

Yakutat Regional Aquaculture Association

ANB Hall, April 30 – May 1, 2012

The elected commercial fishermen met at 9:00 am in Executive Session to review letters of interest for the Non-fishermen seats. Seats to be filled included 1 seat each for Subsistence, Sport Fishery, Processing, Regional/Village Corp, City or Chamber and 2 Public at Large. Interest was expressed by: Bert Adams Sr., Cathy Bremner, Kip Fanning, Gary Gray, Gary Johnson Martha Inderland, Jack Endicott, Vince Jacobson, Walter Porter, Nick Holcomb

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 am. Board Members in attendance were: Larry Bemis, Nate Endicott, Casey Mapes, Herb Holcomb, Sam Demmert, Jonathan Pavlik, and Wayne Ivers.

Elections of non-fishermen board members:

Casey/Herb made a motion to fill the non-fishermen seats with the following slate of candidates for 6 of the 7 uncontested seats. After discussion the slate was voted for and accepted unanimously.

Subsistence:	Bert Adams Sr.
Sport Fishery:	Kip Fanning
Processing:	Gary Johnson
Regional/Village:	Martha Indreland
City/Chamber:	Nick Holcomb
Public at Large:	Jack Endicott

Herb made a motion to elect Vince Jacobson for the 2nd at Large seat which died for lack of a second.

Larry/Wayne made a motion to elect Cathy Bremner for the at large seat. Motion passed.

The Board members commented that all the individuals who expressed interest would be good representatives and encouraged the three candidates to attend meetings as they would be good alternates to serve when commercial fishermen are unable to attend.

A quorum was established with the following board members present: Larry Bemis, Nate Endicott, Casey Mapes, Herb Holcomb, Sam O Demmert, Jonathan Pavlik, Wayne Ivers, Sam L Demmert, Martha Indreland, Gary Johnson, Kip Fanning, Cathy Bremner, Nick Holcomb, and Bert Adams Sr.

Approve Agenda:

Kathy Hansen explained about the agenda and that many of the items and issues listed are inter-related which will make it difficult to take items in a straight order but that the items listed on the agenda did need to be dealt with at the end of the day. **Casey/Herb made a motion to approve the agenda as a guide for the meeting. Passed**

Elections for Officers:

Casey/Cathy nominated Larry Bemis for President. Larry accepted the nomination and commented that there was a lot of work behind the scenes, but he enjoyed doing it but it is hard to run both associations (Yakutat Fishermen's Alliance) but YRAA would take precedence, he wants to see this RAA

become a reality. Another board member commented, “the best run boards are those where people are willing to donate the time.” Wayne commented, that Larry was instrumental in getting us this far. Not hearing any other nominations, **the vote passed unanimously for Larry Bemis for President.**

Bert Adams made a motion to open nominations for Vice President. Nate Endicott accepted the nomination. **Herb/Wayne made a motion to close nominations and elect Nate Endicott for Vice-President which passed unanimously.**

Nominations were opened for Secretary and Cathy Bremner was nominated. **Herb/Nate made a motion to close nominations and elect Cathy Bremner for Secretary which passed unanimously.**

Nominations were opened for Treasurer and Jonathan Pavlik was nominated. **Nate/Wayne made a motion to close nominations and elect Jonathan Pavlik for Treasurer which passed unanimously.**

Casey agreed to act as chairman for running the meeting.

Board Members Term of Office

After a discussion about the need and a process to determine who would have a one year, two year and three year term the following motions were made and passed unanimously.

Jonathan Pavlik	setnet	3 year
Wayne Ivers	setnet	2 year
Sam O Demmert	setnet	2 year
Nate Endicott	setnet	1 year
Casey Mapes	Hand troll	1 year
Larry Bemis	Hand troll	3 year
Herb Holcomb	Power troll	3 year
Sam L Demmert	Power troll	1 year
Kip Fanning	Sport Fishing	2 year
Gary Johnson	Processor	1 year
Martha Indreland	Reg./Village	3 year
Nick Holcomb	Chamber/City	2 year
Bert Adams Sr.	Subsistence	2 year
Jack Endicott	Public –at-large	1 year
Cathy Bremner	Public-at-large	3 year

Other:

Bert Adams had to leave but asked for leave to bring up the information that he is planning on leaving the Wrangell St Elias Subsistence Resource Commission subsistence seat and needs a Yakutat resident to replace him on the board.

Appoint Alternates:

Bert Adams, Martha Indreland, and Gary Johnson had to leave the meeting at this point due to prior

commitments. The President appointed Walter Porter and Pat Robbins to act as alternates for Board members that left.

Approve Minutes:

Herb/Wayne made a motion to approve the minutes for 8/4/11 & 4/15/11. Passed. Nate asked about the letter from the Mayor being sent to the Commissioner in the Aug 4th minutes. Yes, we have a copy of the letter. Wayne asked about compensation for Kathy for work done so far. Kathy said that will be covered later under the Dept. of Commerce grant discussion and that discussion was in the Yakutat Fishermen's Alliance minutes not YRAA as you had not been formed yet.

Articles and Bylaws and Tax Assessment:

The articles and bylaws were reviewed. Articles contain a legal description of the area but basically contain the state waters between NSRAA and PSWAC. The purpose statement *"To augment the State of Alaska common property fisheries in the Yakutat region that contribute to subsistence, sport, commercial, personal use and other Alaskan fisheries through the rehabilitation of the State of Alaska salmon fisheries by artificial means; to conduct and promote scientific studies on fisheries and fisheries research; to build self-perpetuating runs of salmon, to sell salmon, salmon eggs and other fishery products as allowed under Alaska law. To engage generally in marketing and any other lawful activities educational, scientific, civic, professional, commercial, administrative, and regulatory which may concern or affect the fisheries in Alaska; "*

of the articles are fairly broad in one aspect but very narrow in another to meet State of Alaska requirements and Federal tax law. When you are planning projects in the future regardless of the species, location or whatever you must keep in mind that you must get the majority of the fish in the hands of the common property user. This is a non-profit corporation 501 C3 and you will have to apply for this status but this is a very strict category that does not allow for lobbying. 51% of the board is made up of commercial fishermen. In the by-laws, which are fairly standard, there is a conflict of interest section. Casey commented about the Board members would need to be changed – but was then clarified that the original incorporators always remain on the document. You file with the state updated Board of Directors information as necessary. A quorum is not a straight majority of the number of board members, you must have a majority of the commercial fishermen for example you wouldn't have a quorum if 7 non-fishermen and 2 fishermen showed up. It was asked how many commercial fishermen would be needed for a quorum? You have to have more commercial fishermen than non-commercial but you do have the ability to appoint alternates. Casey asked about the boundaries as written in the Articles, would the enhancement tax be collected on fish harvested in federal waters. This is the same as NSRAA and SSRAA had their articles written. Enhancement tax is tricky and there are some troller's taking advantage of the loopholes. Fish landed in Yakutat don't have an enhancement tax but you do have a city tax instead. Sam Rabung, when you vote in the salmon enhancement tax you can define the boundaries. It is where you land the fish. (*Note: regulations are where the fish are harvested*) The troll fishery actually is managed by the NPFMC through a salmon FMP that is then delegated to the State. It might also be because the 3 mile might be all that can be legally taxed but a good question to follow up on before the tax is voted on. A question was asked about lobbying. It is a fine line, this is

where it helps to have the Yakutat Fishermen's Alliance do some of the lobbying, joining a group like UFA will be beneficial in the future since most other aquaculture associations are a member they can also lobby on the hatcheries behalf plus it is a good place to get together with other associations twice a year on all issues. You also can couch things carefully, you need to know where the line is, you won't want to go up to a hearing and say we oppose this legislation instead you will say, this proposed legislation will harm us in this way . . .

