alaska Outdoor Council, hoping this is correct venue to express those views

**Ron Somerville** – Chairman, just want to advise him this has been discussed at this meeting, and in essence, this reiterates what we have been saying.

**William Colmer** – This is a complex issue but Alaskans are very passionate about it.

#### **COMMISSION MEMBER- CLOSING COMMENTS**

Time stamp on the recording 6:57:50

**Ron Somerville** – I hope that we talk about using this \$200,000, and use it, not become overly conservative.

**Frank Woods** – I have nothing to say.

**Rod Arno** – Thank you everyone. I learn something new every time I come to this group.

**Chairman** – Ditto, thank you.

**Director Leaphart** – Thank you for letting me serve and thank you for all your volunteer work.

**Mark Fish** – I'll be entering the public arena and intend to bring these issues with me to the table.

**Warren Olson** – There is a new book on the Public Trust Doctrine. We have a new book and there may be new cases. I recommend we distribute this.

**Susan Smith** – We're heading in the right direction. Thank you.

**Senator Coghill** – I appreciate the task force and I'm looking forward to being involved. What we are doing is an extensive review of MOUs.

**Kathleen Liska** – Thank you to Director Leaphart.

**Teresa Hanson** – By the creation of two subcommittees we are already starting to work on these issues.

**Charlie Lean** – How can anyone read this stuff? I'm respectful that anyone can read the Federal Register. It brings home how inaccessible these rulings are without a light to understand it.

**MEETING ADJOURN**

Time stamp on the recording 07:11:53