MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH MSB Fish and Wildlife Commission

Regular Meeting: January 9, 2025 DSJ Building, Room 203/TEAMS Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Andy Couch called the meeting to order at 4:00pm

II. ROLL CALL – DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Present:

Andy Couch

Gabe Kitter

Howard Delo

Larry Engel

Kendra Zamzow

Jim Sykes

Bill Gamble

Absent:

Tim Hale

Peter Probasco

III. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

AC read the land acknowledgment:

"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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

LE moved to amend the agenda to have the BOG discussion moved to the beginning of the agenda after Chair's Comments; seconded by JS No objection, motion passed unanimously.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

JS moved to approve the November 14 minutes LE seconded No objection, motion passed unanimously.

GK moved to approve the December 12 minutes LE seconded No objection, motion passed unanimously.

VI. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Neil DeWitt – Member of the public
Chennery Fife – Trout Unlimited
Chris Brockman – Area game biologist
Garrett Van Diest – Area game biologist
Representative Kevin McCabe
Mike Camfield – Public Works manages the fish passage program
Micheal Bowles – Prospective FWC
Rebecca Skjohaug
Lacie Olivieri

VII. STAFF/AGENCY REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS

- A. Staff Report Maggie Brown
- B. Chair's Report Andy Couch
 - i. BG CAPSIS update
 - ii. Workgroup PP, GK, BG, AC leaving group

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Board of Game Central/Southwest Region Regulations Discussion

JS moved that Howard represents the FWC at the BOG Central & Southwest

Region Meeting; seconded by BG

LE moved to amend the motion that AC and GK help represent the FWC at the BOG; seconded JS

No objection, motion passed unanimously.

KZ moved to consider the BOG comments; seconded by GK

KZ moved to amend Proposal 64, adding "The commission has supported the concept by not harvesting cows accompanied by calves" to the proposal; seconded by JS

HD amended to add, "The commission has supported the concept by not harvesting cows accompanied by calves in selected areas"; not accepted by KZ.

KZ moved to amend Proposal 64, adding "We recognize that the Sutton and Chickaloon community councils object to the harvest of cow accompanied by calves." to the end of the proposal; seconded by JS

Howard Delo discussed Proposal 75 -- which would allow aerial management of wolf, brown bear, and black bear by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, specifically in Game Management Unit (GMU) 16B, in order to more closely meet moose population and harvest objectives. He also discussed Proposal 73 which sought to change Dall sheep harvest in GMU 14A drawing permit hunts from only full curl rams being legal for harvest to any ram being legal for harvest (this proposal currently had no comments from the commission).

After Howard's discussion, there were no further amendments to the Commission's draft comments.

The question was called on the motion to approve the Commission comments for the Board of Game as amended. The motion passed without objection.

Mayor DeVries arrived 5:08 PM
Chris Brockman and Garrett Van Diest left at 5:10PM

- B. KZ presented on Waterbody Setback draft changes to MSB Code
- C. Mike Campfield gave a MSB Fish Passage Program Presentation

LE moved to support the resolution of the MSB FWC in support of the Wasilla Creek Tributary at Bonnie Drive Fish Passage Culverts Replacement Project; seconded by JS

No objection, motion passed unanimously.

LE moved to extend the meeting to 6:15pm; seconded by HD No objection, motion passed unanimously.

LE moved to send a thank you letter and request from NOAA for additional seasonal reports or updates; seconded by HD.

No objection, motion passed unanimously.

- IX. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. Updates on New Appointees to MSB FWC

Representitive McAbe left 6:13PM

Motion to extend the meeting to 6:15pm; seconded by JS KZ objected, motion did not pass.

- X. NEXT MEETING DATE: February 13, 2025, 4-6pm Room 203
- XI. ADJOURNMENT

LE moved to adjourn; seconded by KZ. No objection, motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:15 PM.

Tell 2	
eter Probasco	, FWC Chair
A	
Maggie Brown	n, Planning Division Staff