Tax Assessment:

Locally you have a city salmon tax that you call an assessment tax, this is not what I (Kathy Hansen) am talking about. As a regional aquaculture association you have the right to assess yourselves a tax that goes into the general fund that is yearly distributed back to the associations the amount collected from your region. You can vote to assess yourself a 1%, 2% or 3% tax. The enhancement tax is taken right off the top of the amount being paid on your fish ticket and any later adjustments made to the price. It is different from the local tax. The advantage of an enhancement tax is it provides the basic funding for administrative costs to run the association and an office particularly when you are getting started. As you are getting started with a project it is something the State of Alaska Division of Loans would look for as a good faith effort that you are taking care of your fiduciary responsibility, that there is some kind of income coming in to pay off a loan. Cost recovery is another method of generating funds to pay back a loan. The State of Alaska loan program for hatcheries has some unique characteristics, it doesn't charge interest for the first six years of a loan so that fish would be in the water and coming back before a payment was due. Sam Rabung corrected that it could be six to 10 years before interest is charged. It's a good deal. The reason I put a discussion of the enhancement tax this early on the agenda is because the Dept of Commerce has a one-time grant for \$100,000 for new aquaculture associations that they can apply for. I have checked and the money is still available. As part of the application process you have to spend the money within a year and have to provide a budget. To follow the regulations for a tax assessment vote is expensive. I ran some real rough draft numbers on the cost, and if you were to follow the election process based on the costs for the election of commercial fishermen seats it would be about \$12,000. So if you want to go the tax assessment route early on it would be helpful so as you do the Commerce grant planning you can plan on that as one of the expenditures and it is one of the purposes of the grant. The commerce grant is to help put all the pieces and start up costs in place until you can be self-sustaining. To do the tax assessment you need to get approval of a majority vote of all the permit holders including the hand troll, power troll and setnet limited entry permit holders who voted in the election. Casey asked for a clarification that you are not talking just about this board you are saying all permit holders. YES, the majority of those who vote. I emphasize those who vote because it is the key, in an election like this most don't bother to vote. Casey it is going to be 50% of those who vote. What is the history of enhancement tax? Personally, I would have to ask myself how this works. I am paying 2% already and now you want me to pay 2% more. I'm not sure about the current city assessment, I have been told 1-1/2% and 2%. It is a city assembly action. It would be more correctly labeled as a city landing tax rather than an assessment tax. The city assembly voted the tax in, the city assembly can vote to end the tax. The interesting thing is that some of the money goes to the Yakutat Salmon Board. I don't know how much of the funds collected actually goes to the Salmon Board. Casey stated that as a Yakutat Salmon Board member he had been contacted as well as Mr. Ivers another

board member by Bill Lucey the director that the plan was to disband the Yakutat Salmon Board as the YRAA was developed. It was felt that the Salmon Board wouldn't be necessary with the establishment of this board but have not heard back yet whether that is an official action yet or is in the works. From where I (Casey) sit, the money going to the Salmon board is on the table. We need to reach out and capture that real quick before it is spent somewhere else. Cathy Bremner stated the salmon enhancement tax was implemented probably in the early 1990's, right now there is nothing on the agenda about the tax or dismantling the salmon board. Kathy Hansen stated this is a difficult issue as I don't know the local politics well enough. Is the city assembly, using the funds for administration or is it all going to the Yakutat Salmon Board? Cathy Bremner stated she would need to leave shortly for a little bit and she will try to look up that information in the FY 2013 budget and bring it back. Casey, I can see where this is going, we need to implement a tax even if we don't have the means to spend it at the moment but we will need it to get the loans down the road. Do other areas have a borough tax on top of an enhancement tax or is this new grounds. Sam Rabung stated that Kodiak has the same thing. We could implement our own tax and later maybe try to capture some of this city money. Ed Hansen stated the tax we pay in SE far exceeds anything collected here. Yakutat Seafoods is the only one who collects the tax basically, and fish harvested in the Yakutat area and landed in Southeast don't pay the tax. If you go to the city assembly and say we have a plan and you can probably get the city to withdraw the tax and this would be a much larger amount of funds available. But currently the City has control of the funds. Larry talked to the Director Bill Lucey before and one of the advantages of the YRAA is that the City isn't a non-profit corporation. The transition will have to take a place somewhere along the line. Sam Rabung pointed out that they are two completely different taxes and could both be in place at the same time. The regulatory tax (SET) is a statewide tax assessment that only regional aquaculture associations can participate in and you can have both taxes in place parallel to each other. Sam Demmert commented that the question is what can the fishermen bear in way of taxes? Kodiak is different, in Yakutat the average income is \$15-\$25 K and more likely on the lower end. The politics of this will be important in order to get the majority vote necessary and as we educate the fishermen about this issue and the city, we have to have the ability that what we are doing is the right thing, if we have 2% city and 2% enhancement can we convince them they are both necessary or if the city does withdraw the tax we will be in a stronger position to convince the fishermen. Can see the advantage of what we want to do with the enhancement tax but can we convince the city. Casey, I have a technical question, as a board we decide we want a 2% tax and the troll fleet says no and the setnet fishery votes yes? After discussion, it was decided that it was an all or nothing vote. Casey is not so worried about the local setnet fleet because they know the need for this but what about the troll fleet who don't fish in this area, what if they don't support it. We (Ed & Kathy Hansen) checked with the local processors in Southeast and they take the 3% of the tax regardless of where the fish is taken, it is the trollers who freeze fish and write their own tickets. So that is part of the advantage of asking for a lower rate than in SE AK. Question was asked and answered that it is all permit holders regardless of their residency who will vote on the assessment. Kathy answered the question that if the tax was voted down it is still possible to get a State of Alaska loan, the bar would be much higher and more difficult but wouldn't be impossible. Cost recovery would end up being the sole means. They would ask why you don't have a tax and you would have to provide justification for that decision. Someone asked who determines what is in the ballot and why don't you just ask if you want a 2% or 3% tax. Kathy answered that unfortunately

