

**Yakutat Regional Aquaculture Association**  
**Annual Meeting**  
**March 2, 2013**  
**ANB Hall**

YRAA Board Members: Larry Bemis, Nate Endicott, Martha Indreland; Jonathan Pavlik, Harold Robbins; Jessie Pavlik; Wayne Ivers; Casey Mapes; Sam Demmert; and Pat Robbins sat in as an alternate for Herb Holcomb

YRAA Board Members Absent: Bert Adams, Sr., Herb Holcomb, Sam O Demmert, Kip Fanning, Nick Holcomb, and Joy Klushkan

Public: Kathy Hansen by teleconference

Larry Bemis determined there was a quorum present. Meeting was called to order at 5:23 pm.

Larry Bemis, President handed the gavel over to Nate Endicott to chair the meeting. It was determined that there was no need to have an executive session for filling the public at large seats.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - PUBLIC SEATS: Jonathan/Wayne made a motion to appoint Harold Robbins to a three year term for the processing seat. Motion passed without objection.

Wayne/Jonathan made a motion to appoint Jessie Pavlik to the three year public at large seat. Motion passed without objection.

Wayne/Martha made a motion to appoint Joy Klushkan for a two year public at large term. Motion passed without objection.

Because of the teleconference Nate stated that there were nine present, 5 of which were fishermen meeting the quorum requirements and a motion was made and approved to appoint Pat Robbins as an alternate for Herb Holcomb for tonight's meeting.

The agenda was amended to take out approval of the minutes for Oct 6, 2012 and Nov 19, 2012 as the minutes are still not done and distributed to members. It was also corrected for the minutes to read as Jan 4, 2013 and not 14<sup>th</sup> as listed. Martha/Jonathan made a motion to approve the agenda as amended and passed by unanimous consent.

IRS TAX EXEMPTION UPDATE: As reported on before, application was filed, IRS has received and not asked for any additional information and just waiting to hear back but don't expect any troubles.

DEPT OF COMMERCE GRANT: Just recently received third distribution of funds from Commerce Dept. Have now received a total of \$50K (\$17,626; \$26,250; and 2/21/13 \$6,124) This leaves one distribution of \$50K for the 1<sup>st</sup> stage of the Comprehensive Plan rewrite in Commerce hands.

Martha pointed out that we have skipped over the approval of the minutes. Kathy said that she had received the corrections from Martha and incorporated them in the minutes that Martha arrived at the meeting at 5:26 pm and did not vote on the first motion. Martha/Casey made a motion to approve the minutes as amended and motion passed without objection.

Sam asked to move back to the Dept of Commerce Grant discussion and he would like to see on paper or electronically the status of the grant and plans for the future. Nate stated that he had this information as part of what he presented to the City Assembly. This information will be sent out.

TAX ASSESSMENT: Both ballots have been mailed out now. Ballots must be postmarked by March 7<sup>th</sup> and then Commerce Dept waits for two weeks for postmarked ballots to be received and then they allow themselves another 10 days to count and certify the election so we should know by the first of next month the results (April 2013). Approx 180 ballots have been returned so far and Kathy had received some phone calls asking for additional information and people have been going to the website for information. Kathy said Casey deserved thanks for answering the questions on the troller blog site. Casey said it helped when he was able to get ATA to finally post that they supported the tax but the biggest question and the one he was still getting was whether this included the fairweather grounds. From what it looked like to him it caught just the upper edge. Kathy answered that it is hard to definitely answer the question because there is no set description of the fairweather grounds, there is for the area of high abundance so it is best to just point out the YRAA region boundaries and let them make their own determination. Sam asked if someone else taxed the rest of the fairweather grounds. NSRAA description only covers state waters out to three miles. Kathy didn't know if they were going to pursue amending their region to include the waters but if they didn't it would need to be a discussion with the State and NSRAA if Yakutat could enlarge their area to encompass some of the fairweather area.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE: Kathy said that she is further than she was the last time we met but not as far along as she would like to be. Just received some information from the Forest Service that she had been asking for that list some of the projects for stream work and rehabilitation they have done since 1984. When asked she hoped to have something out for review by summertime.

DATA LOGGERS: Nate said that Kathy after consultation with the Commerce Dept was able to order and use Commerce funds for 5 data loggers. Nate talked to NSRAA, got the data loggers programmed and with Jessie installed them at the five release locations in the MFA on Tuesday and they should have started recording temperatures starting at 4:00 pm. It has been recommended that you have two loggers in each location but we didn't have the funding to cover the second logger for each site. The plan is to go and check the loggers next week and see that they are working and considering changing the buoy with a hard ball. The loggers are set 1 to 2 meters underwater and are close to the beach where you would have the net pens installed. You want to have the data loggers in the water during the

time when you would have the fish in net pens so you can determine when you should be putting them in the pens and when they should be released from the pens. It would take about \$600 to \$700 dollars more for 5 more loggers. Wayne mentioned another site where loggers should be installed to get information. To add one to each site and 2 for the new location, we would need 7 more. They need to be purchased as soon as possible and be kept in the water through June. Sam asked about the loggers the city might have. (faded and didn't hear the whole conversation here)

