

STATE OF ALASKA  
CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMISSION ON FEDERAL AREAS  
OCTOBER 23 & 24, 2015 | ANCHORAGE, AK  
LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE | 716 WEST 4<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE

## MEETING MINUTES

An audio/video record of these proceedings will be posted at <http://www.360north.org/citizens-advisory-commission-on-federal-areas/>

### **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2015**

#### **8:36a.m. – CALL TO ORDER; ROLL CALL**

**Commissioners Present:** Rod Arno, Mark Fish, Teresa Hanson, Representative Wes Keller (phone), Charlie Lean, Warren Olson, Susan Smith [quorum]

**Audience Members Present:** Ronnie Sanchez, USFWS; Doug Damberg, USFWS; Stan Leaphart; Chad Hutchison

#### **8:38a.m. – APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**Motion** – Friendly Amendment to go into Executive Session during Outreach Subcommittee Update

*No Objections*

Agenda Approved, as amended

#### **8:40a.m. – COMMISSIONER OPENING COMMENTS**

#### **8:40a.m. – CHUGACH NATIONAL FOREST PLANNING – Terri Marceron, USFS**

**Commissioners Joining Meeting:** Kathleen Lisa, Frank Woods

#### **9:38a.m. – BREAK**

#### **9:50a.m. – NEW REFUGE SUPERVISORS – Doug Damberg & Ronnie Sanchez, USFWS**

- Introduction, History and Experiences
- Refuges Supervised:
  - o Doug Damberg (Northern): Innoko, Tetlin, Yukon Flats, Koyokuk-Nowitna, Kanuti, Arctic, Selawik
    - Some supervisory responsibilities for Kenai
  - o Ronnie Sanchez: Alaska Peninsula-Becherof, Kodiak, Togiak, Yukon Delta, Alaska Maritime, Izembek

#### **10:17a.m. – STATE AGENCY UPDATE – Brad Palach, ADF&G; Sue Magee, ANILCA Coordinator**

- NPS Final Rulemaking on Hunting and Trapping in National Preserves in Alaska
- FWS (Forthcoming) Proposed Rulemaking for Alaska Refuges

**10:50a.m. – AGENCY UPDATE – John Quinley & Bert Frost, NPS**

- Final Rulemaking on Hunting and Trapping in National Preserves in Alaska
- Update on projects, planning and public use opportunities

**11:35a.m. – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- Doug Damberg, USFWS
  - o Timeline for the Proposed Rulemaking
- Wayne Heimer
  - o State Dall Sheep Working Group
- Scott Ogan
  - o Documentary on Federal Overreach

**11:50a.m. – LUNCH**

**1:30p.m. – WRANGELL-ST. ELIAS BACKCOUNTRY AND WILDERNESS STEWARDSHIP PLAN – Bruce Rogers & Nyssa Landers, NPS**

**2:30p.m. – AGENCY UPDATE – Molly Cobbs & Matt Varner, BLM**

- Regional Mitigation Strategy for NPR-A
- Wade Creek Reclamation Project Update

**3:30p.m. – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

*No one on the phone or in the room*

*Returned to Wade Creek Reclamation Project Update*

**3:36p.m. – COMMISSIONER OPENING COMMENTS (CONT.)**

- Frank Woods
- Kathleen Liska

**3:40p.m. – BREAK**

**3:46p.m. – STATE AGENCY UPDATE – Michael Schechter, DOL**

- Recommendation re: USFWS Possible Refuge Closure on Government Shutdown
  - o Remind agency that refuge closure without notice is prohibited by law
  - o Elevate issue to the Alaska Delegation, if necessary

**4:35p.m. – LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – Chad Hutchison, Counsel to Senator Coghill**

**4:44p.m. – ADJOURN FOR THE DAY**

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2015

### **8:30a.m. – CALL TO ORDER**

### **8:38a.m. – UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- Upcoming deadline: NPS Part 9B Regulations on Oil and Gas
  - o December 28 for comments on proposed rulemaking
  - o Longstanding Alaska exemption has been removed, citing *Sturgeon v. Masica* (9th Cir.)
- Executive Director will work with NPS to resolve issues/questions with final rulemaking on Hunting and Trapping in National Preserves in Alaska, particularly related to process issues

### **8:48a.m. – OUTREACH SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT**

**Motion** – **Teresa Hanson** – In accordance with Alaska Statute 44.62.310(b), I move to convene in Executive Session to discuss the dissolution of our working agreement with Revolution Media, which could prejudice the reputation and character of that agency. Executive Session for this limited discussion is appropriate pursuant to Alaska Statute 44.62.310(c)(2). Any principle or employee of Revolution Media may request a public discussion at our next full commission meeting. A majority vote of commissioners present is required. Executive Director, please call the roll.