you can't, there are regulations that you have to follow and Dept. of Commerce has to approve the ballot you send out and are very specific in how the question has to be asked. It is a yes or no question. Casey could the City sign over the city tax to the YRAA Board and still use that as collateral. Yes, But the major difference between a SET (Salmon Enhancement Tax) tax and a local tax is that the State of Alaska will not allow a region to dissolve the tax until all loans in the area are paid off. So with the SET tax they have greater control that they will be paid off, whereas a City levy could be changed with a vote of the City Assembly. Sam, the SET tax is used as collateral automatically. From my perspective, we are charging a local tax only for what comes to the dock where a SET tax would cast a larger net and capture all fish harvested in the area. This would bring in more funds and would shift the burden away from the locals to be shared by everyone. We will get more money overall but we will be paying the same amount locally. Casey, if we can approach the local fishermen and say that if you pay this 2% SET tax and not the local tax we will generate more funds it makes good business sense. Further discussion. Kathy commented that she has the numbers of the setnet salmon harvest but haven't found out the amount of troll harvest caught in Yakutat districts. Casey so if we went with a 2% enhancement tax and that currently matches the local tax, ask the assembly to drop the local tax we wouldn't be paying any more and there is still an incentive to have harvest reported in the Yakutat district as it is lower than the SE 3% rate. 2% is the obvious number to target.

Cathy Bremner left the meeting at 12:55 during the tax assessment discussion, hopes to be back in a couple of hours.

Casey to play devil's advocate, say we vote in the tax and are collecting money but we don't actually do anything, will I get my money back. Kathy answered no but say very worse-case scenario that you absolutely can't find a project and haven't borrowed any funds, it would be possible to go back to the permit holders and vote to dissolve the tax. The State in this case wouldn't step in and prevent it as it was not being used as collateral. Wayne hope that we don't end up with going out for a vote and end up with both taxes in place and paying more, it would bum him out. Wish there was a way that you could figure this out. Kathy why this issue was scheduled before other discussions because you can say yes we wish to pursue a 2% SET tax and then you would budget for the election and outreach portion and because this is going to take time and because you are going to want to send the ballots out the in the fall or winter, approach the city and ask if they would drop the tax down to 1% so you match the 3% of SE or take the tax away and this is why we would like you to do that. Then you could solve that argument and know before you approach the fishermen that the city will be rescinding the local tax at the time that the SET tax becomes effective. This would let you know what you want to do about the Commerce grant. Casey asked what action would you want to take at this time. Kathy you would want to make a motion that the Board wishes to pursue the idea of a 2% SET tax. You could let the previous discussion provide the justification or you might sum it up and provide additional guidance in approaching the City.

(11 Board members in the room)

Sam L Demmert stated that we need the education component, we already have proof of the success that it is effective both to the East and West of us. We won't get anywhere without and it would be a shame if the vote failed. We need to demonstrate that we are serious about going for this, a good

power-point presentation, we have to sell the city and the fishermen that this is what we need to do regardless of the permit type, and we probably could sell both taxes. When the numbers are there, and in the interim it might be difficult but when we show what fishermen can make in the future. It's a process we need to go through.

Nate/Herb made a motion to pursue a 2% enhancement tax assessment (SET) particularly for the commerce grant budget. Larry asked about convincing the city to drop the local tax and it was said that a second motion would be forthcoming. What travels faster, a rumor or truth? We convince the city first what we want to do. Get Board members to go to the City assembly. Go ahead to the city before we start convincing the masses. Nate commented that most don't know what the tax or if they are paying a tax right now, so we are probably making more out of this than we need to. Right now see zero percent benefit to the tax I'm paying now, I'm willing to pay more just to get more. It seems easy and straight forward to me, if we can say that this tax will increase your fishery, people will vote for it. Casey, a lot of people are used to paying the tax. Kathy stated that she gets a lot of questions about what Yakutat is planning and is seeing support for Yakutat's efforts to get involved in enhancement. They are happy that you are moving forward. Ed stated that DIPAC is providing some of the biggest benefit and they don't receive any enhancement tax because they are a private aquaculture association. DIPAC went out on a limb, borrowed a lot of money, the gillnetters are the biggest beneficiary, trollers are starting to benefit with chum trolling and the seiners may get a shot this year. Kathy part of the reason I am encouraging you to go after the tax assessment now is because of the cost, \$12K for just the election portion is what I am estimating without the education part and where else will you find the money to pursue this at a later date. Again this is partly why the Commerce Dept. has this one time grant for newly formed aquaculture associations. For the two mailing we did for the election of board members, we sent out 2,166 ballots for each mailing that go out in the mail. You didn't get very many back but because this is an election you have to send the triple envelope for the ballot and that jacks up the cost. Two election ballots have to go to each permit holder, one at 45 days before the election and one at 30 days. Question was asked if you have a ratio of those sent out vs those returned. Very few returned. Question called for. **Motion passed with no opposition.**

Casey then asked for a motion to go to the assembly to discuss dropping the salmon landing tax before this fall. *Herb/Nate made a motion to have the President go to assembly to request the City drop the current salmon landing tax.* That implementing the SET tax will actually increase the funds generated. We need to be able to show the state we are serious. Need presentation. Jack asked if we can make numbers available like the benefit to SE. You could put a pretty impressive package together, need to request data, wouldn't be a real fast turnaround but could be done. Jack pointed out that Kathy would need funding to put something together. You need the best information together to go in front of the assembly. Nate in the interim request any extra funds being generated to come to the YRAA board. We need to get the history of the tax, etc. Jack agree with what is being said but we need the numbers, convince them that it is a good thing for the fishermen and the community. The assembly will tear apart any presentation and that economic development is a tough subject, I've been in front of them on economic development projects before and there are some assembly members who aren't interested in economic development projects. Have to be ready and the numbers have to convince people it is the right thing to do. I would like to amend the motion to have Larry put a presentation together and if

