

**Kenai River Special Management  
Area Advisory Board Minutes**

Thursday, March 13, 2008, 5:30 p.m.  
Kenai River Center

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

- A. Members Present** are Joe Connors, Ted Wellman, Curt Shuey, Richard Dykema, George Heim, Richard Hahn, Jim Czarnezki, Bruce King, David Carey, Bob Frates (City of Kenai), Jeni Evans, Brenda Trefon, Jack Sinclair, Tom Vania, Tim Stevens.
- B. The Minutes** for February 14, 2008 were approved as written with the following changes to Old Business, under Item A, to reflect the Habitat committee did not meet and the River Use committee had met.”
- C. Agenda Changes** Adding Item C to New Business was approved.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT**

The following made public comment, Monte Roberts, Kirk Hoessle and Dwight Kramer.

**Special Reports/Presentations:**

- A. Dick Lefebvre** the Deputy Commissioner of DNR addressed questions concerning the 50-horse regulation and any changes which were made to it. The 2013 amendment regarding two-strokes is ready for the commissioner to sign.
- B. Robert Ruffner** from the Kenai Watershed Forum addressed the hydrocarbon issue and the impaired water body status of the Kenai River. Robert commented that a change from category 5 to a category 4b impaired water body status doesn't mean we are off the list, but it means we are on the way.

**III. Agency Reports**

- A. Jack Sinclair**, ADNR/Parks, reported that the new 50-horse power regulation requires every engine over 35-horsepower will eventually need to be checked by the rangers and a decal will be placed on the cowling which will be good for two years. All boats that are over 21 feet need a permit to operate on the river for the next 2 years. Permit requirements state if a boat was purchased before 3/1/08 the owners will need to have proof of year purchased, such as a bill of sale or registration.
- B. Tim Stevens**, DEC, stated the agency just completed solicitation for Alaska Clean Water Action (ACWA) Grant applicants. Three applications were received

for the Kenai River. One has to do with turbidity monitoring in July and August. Another one looks at the Kenai Peninsula Borough 50 ft habitat ordinance the effectiveness of it, and a third one is to look at the continuation of the City of Kenai storm water mapping. DEC is in the process of submitting an integrated report "State of Alaska Waters" to EPA, which is required every two years. In this report, we are moving the Kenai River from a category 5 water body to a category 4b, saying we have a Kenai River water body recovery plan in draft right now, which is going through an internal review. We plan to monitor the efficacy of the plan over the next 2 years for hydrocarbons, If results show that we are not exceeding the state's water quality standards, we will most likely move the water to a category 3 in our next integrated report in 2010,.

- C. Tom Vania** of Alaska Department of Fish and Game handed out a brief summary of regulation changes that will affect the Kenai Peninsula made by the board of fish.
- D. Robin West**, US Fish and Wildlife Service, was not present.
- E. Jeni Evans**, USFS/Chugach National Forest, reported that they have started hiring the seasonal staff and planning for the summer season.

### **III. Committee Reports**

- A. Guide Advisory 3/13/08, 1 p.m. KRC** – Joe Connors gave a brief history of the formation of the guide advisory board.
- B. Habitat/3/13/08 11AM KRC-** Brenda Trefon committee members supports action on a process for involving public members on committees.
- C. Recreation/River Use 3/13/08 2:30 KRC** – Ted Wellman and the committee members agreed it would be a good idea to combine the river use and recreation committees.
- D. Permits – Jim Czarnezki**, will meet on an as needed basis.
- E. Legislative/Government Activities** – Gary Knopp was not present; the committee has not met.
- F. Board Development 3/13/08 3 p.m. KRC** – Curt Shuey reported the committee agreed it would be very helpful to have annual board training each year. The committee also supported the importance of the board application process, to have early notice, open application at the board meetings and notice in newspapers starting in June. He informed the board that they will need to set up a special meeting by the end of August to meet candidates, prioritize and submit a nomination list to the Commissioner of Natural Resources by Sept. 1, 2008.

**G. Agenda/Board Structure/Housekeeping 3/3/08 3 p.m. Soldotna City Hall –**  
David Carey and members set agenda for the March 13 meeting.

#### **IV. OLD BUSINESS ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Resolution 2008-04:** A motion by Jim Czarnezki was made to bring resolution 2008-04 to the board and was seconded.

Passed without audible opposition.

**B. Resolution 2008-05:** A motion by Joe Connors was made to bring resolution 2008-05 to the board and was seconded.

Passed without audible opposition.

**C. Resolution 2008-06:** A Motion was made by Joe Connors to bring resolution 2008-06 to the board and was seconded.

Brenda Trefon asked for an amendment to take out the “non-voting participants” portion, under the “Be it resolved that,” section of Resolution 2008-06.

Amendment was seconded.

Resolution and amendment Passed without audible opposition.

**D. Committee Voting-** Dave Carey suggests that it is up to each committee chairperson to use his or her discretion.

**E. Resolution 2008-07:** A Motion was made by Ted Wellman to bring resolution 2008-07 to the board and was seconded

Curt Shuey suggested less usage of “user groups” throughout the proposed resolution.

George Heim moved that the “user groups” be changed to “users” in all cases.

Motion for amendment was seconded.

George Heim made an amendment to his previous motion. The amendment to his motion deals only with changing “user groups” to “users” in the section starting with, “Therefore, Be It Resolved That”.

Passed without audible opposition.

Jim C. suggested in the 3<sup>rd</sup> “Whereas” statement after the word “conditions”, place a period and the next sentence read “Increased use on the river endangers the fish and wildlife habitats.”

Motion for amendment was seconded.  
Passed without audible opposition.

Bruce King asked to take out the first bullet point under the "Therefore, Be It Resolved That" section of the resolution 2008-07. Stated that it was a duplication of bullet number 7.

Motion for amendment was seconded.  
Amendment to resolution 2008-07 failed.

Vote was taken to adopt resolution 2008-07 as amended.  
Passed without audible opposition.

**F. Resolution 2008-08:** A Motion was made by Joe Connors to bring resolution 2008-08 to the board and was seconded

The Guide Advisory board had consensus on creating a provision for replacing a guide in-season. This provision would protect a guiding operation, should a major tragedy fall upon them. Letters of support from Gary Turner, the director of the Kenai Peninsula College and Steve McClure, guide association past president were entered into the record.

Passed without audible opposition.

## **V. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Agenda Structure-**The following is the new structure for the agenda: The public will have 3 opportunities to speak at the meeting, a staff report, agency reports, consent agenda and minutes.

**B. By-Laws changes- (ABH Committee)** Dave Carey encouraged the Board Development Committee and/or ABH Committee to review the by-laws.

**C. ADF&G Office may move to Anchorage –** The Board Chair asked for support in writing a letter in opposition of moving ADF&G to the Anchorage office. The board supported the chairs request.

## **VI. CORRESPONDENCE**

**A. Copy of letter sent to Borough 3/4/08:** This Letter was signed and sent out on March 4, 2008. With an expected reply of March 31, 2008.

## **VII. PUBLIC COMMENT-No Comments**

A. Board Comments

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

A. Date/Agenda of Next Meeting April 10, 2008 5:30 p.m.