

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
MSB Fish and Wildlife Commission
REGULAR MEETING: August 29, 2024
DSJ Building, Assembly Chambers/TEAMS
Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Andy Couch called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

II. ROLL CALL – DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Present:

Andy Couch
Peter Probasco
Gabriel Kitter
Howard Delo
Larry Engel
Kendra Zamzow
Jim Sykes

Absent:

Bill Gamble
Tim Hale

III. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

AC read the land acknowledgement:

"We acknowledge that we are meeting on traditional lands of the Dena'ina and Ahtna Dene people, and we are grateful for their continued stewardship of the land, fish, and wildlife throughout time immemorial."

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

HD moved to approve the agenda; seconded by LE.
No objection, motion passed unanimously.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. July 2, 2024 Regular Meeting

HD moved to approve the July 2nd minutes; seconded by LE.

AC amendment: p. 5 red – middle page 'state management'*

AC amendment: spell out Waterbody Setback Advisory Board

No objection as amended, motion passed unanimously.

VII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Trevor Rollman – Northern District Setnetters Association
Pete Imhof – member of the public
Stefan Hinman – MSB Public Affairs
Stephen Braund – Northern District Setnetters Association

VIII. STAFF/AGENCY REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS

- A. Staff Report – Maija DiSalvo
- B. Chair’s Report – Andy Couch

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. MSB CAPSIS Request

PP moved to approve the draft CAPSIS request for FWC; seconded by LE

KZ moved to include amended language: “since the last plan there have been significant declines in salmon populations in the MSB”; seconded by HD.

No objection, amendment passed unanimously.

JS moved to amendment: last paragraph - “it is necessary with declining salmon stocks in our region”; seconded by KZ.

No objection, amendment passed unanimously.

Main Motion: No objection, amendment passed unanimously.

- B. Board of Fisheries Submissions

LE moved to form a work group (LE, PP, AC) to develop comments regarding ACR 3; seconded by PP.

No objection, motion passed unanimously.

- C. Endangered Species Act – Chinook 90-Day Finding

PP moved to adopt version 2 as presented; seconded by LE.

PP amendment 1: strike last paragraph and rewrite the last sentence in third paragraph to “MSB FWC requests that the federal process be delayed until the state, through the BOF process, can be completed.”; seconded by LE.

Amendment passed with KZ and GK opposed.

HD amendment 2: use p. 19 of It Takes Fish to Make Fish booklet to list stocks of management concern; seconded by PP.

No objection, amendment passed unanimously.

JS amendment 3: precede paragraph 1 “due to the historic decline in chinook salmon populations in Mat-Su and the critical need to restore those populations,”; seconded by KZ.

No objection, amendment passed unanimously.
Main Motion: No objection, motion passed unanimously.

D. Waterbody Setback Advisory Board Update – Kendra Zamzow

X. NEW BUSINESS

A. Revisions to Water Management Regulations
KZ and MD to work on developing comments.

XI. MEMBER COMMENTS

JS – Three FWC members up for reappointment (HD, LE, AC) this year; thank you all for the work

KZ – info about application for exploration of gas in Susitna; participated in stream restoration class – field trip to Wasilla creek, identified the possibility of things happening on residential property that could be impacting culvert projects that have been invested in;

LE – first year of heavy federal fishery management – FWC could invite a member of feds involved in EEZ attend ADF&G meeting to get more familiar with their activities and to get an idea of where to go in the future.

JS moved to invite federal fishery managers to participate in annual ADF&G fishing season summary meeting; seconded by PP.

No objection, motion passed unanimously.

Bill Stoltz offered to line up someone to attend a meeting, through Senator Sullivan’s office.

XII. NEXT MEETING DATE: Thursday, September 26, 2024 – 4:00 pm – Assembly Chambers

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

PP moved to adjourn; seconded by KZ.

No objection, motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 6:53 PM.



Andy Couch, FWC Chair

11-13-24
Date



Maija DiSalvo, Planning Division Staff

11/15/24
Date