there is a cost we need to do it. Casey it shouldn't be a cost, we just need to do our homework, to find out the history etc., if nothing else we should be able to go to the City assembly and say the bottom line is that we are going to get more money doing it this way and if nothing else we will give you the funds that you have been getting just to rescind the tax so we can get the votes we need. If you are using it as collateral, you probably couldn't do that. Is there a motion on the table, yes to send our president to the next assembly meeting. Herb withdrew the motion. Kathy agreed that it is cleanest to withdraw the motion and start over. **Jack/Herb a motion to send the President to the City Assembly when the information is ready that would justify him asking the city to relinquish the tax.** The key is when the information is ready. **Question called for and motion passed with no opposition.** How are we going to pull all this together? Are we going to pay someone? Kathy? Kathy answered, that's another discussion. Do I have a pretty good idea of the value of the work I have done so far, yes. As we start working on putting this budget together for Commerce, there is work that I have done for you with no compensation, I know there is supposedly a \$1000.00 coming from the City and I have been asked to resubmit the information last week that I sent in December. I thought about sending it, and decided to wait until after this meeting, in some ways it might be easier to pay me for the work I have done and I think the work that will be coming out of this meeting out of the Commerce money. Do you have access to the money now? No, you have to apply for it and we haven't gotten to that agenda item. What was the \$12,000 dollars we talked about? That was the estimate I came up with to do the tax assessment mailing based on the regulatory requirements based on the cost of the board elections. Where did the money come from for the elections? The Salmon Board paid the direct costs of the mailings (postage and copying but not time covered). A question was asked if we could just make a motion when we have the funds we pay Kathy Hansen/SEAFa xx number of dollars. Kathy answered we will get to that. I think we need to finish the other administration tasks before we need to make the motion. It worked fine for the first two mailings and the \$500 for the Commissioner's letter was paid to SEAFa and what happens is that SEAFa retains the money while I did the work on my own time. Larry at some time we need to have a meeting with Bill Lucey to find out directly because he says it's okay to do this but when time to pay becomes evasive. We're going backwards and the board needs to deal with him and see what he says. Kathy said that SEAFa has been lenient to allow me to do this work for you and have been kind enough to front the money for the mailings and then waited for reimbursement. The one reimbursement took a while and the second reimbursement went faster because I learned to send it to the clerk directly. Casey said that now is the time to say this, several of us are SEAFa members and really a whole bunch more needs to sign up. You won't see anyone more active or standing up for the fishermen at Board of Fish meetings and other meetings such as halibut and now again locally. Need to spread the word and have someone to speak on your behalf. If we get enough people from Yakutat, we would end up with our own chapter up here. Kathy said the few fishermen that are members will realize that even though we have less than 10 members we did speak up on Board of Fish Yakutat specific issues. This isn't the time to speak about SEAFa but just a few is enough to get SEAFa to speak up, more gets you more attention. Money we can borrow from until we get the Commerce funds (corp grant). I don't know what the restriction is on the start up and going to the State of Alaska match. Kathy said I have a fairly close idea of the grant for Corp of Engineers project. I don't know how much flexibility they have on changing the amounts between categories. The request that went to the State of Alaska asking for matching funds was: *(NOTE: these amounts would be for each entity, State & Corp match so double*

*the amount written) ADFG permitting \$5,000; Operating plan \$25,000; Business Plan \$7,500; Net pens \$33,170; eggtake \$25,000; remote incubation costs \$5,000; Alevin Transport \$5,000; Incubators \$30,000; Incubator building \$48,000; Feed and assorted supplies \$10,000 and Personnel \$40,000 for a total of \$196,000 each or \$392,000 total. The Budget narrative was for a Chum Salmon Remote Release Site – planning, feasibility and initial rearing reads *A coordinator hired by YFA (Yakutat Fishermen’s Alliance) or other recognized non-profit will contract with various hatchery experts to complete negotiations with the State regarding permit and reporting requirements. Approval of contracts to various entities runs through the Borough finance officer or other established fiscal agent. In addition, staff will coordinate the rewrite of the Yakutat Comprehensive Salmon Management Plan (1984) to incorporate the new terminal fishery-operating plan and update management plans on other rivers. The YFA coordinator will also form a partnership with an established Southeast Alaska Private Non-profit Hatchery (PNP). A major objective will be contracting appropriate hatchery staff to formulate a business plan and acceptable to state regulators. Finally, YFA in partnership with the participating PNP will coordinate hiring of a technician crew to perform on the ground duties.**

Question was asked how close to real is that assessment? Who wrote the document? Kathy, believe that Bill Lucey wrote it. Sam Rabung answered he didn’t hear what the numbers of fish is so don’t really know and contracting with another hatchery is outside of the Dept. and would be a private agreement between the two entities. Would have to determine what would be allowed under the genetic policy for broodstock of chum salmon. The stock to work with and the number of fish and the terminal harvest area would need to be figured out before anything else but this is a good plan. This is a good starting step. I encourage folks to reverse engineer these projects and figure out who is going to catch these fish and where before you design the project and then act accordingly but I don’t think that was done in this case. Kathy said the good point in this project is that you have between the State and Corp \$50,000 for the salmon comprehensive plan rewrite. Now a comprehensive plan rewrite is expensive, the last couple have run from \$100,000 to \$225,000. I have gone through the Yakutat CSP and to a certain extent you are basically starting over. There is going to be a lot of work to update it. Your current CSP says that you will not do any hatchery or major production of any kind. In these updates you typically go through the information and update what has been done and how it has worked. There have been a lot of small projects that are mentioned in the CSP that you will have to go back and figure out what has been done, not been done and the results are. If you are willing to consider contracting with me to update the Comprehensive plan and I hope you will consider it, you will be looking at approximately \$150,000 to \$175,000. This is on the cheap end of the scale. I would be asking for the money in three parts. \$50K at the first draft when you go through it to review, \$50K when the public hearing and review by YRAA & RPT occurs and the last \$50K when the Commissioner signs off on the plan. You don’t pay me if until I deliver. Casey asked if this Comprehensive plan would bring in all of it, the financial, where we are going to do it at. No it doesn’t bring all that, if it is done right, it narrows down the possibilities and gives you an idea of where your best possibilities exist. Sam Rabung said that he generally refers to it as a menu where you can choose between projects for the region. What the CSP lays out where you might get broodstock from of what species, what kind of water flow is in some area, it is just a lot of work if it is done right so the information is available to work from. Is Kathy recognized by the state as someone who has experience and knowledge? Sam Rabung, the RPT actually has the authority for the comp plan and is made up of six members 3 from ADFG and 3 from the regional aquaculture association.