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: It was asked if there was a way that we could postpone the election of officers to see if individuals that were not here tonight might be interested in serving. Kathy said that one option would be to make a motion to keep the current slate of officers until a future time when other board members were present. Martha/Harold made a motion to keep the current slate of officers until the next meeting when more members would be present. Casey said he didn't see a reason to wait, just as soon take action now. Nate asked about electing the three officer positions now and wait to take action for the one office. It was also asked if the Secretary/Treasurer can be combined as one position. Kathy said that she thought you could. *(Note: checked by-laws after meeting and one person may hold both positions)* Motion on the table to keep the current selection of officers until the next meeting was voted on. Motion failed with one in favor and the rest opposed.

Casey/Jonathan opened nominations for President and nominated Larry Bemis. Hearing no other nominations and no objections Larry was elected President.

Casey/Jessie made a motion to open nominations for Vice President and nominated Sam Demmert. Hearing no other nominations and no objections Nate Endicott was elected Vice-President.

Hearing no nomination for the Secretary/Treasurer, Martha/Casey made a motion to elect a secretary/treasurer at the next meeting to be held. Motion passed with no objections.

Kathy mentioned that it would be nice to have a motion until all the officers are elected and a banking resolution can be passed that would allow the current check signers of Larry, Nate, and Jonathan to sign checks until the next meeting. Harold and Sam made the motion to maintain the current check signers until the next meeting and motion passed unanimously.

The issue of emails was brought up – Bert Adams had not received his notification by email and the new board members email will need to be gathered.

Kathy read through the financials but because of the difficulty in following by teleconference the information will be sent out electronically and attached to the minutes. The current bank balance after paying the Kathy and Larry is \$8,158.98. Kathy is asking for a reimbursement of \$16,050.86. She read through the attached reimbursement request #5, and Larry is being reimbursed 90.44 for food and postage.

Kathy said that she has prepared the IRS 990 tax return and State of Alaska Corp return. The SOA Corp return is a zero return as no IRS taxes are owed and read through the numbers on the IRS tax return.

Casey/Jessie made a motion to have Larry as President of YRAA to sign the 2012 IRS and State of Alaska Corp return for the association. Motion passed.

ASSEMBLY FUNDING AND STATE OF ALASKA LEGISLATIVE FUNDING REQUEST:

*(Discussion faded in and out on this topic).* The City Assembly appropriated YRAA up to \$196K of Tongass Economic Relief Funds (TERF) available upon presentation of receipts, as the City needs accountability of disbursement from the funds. TERF funds must be used for economic development in the Yakutat region. Nate will send Kathy a copy of the City Resolution. Harold asked if we could use the TERF funds for the data loggers? Nate said he understood the funds could be used for anything to do with planning, permitting or purchasing of equipment needed. It was stated that there was some confusion about the connection between the receipt of these TERF FUNDS and the request for a legislative appropriation/re-appropriation. A small group met with the City Mayor, manager and Joy (assembly member) (prior to assembly action) and they mentioned providing access to the TERF funds and the City had not applied for reapportionment of state funds. YRAA could use the TERF and the City could use the freed up state funds. Kathy asked for clarification if she should still be talking to legislators about the YRAA legislative request. That it is a little late to back track the request. Discussions of this request gets tied up with discussion about reapportionment as legislators remember that they had appropriated funding for some of the same things like the Comprehensive plan. Nate said at the small meeting he had made it clear to the City that we had this request in the works so he felt that we should continue. Martha stated that we need clarification of the City's expectation because it won't work for long-term cooperation if there a major mis-understanding by moving forward with the State \$200K re-apportionment. Casey said in listening to the conversation that this might not work. If was decided that a small group need to meet with the City and try to clarify the situation ASAP. The assembly is meeting this Thursday and State Legislative re-apportionment requests needs to be entered in to the system by March 8<sup>th</sup>. Casey /Jessie made a motion to recess the meeting until a time to be determined in case after the meeting with the City immediate action needed to be taken. Motion passed with meeting ending at 7:30 pm.

Minutes were approved May 31, 2013

# **Yakutat Regional Aquaculture Association**

**March 2, 2013 (Saturday)**

**5:00 pm**

**ANB Hall**

## **AMENDED AGENDA**

**Call the Meeting to Order**

**Election of Public At Large and Processor seats**

**Determine Quorum**

**Approve Agenda**

**Old Business:**

**Approve Minutes from 1/4/13**

**IRS Tax Exemption Application – Update**

**Dept of Commerce Grant – Update**

**Tax Assessment/Election**

**Comprehensive Plan Update**

**Data Loggers – installation update**

**New Business:**

**Elect Officers – effective next meeting**

**Financial Update**

**2012 IRS Tax Return/Corp Return**

**Assembly Request for Funding**

**AK Legislature Request for Funding**

**Other business**