

# YAKUTAT REGIONAL AQUACULTURE ASSOCIATION

Saturday, May 28, 2016

High School Auditorium

YRAA Board Members Present: Casey Mapes, Wayne Ivers, Jonathan Pavlik, Sheri Nelson, Herb Holcomb, Sam Demmert, Pat Robbins, Lowell Petersen, and Nick Holcomb

YRAA Board Members Absent: Larry Bemis, Nate Endicott, Harold Robbins, Raymond Sensmeier, Beverly Bremner, Jesse Pavlik

Public Present: Kathy Hansen, Jimmy Jensen, Enoch Schertel + others (name not recorded)

Casey Mapes called the meeting to order at 12:15 pm and it was determined there was a quorum. No alternates were seated for this meeting. Agenda was reviewed and agreed to be used as a guide and are attached to these minutes as well as the meeting notice.

Minutes from 1/29/16 were not available for approval.

## **ELECTIONS:**

**FISHERMEN SEATS:** Kathy announced the final results of the fishermen elections. Sam Demmert, Casey Mapes and Nate Endicott were re-appointed to the YRAA board for another term. There was a discussion that Nate Endicott would like to resign from the Board.

**NON-FISHERMEN SEATS –** One public at large seat and the Processor seat is up for election and was posted prior to the meeting. Jesse Pavlik (At large) and Harold Robbins (Processor) both wished expressed their interest in continuing to serve on the board. **A motion was made and passed unanimously to re-appoint Jesse Pavlik to another term of the at large seat and Harold Robbins to the Processor seat.**

**OFFICERS - Casey and Herb made a motion to nominate Larry Bemis as President - Passed Nick and Herb made a motion to elect Casey Mapes as Vice President – Passed. Nick and Herb made a motion to elect Jonathan Pavlik as Treasurer/Secretary – Passed.**

**RPT REPRESENTATIVES: Nick and Sheri made a motion to re-appoint Herb Holcomb and Jonathan Pavlik as the YRAA representative to the Regional Planning Team (RPT) and appoint Casey Mapes as an alternate to attend the meeting if one of the representative are unavailable. Motion Passed.**

## **REVIEW CHUM PROGRAM:**

Nate was not at the meeting to give the full chum program update. Kathy passed on the information that she was aware of. The Kwaan was not interested in a lease but would consider a permit because they are concerned about the property tax if a lease is granted. Lowell mentioned that there is an easement for public access on the site. Kathy said that most hatchery facilities are able to get an exemption from property tax and she will check into the situation further. Kathy went on to say that we need to evaluate the information we have and if we have enough to move forward with a hatchery permit and loan package and that Kathy is not aware of what Nate had done and not done. She was expected to get information from him as this meeting with the rest of the board. ADF&G always wants more information but the question is do we have enough information to move forward and only if ADFG requires something additional should we continue with more studies. ADF&G has not yet provided a final report of the genetic sampling that we helped gather. Further discussion about the size of a release and what long it may take to permit.

The conversation moved into a discussion about instream incubator boxes for Chinook as has been done in other areas. Kathy did not know much about them but said she would look into them and get back to the board. Concern was expressed that the kings could become an issue, only 700 escaped in Situk.

**Nick/Herb made a motion to authorize Kathy to pursue a lease/permit/agreement with the Kwaan for the hatchery site and to start preparing a Hatchery Permit and Loan package.**

**Motion Passed.** The discussion before the motion clarified that the board would have to meet prior to any hatchery permit/loan package being submitted and any lease/permit/agreement with the Kwaan would have to come before the board before being agreed to and that any major costs to update or design a facility would also have to come back before the board.

## **TIER 3 NOMINATION OF WATERS:**

The YRAA Board of Directors had a discussion about the Yakutat Tlingit Tribe Feb 22, 2016 request to nominate the Yakutat Forelands for Tier 3 Natural Resource Water Designation. Kathy explained that the state had legislation to try and determine a process for designating Tier 3 water systems as required by EPA but it didn't pass. A process still needs to be developed and once a system is designated Tier 3 it remains forever a Tier 3 system. After discussion **Nick and Herb made a motion to write a letter opposing Tier 3 nomination. Passed.**

## **FINANCIALS:**

Kathy presented the 2015 financials, the budget as passed and the actual as spent and reported to the IRS. The checking balance is \$153,367.94. Kathy provided a handout with the actual expenditures for 2012-2015 and a suggested 2016 budget. The preliminary estimate for the SET Assessment is \$43,824.03. Kathy suggested that because the chum genetic sampling is not finished and is being pushed to the back of the line because it doesn't have any funding attached to it, that we add into the budget and authority for Kathy to enter into an agreement with the state regarding the sampling up to \$10-15K. **Nick and Herb made a motion to amend the budget to add up to \$15,000 for the genetic chum sampling report to get finished. Motion passed. Nick and Herb made a motion to pass the budget as amended. Motion passed.**

Kathy presented Request for Reimbursement #13 for \$3,961.35 which includes time from March 6, 2015 to May 28, 2016 including air fare for the 5/28/16 meeting. **Nick and Wayne made a motion to approve the reimbursement #13 for Kathy. Motion Passed.**

The Board talked about pursuing a resolution with the City & Borough of Yakutat to clarify the property tax issue if a lease/permit/agreement with the Kwaan is negotiated.

#### **BOARD SEATS:**

The board came back to a discussion about board seats. The first issue discussed was the subsistence seat held by Raymond Sensmeier. **The Bylaws were consulted and as per Article II, Section 2.4 a motion was made and passed by Nick and Herb to declare the Subsistence user seat vacant and to appoint James (Jimmy) Jensen.** Casey mentioned that Nate had also told him he wanted to resign and that he had sold his hand troll permit after he was elected. Could he retain his seat since he no longer held the permit for the seat he sits in? The Bylaws doesn't address this issue. **The board made a motion to move Casey into Nate's set net seat and to appoint Enoch Schertel to the hand troll permit seat. Motion passes.**

Motion to adjourn was made at 1:25 pm.

The minutes were approved on 4/3/17