So, it's a joint effort between the RAA (you guys), RPT and ADFG. It is stakeholder driven and the ADFG has the role of protecting the wild stocks and providing for economic development. You tell us where it is desirable and will work best for your needs and we look at it to determine what is appropriate and then you have a menu that is available for anyone to work from. Any project from the region will have to go through the RPT for permitting and this will be the document you will work from. Casey, we will get into a lot of this tomorrow and how this will shake out. Sam Rabung said if you have an opportunity for outside funding, you should jump on it. I just came from Nome where they want to update their plan and there is no funding for it so Dept. will work on as they can but you won't have as good of a product in the end. Sam L Demmert you said an interesting point, tomorrow will fishermen get a chance to discuss ideas. Kathy it is also on today's agenda and part of the reason why I wanted Sam and Flip here today, even though the CSP is the responsibility of the RPT, they don't have the funds or the staff to do it. Sam Rabung, that is my point. Usually the CSP is a collaborative project between the RAA and the RPT with the RAA providing the funding and project management for the rewrite. You go find the funding and hire who the contractor who you want to rewrite the plan. Sam Rabung, I have a presentation on this for tomorrow but not really on the financing. There were DCCED grants for the initial CSP at one time. Next round for each CSP has been funding different ways. Kodiak got a SSSF grant, in Southeast NSRAA and SSRAA paid for the update. There is any number of mechanisms to help pay for a plan. Casey looking forward on the agenda, I see we are maybe asking the Chinook Mitigation fund for money but to do that we need to know how much we are asking for. Kathy, if I understand correctly you have \$50K between the Corp and the State approved a year ago. You have the Dept. of Commerce grant for \$100 K and in the mental budget I have planned, there is \$50K set aside of that money which will go to the CSP so there is \$100K. The Chinook Mitigation committee is meeting this upcoming Wednesday so the letter would need to be written immediately and I would suggest asking for \$25,000 to \$50,000 and any remaining money would need to be found in another area, maybe we go to the AK SSSF fund or to the legislature. This is partly why I had it structured so that the funding was paid in pieces. You then have a deliverable in hand before you need the last part of the funding. How would you get the Chinook Mitigation committee to agree, originally not many proposals but in the last week there has been a huge increase in the number of requests? There are minimal amounts of funding being requested from the Yakutat region. It will be difficult. Once the Comprehensive plan is written it goes to the RPT and they vote on it. Sam that is correct and then it goes to the Commissioner for approval. The Commissioner is the only one who actually approves the Comprehensive plan. A board member then stated that is why you would want to work with someone like Kathy on the CSP and it has to go through several layers. Casey then asked when do you want to have the board approve something? Kathy, my recommendation is that we put together the budget and letter recommendation for commerce, we approve the letter to the Chinook Mitigation Committee and I realize that is a long shot but there are other places that could be tried. There are private foundations you could go to. Are you updating or rewriting? Larry at one time there was one in play. You have the plan that was approved in 1984 there is nothing else that has been put before ADFG. Sam read the statute, and mentioned the regulations associated with it. We would consider this phase I (1984 plan) where you put in all the natural history, community information and the update would be considered Phase II which we are talking about doing now which is orientated toward specific projects that would be geared toward the GAP analysis, what is missing, number of fish and to what users. Technically you are

updating, but because of how the original was written you will be rewriting a good portion of it. The original phase I plan never goes away it is superseded by the next one and becomes an appendix within it. This information isn't bad, it just isn't current. Every single CSP plan is different, if I was contracted to do this, I would start by reading every single CSP in the state and all the different phases so that you could see how other regions went from a phase one to a phase II plan. The regulation states that you should have production goals included within it, in most phase I plan they threw numbers out but in the latest phase III plan in SE they kind of moved away from numerical numbers because in some ways it started to trip them up because if you reached the goal and wanted to do another project someone would say well it isn't in the comprehensive plan. So you need to find a balance between methods that will pass the approval that will provide you a guideline and menu while at the same time being flexible to allow good projects to move forward. Casey before you can write a plan how you want to do things, you need an education before you can say what you want. Some of the conversations I had with hatchery folks at the Board of Fish meeting, I thought we wanted to have a remote chum release so we would forever be buying chum eggs and he said no we have found out you can use incubator boxes. Take some of what is coming back to you and put in incubator boxes for the next round in a stream. Kathy, this is where hiring someone who does understand and is familiar with a comprehensive plan and knows the nuances with the drafts. Trust me when I say that you are looking at least at a year or more. A year is being very optimistic, more likely a year and a half at least. Sam Rabung it doesn't have to be in the plan to be permitted but you try to put in as many as you can but more importantly you put in guiding principles and assumptions. Kathy said generally as you start reading the drafts, additional ideas will come forward. You have had hatchery experts come through Yakutat before but it doesn't appear that written reports were ever produced. So one of the things you would do is sit down and ask what he remembers. As I said it is time consuming.

Regional Planning Team (RPT) Members:

Next, would like to have Sam and Flip describe the RPT and their responsibilities. Sam Rabung, the RPT has three main responsibilities, providing recommendations to the Commissioner of ADFG on the Comprehensive Plan, Fishery Resource Permit (FRP) and Permit Alteration Requests (PAR). Everything that is done is a recommendation to the Commissioner and particularly on hatchery permitting and planning. Nominations were opened for the three seats on the RPT. **Herb Holcomb, Nate Endicott, Wayne Ivers who declined the nomination and Jonathan Pavlik were nominated. Walt Porter/Sam L Demmert made a motion to close the nominations and accept the slate of candidates by unanimous consent.** No opposition was heard.

Administrative Motions:

Casey, next section is to do with financial matters starting with a Power of Attorney (POA). I'll let Kathy explain. If you are going to contract with me to do some of these things mentioned this morning and we are about to discuss (but not the comprehensive plan) it would be a good idea to have a POA. I will need a Power of attorney to submit the IRS tax exemption and since I am not on the board it makes sense to write up a POA that will cover all the tasks even though I could perform some of the tasks without one. **Herb/Nick made a motion to draft a Power of Attorney (POA) for Kathy Hansen to act on behalf of**

YRAA. The POA will be drafted tonight and reviewed tomorrow at 12:00 noon by the Board for final approval. Motion passed.

Nick/Herb made a motion to have Kathy Hansen set up a checking account with First National Bank of Alaska with the four officers to act as the signatories (include in POA). Motion passed. According to the bylaws you need two signatures, by having four signers you can usually find the two people for a check.

Herb/Walt made a motion to have Kathy Hansen apply for the IRS 501C3 federal tax exemption (include in POA). Motion passed.

Herb/Nick made a motion to have Kathy Hansen apply for Business Licenses (State and city) (include in POA). Motion passed.