*Roll Call* – Olson (Y), Lean (Y), Fish (Y), Arno (Y), Woods (Y), Liska (Y), Smith (Y), Hanson (Y)

*Unanimous in Favor*

### **8:51a.m. – EXECUTIVE SESSION**

### **9:45a.m. – OUTREACH SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT (CONT.)**

- Report on the American Lands Council Summit in Salt Lake, City
- Social Media Budget Overview
  - o \$7801 remaining from Revolution Media authorization

**Motion** – **Teresa Hanson** – Authorize Outreach Subcommittee to search for alternative media people or research Nation Builder website and to consider alternatives

**Frank Woods** – Second

### **Discussion**

- Nation Builder Website

**Rod Arno** – Request motion be more specific

### **10:00a.m. – BREAK**

### **10:06a.m. – OUTREACH SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT (CONT.)**

**Amended Motion** – **Susan Smith** – Authorize Outreach Subcommittee to explore other social media sources to get products and services which would have been received from Revolution Media; reserve the \$7801 remaining which was authorized to implement Revolution Media's Media Advisory Plan until a proposal can be presented to the Commission for its use

**Teresa Hanson** – Second

*No Objections*

Motion Passes, as amended

**Comments & Questions**

**Rod Arno** – education gap in Alaska which can stymie public support

- publish fewer placards at one time and keep updating them
- get booth for Alaska State Fair next year on Miner's Day

**10:30a.m. – ASLAG REPORT** – Scott Ogan

Motion – **Susan Smith** – Authorize Executive Committee to take up Dick Randolph's resignation from the Alaska State Lands Advisory Group and consider appointing permanent member, possible alternate

**Charlie Lean** – Second

*No Objections*

Motion Passes

**11:26a.m. – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

*No one on the phone or in the room*

*Returned to ASLAG Update*

**11:46a.m. – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- Ray Kreig: Testimony on HB115
  - o Comment to Legislature on whether to exempt parks from transfer request, instead perhaps commit to keeping them as parks
  - o Supports conveyance as primary over re-establishing Alaska Land Use Council, to make sure the transfer concept is not diluted by that effort

**12:04a.m. – LUNCH**

**1:30p.m. – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

- Budget Update and Projections
- Update on Digitization Project
  - o Video introduction to database operation
  - o Request to double contract amount
- Update on ANILCA Implementation Report/Title Survey
  - o Request to use single-source contracts with several contractors instead of one

Motion – **Mark Fish** – Authorize Executive Director to research single-source contracts up to \$65,000 instead of issuing a Request for Proposals to initiate ANILCA Implementation Report

**Teresa Hanson** – Second

*No Objections*

## Motion Passes

**Motion** – **Mark Fish** – Authorize Executive Director to amend digitization contract, adding \$15,000 to the total authorized amount

**Rod Arno** – Second

*No Objections*

## Motion Passes

**2:35p.m. – BREAK**

**2:48p.m. – NEW BUSINESS; REVIEW OF BYLAWS**

- NPS Final Rulemaking on Hunting and Trapping in National Preserves in Alaska
- Frank Woods, Warren Olson and Mark Fish to attend ANILCA Training

**Motion** – **Rod Arno** – Approve draft News Release regarding NPS Final Rulemaking on Hunting and Trapping in National Preserves in Alaska

**Frank Woods** – Second

## Comments

- Big bold headline to grab attention
- Include CACFA lawsuit recommendations
- Remove “wild”
- Remove “rural”
- Commission will continue reviewing final rule and provide briefing (not “in the coming weeks”)

## Discussion

- Get administration to bring hammer down on NPS
- State sovereignty, police powers, authority to manage game on all lands
  - o Illinois Railroad v. Illinois (Supreme Court case)
- Board of Game created to problem solve
- Increasingly restrictive beyond current prohibitions and disconnected from user groups/public
- Timberwolf subsistence study done a few years ago
- NPS Director thinks that Nondalton can feed itself with fish
- Stewards of the Range (Texas Group) may have some insights, be of assistance
- Monopolize on the caribou provision, and the concept of managing in state waters for fair chase
  - o Counter to predator reduction justification
  - o Demonstrates an intent to control methods and means at-will
- Rule is predicated on and emblematic of cultural differences
- Predator populations will also die once prey species blink out

**Motion** – Approve draft News Release with suggested edits

*No Objections*

## Motion Passes

Motion – **Frank Woods** – Move discussion/review of bylaws to next full Commission meeting

**Rod Arno** – Second

*No Objections*

Motion Passes

Motion – **Rod Arno** – Commission to prepare a letter to the Governor on taking action regarding the final rulemaking

**Frank Woods** – Second

**Discussion**

- AS 41.37.240 states that the Commission may request the Attorney General file suit

Motion – **Rod Arno** – Commission to draft letter to the Attorney General

**Frank Woods** – Friendly Amendment to empower Executive Director with authority to pursue litigation to the Governor to request Alaska move forward in acting on State’s behalf

*No Objections*

**Warren Olson** – Friendly Amendment to request going directly to the U.S. Supreme Court

**Rod Arno** – Objection

**Teresa Hanson** – Friendly Amendment for all Commissioners to approve the letter

**Mark Fish** – Objection – already addressed

Friendly Amendments to “submit” or “request” but not “consider”

Motion Passes

**3:35p.m. – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

*No one on the phone or in the room*

**3:39p.m. – SET NEXT MEETING DATE**

- January 28-30

Motion – **Frank Woods** – Meet in Juneau

**Rod Arno** – Second

*No Objections*

Motion Passes

**3:40p.m. – COMMISSIONER CLOSING COMMENTS**

**4:09p.m. – ADJOURN**