Kathy said, so when the city requested justification for payment I put together a list of what I had done on behalf of the YRAA which includes: Feb 3, 2011 – Teleconference with Yakutat Fishermen’s Alliance – discuss the step to form an Aquaculture association; Research State & Federal Regulations about non-profit associations & aquaculture associations and develop draft Articles of Association and Bylaws. Also contacted Southeast regional and non-regional associations for copies of their articles of association and bylaws. Consulted with ADFG about process; Email to Dept. of Commerce about statute regarding start-up funding for regional aquaculture associations and whether funding is still available; Feb 17, 2011 – Teleconference with Yakutat Fishermen’s Alliance - adopt Articles of Association; Filed Articles of Association with the State of Alaska and filed for non-profit corporation status; Filed for an IRS EIN number; Continue to work on draft bylaws using input from fishermen gained during teleconference and individual members; Talked to Casey Haven about YRAA during Ocean Products Cluster Initiative in Juneau; April 15, 2011 Teleconference with Yakutat Fishermen’s Alliance – Bylaws adopted and officers elected for the YRAA board; Write up minutes of April 15th Teleconference ; Talk to Dale Kelley – ATA about a Letter of support for the YRAA; Draft sample letter of support for Yakutat residents and businesses; Get letter of support from Southeast Alaska Fishermen’s Alliance; Write cover Letter and put packet together for the Commissioner. Talk to ADFG again about the YRAA; Receive denial letter from Commissioner of ADFG – meet with ADFG (Sam Rabung/Ron Josephson); Draft changes to articles and bylaws based on denial letter and ADFG meeting; Aug 4 – Teleconference with YRAA Board of Directors to adopt changes to articles and bylaws; Write up minutes of August 4th Teleconference; Make changes to the Articles and Bylaws as adopted by the Board of Directors; File a revised set of Article of Corporation; Write another letter and submittal package for the Commissioner of ADFG; More conversations with Dept. of Commerce about the \$100K grant for YRAA set up; Dec 5, 2011 – draft nomination letter for elections; 2012 - develop ballots, arrange mailing of Ballots for elections, count and certify election of fishermen to board of directors; send mailing to Board members elected and nominees not elected; prepared for this board meeting, including agenda, inviting guests, notice etc; and numerous phone calls with Larry Bemis, conversations with Wayne Ivers, Jonathan Pavlik, Herb Holcomb and others.

Yakutat Regional Aquaculture Association tangibles to date are: Have a federal identification number (EIN); State of Alaska Corporation papers; Revised Articles of Corporation – filed & recognized by the State of Alaska; Revised Bylaws; Interim Board of Directors elected; Letter from the Commissioner of ADFG recognizing the YRAA as the regional aquaculture association for the region; Commercial fishermen seats filled by election

All this has been accomplished in just over a year and as you can tell I have spent a lot of time on your behalf. Moving that aside for a moment, I have estimated about \$2500 for filing fees, business licenses, IRS tax application and seed money for a bank account. Commerce funding is available for a year and I tried to set it up so that your next election for commercial fishermen board seats is in this time frame and the estimate for that is about \$4000. As I was talking this morning for the election portion of the tax assessment you will need about \$12,000 and you will want some funding for the public meeting portion of the requirements, information gathering so you will probably want to add another \$3000 for that and \$50,000 for the comprehensive plan. I have \$25,000 in a category of reimbursement and future consulting work and that leaves about \$3500 for misc. office costs. Might be a touch on the high side but you need to account for all the funds because if you ask for \$98,000 that is what you will get. It is fair to say that there will be photocopying costs, postage, meeting expenses, checks. Last sheet of the Board packet today has the information that you need to submit with the grant application/letter. I will need to get from the four officers, information about themselves to fill out the letter, you will want to state that at this time you are hiring a consultant rather than an employee as a more cost effective option. Until you had the full board elected it wasn't appropriate to request the funds since the interim board only had commercial fishermen included on it. Part of the criteria of an RAA is to have all users represented so to take this step before you had those representatives seemed technically wrong. At this point what would you like to do? If you are comfortable with the budget as laid out, a simple motion would suffice. You are going to need more money as time goes on as you try to get production in the water. I have already waited and paying me out of the commerce funds might be cleaner. The State funding and Corp funding is pretty laid out and they have probably underestimated some of the costs already. The Corp did not state whether they would be able to make the RPT meeting tomorrow or not. A board member asked about how confident you are that we will get this Commerce Grant. Kathy and Sam Rabung both answered that we will get it. This is written in legislation that all regional aquaculture association will get this funding and I have already spent some time getting an assurance that this funding is still available. I was assured that the \$100,000 would be available when all the conditions were met. The bottom line is that we need to get the tax assessment approved for long term funding and will get information from Bill tomorrow about the Corp of Engineers mitigation grant. It appears that there is a commitment to use a portion of the city tax as a match for something. Casey asked about are we are going to need a mail box. Currently YRAA is sharing a mail box with the Yakutat Fishermen's Alliance. You would want the mail box before you get checks or letterhead printed. **Herb/Nate made a motion to have the Larry Bemis, President to apply for a post office box for YRAA. Motion passed.**

Nate/Herb made a motion to approve Kathy Hansen (include in POA) to send letter/grant application as outlined in the discussion to the Dept. of Commerce. Motion passed. (\$2500 for filing fees, (cost of

setting up accounts, business licenses, IRS tax exemption); \$4,000 for Board elections for 2013; \$15,000 for tax assessment process and planning; \$25,000 Consultant/Admin costs (split between reimbursement & future work including tasks from this meeting) and \$50,000 for stage 1 of the Comprehensive plan.)

Will you want a motion for the Chinook mitigation funds? More is sometimes better but sometimes it ends up getting you nothing. Ask for the \$150,000 and let them knock you down.

Walt/Nate made a motion to have Kathy Hansen write a letter looking for consideration of funds from the Chinook Mitigation Fund of \$150,000 to rewrite the Yakutat Salmon Comprehensive Plan.

Salmon Comprehensive Plan:

Herb/Walt made a motion to hire Kathy Hansen to rewrite the Salmon Comprehensive Plan (CSP) for \$150,000. \$50,000 to be paid after completion of a 1st draft for review; \$50,000 after review by YRAA & RPT and changes are incorporated and \$50,000 at completion of plan signed by Commissioner of ADFG. Friendly amendment added, this agreement is contingent upon the funding being available but Kathy Hansen agrees to start the 1st piece of the project and renegotiate the contract if necessary after the first stage if the other funding sources don't come through. Motion Passed.

Wayne stated he is concerned about this motion since the funds aren't actually in hand. The commerce money is fairly certain. Walt suggested adding a sentence about contingent upon funding. Larry asked about the money from the State/Corp enhancement project and where did the state money come from. Kathy answered that she had been told that Bill had just a couple of days to write up a grant and get it submitted to get this money and then asked the state for matching money based on what he had written. The state legislation did fund the money last year so is available for this fiscal year. It has been approved but not appropriated. This is all part of why I am concerned. I don't want to feel like a slime ball if the money doesn't end up being there. The first stage is going to take a very long time to get done.

Cathy Bremner was back at 3:35 during the discussion of the CSP motion and was there in time for the vote.

Walt asked if at some time will you hire a full time general manager? Yes, sometime in the future. At the time you hire the general manager you will need to get new signature cards. Do a motion and take to the bank at that time.

Kathy brought up that we will need a motion to fill out and sign the 2011 corporate return and IRS taxes and should be part of the POA. It will be a zero return but still needs to be submitted. **Walt/Herb made a motion to have Kathy Hansen fill out and submit the 2011 Corporation & IRS taxes. Motion passed.**

The rest of the Comprehensive Plan discussion can take place tomorrow. We need to get far enough that we can make a go of it. Before the day is over would like to hear from the individual members their ideas and hopes for this board. Cathy Bremner commented that the City is preparing a strategic plan and someone from this group should attend the hearing and help put information on table of what this group is looking at.

Possible Enhancement Projects and hopes for YRAA: (abbreviated statements)

Nate Endicott: Hopes for enough fish for an industry and able to be just a fisherman where you can stay and live in Yakutat and create enough of an economy that residents could actually thrive and not just survive. Will create an impact and change with influx of people whether that is a hatchery or remote release site.

Jonathan Pavlik: Agree with Nate. Gillnetters are only making \$15,000. We need to explore all options terminal, enhancement, wild runs.

Walt Porter: Very exciting to see fisheries in SE and PWS being successful especially with dog salmon and we use to have but don't have chums now. Fishing for fish for eggs only isn't appropriate the fish is in good shape but don't understand what the other fleets have to do with it. If we release enough fish it will satisfy all groups.

Casey Mapes: Yakutat lifer as those on this board know, been part of fishing for as long as I can remember and this town has been built on fish and slowly dying to where we just have salmon, just a handful of longliners, hopefully we will get some back maybe with a CDQ program, crab stocks have crashed, with the price of fish going down, set gillnet only makes about \$12 -13K. That is just not enough to support the town and that is what this town is, is a fishing town and without that backbone the town is drying up and without more money to hold families they will continue to leave and the numbers don't lie, look at school enrollment. We have been talking about this for years and it's exciting. We can bolster the salmon, we can see on both sides PWS & SE it works and it could work here close to town. Make sense for Yakutat Bay, 75 fm nets more efficient than somewhere the requirement is for a 25 fm net, Yakutat Bay is safe and protected waters for trolling. Is there that much interest in chum trolling but expect more benefit to the gillnet to start but does want to see troll opportunities. Get more open minded and get involved with other species. Seeing a downward spiral of quotas such as king salmon so would like to enhance king salmon down the road but it's a ways down the road and will take time. Humpy Creek is another location, has an existing humpy run, good fresh water flow.

Herb Holcomb: Sold his setnet and bought into SE gillnet. There is a negative 18% population growth rate in Yakutat. Likes Yakutat but you go broke if you try to stay here as a fisherman. See this as an opportunity to get money in the pockets of residents. Start with chum but interested in kings and sockeye and see other opportunities pursued. Intent is to increase the fishery and it's economic value.

Sam L Demmert: Idea been kicked around for a few years, just have to look to SE or PWS, look at the boats being fished. Something wrong with this picture, we are fishing out of 20 ft skiffs and the other areas are fishing out of \$200,000 boats. Exciting time to see this develop and it will take time and lots of hard work. Good to see younger guys getting involved in this. It is you (younger guys) and their kids who will benefit from this. Start with chum but then expand to other species such as king salmon. Good project and timely, should have started 10 years ago.

Wayne Ivers: What can he add to what has been said. Graduated in 1984 with the lofty goal to be a setnetter and at the time was something to strive for. We tell our kids to do this or that but don't be a

fisherman. Would like to bring back the ability to make a livelihood from the local fishery? Yakutat has always been a fishing town and a site close to town would be best. Cost of fuel has increased. Start with chum salmon. Look for advice from the experts outside of the region. We need the fish to provide an economy for town other than government.

Larry Bemis: An aquaculture association would be new, fresh and exciting. I learned to count on the back of a fishing boat by counting fish. Fishing was all I knew growing up, at 16 had my own operation skiffs and all paid for and money in the bank. Fishing has always been my main source, did a little bit of trolling, and longline fishing for halibut. Came back to gillnetting after a five year absence and was surprised how much had changed. When I first started talking about hatcheries, people I talked to didn't understand and thought you were talking about farmed fish. Excited about the possibility of getting this going and see this come to reality. Been done elsewhere, some of the studies have been done by Bill Lucey but the follow through has never been there to get projects like they have in SE & PWS. With all the wild salmon, we don't really have a management plan in place to fix the wild stocks. They all have ideas ADFG, Forest Service but nothing ever gets done. Fix habitat for the rivers we have. Hoping this aquaculture association can look at those options also.

Pat Robbins: Spent a long time in Dry Bay gillnetting. Do just about anything to keep fishing. There has been lots of talk around the table about the community and the need for an economy to support it. Massive amount of potential for where it exists, Yakutat is a fishing community whether you are sport, commercial or a processor, its hinged on fish. Massively encouraged by what has occurred today with the motions, it's exciting, something is actually happening, not just being talked about. Need to consider all users involved, sport, processing or commercial. Chums are probably a good start, to keep something moving and not go backwards, my son is fishing them this year (in SE). Help keep the community going.

Sam O Demmert: I would like to echo what has been said. Would like to see all aspects looked at. Chum has been bounced around a lot. Coming and starting to hear about the specifics and moving forward is really encouraging. I have been fishing my whole life, income decline, and gas cost increased, glad to see something happening to keep Yakutat a fishing community.

Cathy Bremner: I am a lifetime Yakutat, totally dependent upon fishing. We can't go without, fish in the freezer, dried etc. We need to protect, preserve and enhance the fisheries. As a group we are powerful and can be powerful to maintain the fisheries and support the community economic. I am just learning so far but really excited.

Harold Robinson: I have been fishing Dry Bay since 1973, really encouraging to see the economic development possibilities.

Nick Holcomb: Just tickled to see everyone coming together it usually only happens when groups get together to bash the low prices. This is amazing, like everyone else be great to see other species but start with chums for now.

Herb Holcomb: Don't want to see it start out as experimental but large enough to do something.

Casey something of that is the financing for what you can do and some of it we will get in to tomorrow on the Comp plan about what you can actually do. We will have to talk about bycatch, wild stocks, say you did a fishery in the bay, how many feeder king salmon are you going to catch and how many can you get away with catching? Go home and think about the questions, we are going to need the ideas, some will wash out but to make this worthwhile we will need to get a paycheck out of it. Need to start where you can. We want it to get as big as we can. Have in mind questions for tomorrow.

Cathy Bremner, can I share with the Board the tax information? The shared fish tax that comes from the State is \$9,440; the raw fish tax for FY2012 is \$256,826; the fishery resource landing tax from 2010 is \$24,900. Casey so about \$250K was taken in on fish taxes. Clarification that is raw fish taxes shared by the State of Alaska. What was the total poundage this was based on that, it will be important tool for the city presentation. We start producing double the poundage and the shared fish taxes will go up. The school will be short \$500,000 next year with the end of federal road receipts. Larry thought that some of the city landing tax is tied up but we will learn more about that tomorrow hopefully. Have talked with Greg (Yakutat Seafoods) and he is supportive of getting more fish across the dock and said he would do what was necessary to upgrade.

Sam Rabung pointed out that Alaska Law requires full utilization of the fish and that roe stripping doesn't occur in Southeast Alaska. He also gave an example that at an average 2% chum survival a 15 M release of chums would bring in about 3 million pounds of fish.

Additional discussion occurred not captured in notes.

Motion was made to recess until 12:00 (noon) tomorrow (May 1st).

May 1, 2012

President Larry Bemis called the meeting to order at 12:20 pm. In attendance were: Wayne Ivers, Casey Mapes, Larry Bemis, Jonathan Pavlik, Nate Endicott, Nick Holcomb, Herb Holcomb, Pat Robbins, Sam L Demmert, Walter Porter, Cathy Bremner, Jack Endicott and Kurt Holcomb appointed as an alternate. *(not available is a list of the public in attendance)*

Bill Lucey did confirm that the 1% city salmon tax is being used as a match for grants. Ron Josephson from ADFG introduced himself.

The members of the Board reviewed the draft Power of Attorney document. **Nick/Jack made a motion to approve the Power of Attorney document as provided.**

Next meeting tentatively scheduled for October 5, 2012, 12 noon to 5:00 pm.

Meeting was adjourned.

Approved on October 6, 2012

In attendance at the meeting during some or all the meeting were the following individuals:

Harold Robbins	set gillnet	n6415@gmail.com
Brian Marston	ADFG	brian.marston@alaska.gov
Jack Endicott	Icy Waves	jack@icywaves.com
Sam O Demmert	troll & setnet	fvwasabi@yahoo.com
Kip Fanning	Yakutat sport lodge	kipcoyak@yahoo.com
Clayton Hamilton	ADFG	notyale.elad@yahoo.com
Larry Bemis	set/handtroll	larrybemis@yahoo.com
Wayne Ivers	setnet/troll	wvivers@yahoo.com
Sam L Demmert	pwr troll	jacksdemm@yahoo.com
Herb Holcomb	power troll	h2holcomb@hotmail.com
Bert Adams Sr.	Subsistence	kaadashan@alaska.net
Sheri Nelson	Set net	Sheri_Nelson@hotmail.com
Casey Mapes	Hand troll	yak2you2@yahoo.com
Jonathan Pavlik	set net	pavlikjt@hotmail.com
Nate Endicott	setnet	nathanielpaul4@yahoo.com
Walter Porter	Chamber of Commerce	wmporter@otz.net
Greg Indreland	Yakutat Seafoods	gregyak@yahoo.com
Martha Indreland	Yakutat Tlingit Tribe	Martha.yakutat@yahoo.com
Patrick Robbins	setnet/power/processor	pat@italio.com
Flip Pryor	ADFG	garold.pryor@alaska.gov
Myron Johnson	ADFG	
Sam Rabung	ADFG	Samuel.rabung@alaska.gov
Gary Johnson	Fish Buyer	GSJJohnson@yahoo.com
Kathy Hansen	SEAFSA	seafa@gci.net
Ed Hansen	SEAFSA	oceanangold@seafa.org
Cathy Bremner		Cathy_bremner@hotmail.com

(not everyone present signed the sheet)

Yakutat Regional Aquaculture Association Agenda

April 30, 2012 10:00 am - ANB Hall

9:00 am Executive Session to review nominations of non-fishermen seats

One subsistence user representative, One sports fishery representative, One processing industry representative, Two public-at-large representatives, One representative of the regional or village corporation or a shareholder, One representative nominated from the Chamber of Commerce and/or Yakutat Assembly to represent and be a liaison between the City/Business Community and the YRAA

10:00 am Call Meeting to Order

Motion to approve slate of non-fishermen representatives and seat those in attendance.

Introductions:

a.) Brief comments from board members and public on their hopes for enhancement and the RAA in Yakutat.

Determine Quorum

Approve and/or Amend Agenda

Election of Officers / RPT Members

- a. President/Chairman
- b. Vice- President/Chairman
- c. Secretary and/or Secretary/Treasurer
- d. Treasurer and/or Secretary/Treasurer
- e. RPT Members

Determine terms of office for all seats

Approve minutes from 8/4/11 & 4/15/11

Review of YRAA – Articles and Bylaws & State regulations

Assessment Tax (discussion and or possible action)

Banking/Financial

- a. Costs to Date -
- b. Resolution to set up a bank account and signatories
- c. Resolution to apply for Business license (State & City)
- d. Apply for 501 C3 Federal Tax Exemption
- e. Power of Attorney
- f. Approve letter and budget to Dept. of Commerce for \$100K in funds
- g. Letter to Chinook Mitigation committee for funds for Comp. plan update
- h. MISC

Comprehensive Plan

- a. Review of Comprehensive Plan
- b. Process to update Plan (coordination with RPT)
- c. Pursue Grant Funding/Legislative Funding (Corp funding avail?)

Enhancement Projects (discussion of ideas)

Power of Attorney

LARRY BEMIS JR, President of the Yakutat Regional Aquaculture Association INC, an the undersigned individual, domiciled and a resident in the State of Alaska, designates the following named individual to act as Attorney in Fact on a limited basis based on decisions of the Yakutat Regional Aquaculture Association INC. Board of Directors annual meeting April 30th and May 1st.

1. DESIGNATION: KATHRYN L. HANSEN is named as Attorney-in-Fact for Yakutat Regional Aquaculture Association INC, Larry Bemis, Jr. President for the limited powers granted below.
2. POWERS: The Yakutat Regional Aquaculture Association INC has granted Kathryn L Hansen the authority to act on behalf of the Larry Bemis, President in applying for and discussing with the Internal Revenue Service a 501C 3 tax exemption application; file State of Alaska Corporation tax return for 2011; apply for business license and any city permits that might be necessary; apply for Dept of Commerce grant under AS 16.10.510 (9) and any associated dealing as necessary to secure the funding.
3. INDEMNITY: The Yakutat Regional Aquaculture Association shall hold harmless and indemnify the Attorney in Fact from all liability for acts done in good faith and not in fraud of the Principal.
4. APPLICABLE LAW: The laws of the State of Alaska shall govern this Power of Attorney
5. EXECUTION: This Power of Attorney is signed on the _____ day of May, 2012, to become effective immediately until the performance of actions listed is completed.

Larry Bemis Jr.

State of Alaska

City & Borough of Alaska

I certify that I know or have satisfactory evidence that LARRY BEMIS JR is the person who appeared before me, and said person acknowledged that they signed this instrument and acknowledged it to be of their free and voluntary act for the uses and purposes mentioned in the instrument.

DATED: _____

Signature: _____

Notary Public Commission Expires: _____