

YAKUTAT REGIONAL AQUACULTURE ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING

JUNE 26, 2026 6:00 PM

Board Members Attending: Melenda Lekanof, Jonathan Pavlik, Jesse (&Anna) Pavlik, Devon Fernandez, Arriving Late Mark Liam Sappington approx. 6:20 during presentation; Larry Bemis & Jim Woodbury arrived around 7:15 pm.

Public: Dave Reggiani, Chris Kelley, from UAG; Thea Thomas, guest; & Kathy Hansen, consultant.

Meeting came to order at 6:05 with the power point presentation by Dave Reggiani & Chris Kelley from the Unakwik Aquaculture Group (UAG) on their proposal for a Situk River Chinook Salmon Rehabilitation Strategic Planning Initiative. Copy of Proposal was sent by email on 6/20/26 to Board members.

After the presentation there was a question and answer session between UAG and Board members. Question and answer session ended with the UAG representatives at 6:57 pm. At the end of the discussion the YRAA Board members were trying to determine if it would be best to try and have another meeting in 10 days. Can YRAA do a text/email vote and instead made some phone calls to have additional members show up. The board went over the YRAA roster and made sure Kathy had current phone numbers for all members.

While we waited for other board members, the agenda was briefly put on the board and then Kathy switched to the Quarterly Financial review which showed the expenses paid in the first and second quarter with the reimbursements to Kathy broken down by tax category and the Checking account balance of \$141,632.97 and the 3 certificates of deposit totaling \$250,000 set for three different maturity dates with an interest rate of 3.5% for a total amount of funds at \$391,632.97. 2025 SET taxes should be deposited by August and that was approximately \$37,000. It was discussed and suggested that we add getting a credit card to the list of action items.

Kathy next said that she had been approached to move funds to the local bank Tongass Federal Credit Union. She recommended that YRAA open up a Business & Non-Profit Money Market account with \$100,000.00 with the Board officers of Larry Bemis, Jesse Pavlik & Melenda Lekanof & Kathy Hansen. Two signatures required for any check and Kathy will not sign any check unless specifically authorized by the Board.

A quorum was reached with the arrival of Larry Bemis and Jim Woodbury Jr.

Jesse/Melenda made a motion to approve and sign the Unakwik Aquaculture Group Situk River Chinook Salmon Rehabilitation Strategic Initiative. The proposal contains four main tasks including Project Planning and Information Review; Site Evaluation & Project Planning; Technical Alternatives Evaluation and Implementation Roadmap and a Situk River Chinook Salmon Rehabilitation Strategic Plan. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Jesse/Mark made a motion to approve opening a Business & Non-Profit Money Market account at Tongass Federal Credit Union using \$100,000 from the checking account and requiring two signatures on each check. The signers on the account will be Larry Bemis, Jesse Pavlik, Melenda Lekanof and Kathy Hansen. Motion passed with no opposition.

Kathy had looked into the purchase of a laptop for YRAA. Based on her son's recommendation (owns a computer business) she would recommend a refurbished dell computer. She would like authorization to purchase a computer with software up to \$750.00 including shipping. **Jesse/Jim made a motion to purchase a laptop up to \$750 including software. Motion passed with no opposition.**

Next Kathy brought up her reimbursement request #21 for \$3989.63, labor costs of \$3762.50, reimbursable expenses of \$39 and sales tax of \$188.13. **Jesse/Mark made a motion to approve reimbursement #21 of \$3762.50. Motion passed.**

- Next subject brought up was the possibility of offering Jonathan Pavlik the contract that Debra Lekanof turned down. Jonathan sent the YRAA board an email stating his interest in the YRAA board contract at \$3,000 a month. Kathy put on the board a document she had made with a potential scope of work using the action item list from the annual meeting and the expectation that the YRAA board would accept the UAG proposal. Kathy went on to say that if the YRAA board decided to offer Jonathan a contract to allow her and Jonathan negotiate a contract using the scope of work which Larry would then review and sign if he agreed with the final product. Melenda asked wouldn't the board want to negotiate the contract as a board and Kathy agreed that was one path, or you could put a subcommittee together, but the scope of work is from the action item list from the annual meeting and was comparable to the motion passed for offering a contract to Debra. The question was asked if the board could get a line item of what Jonathan would be responsible for and what Kathy would be responsible for. Kathy answered that was why she had started the scope of work so there would be a better understanding of the expectation of what Jonathan would be responsible for and that leaves me with the administrative type tasks, setting up board meetings (with some possible help from Jonathan). Who would be responsible for the banking with the banking moving to Yakutat, would you still

be doing that? I can continue to write the checks, keep track of the financials, take care of taxes, etc but the checks would still need to be signed by two individuals. Kathy pointed out that she had worked with Jonathan before when he was on the YRAA board previously, was impressed with the work he has done since the annual meeting, which has saved me time, the research and the well written summaries of the information he researched and the summaries of the two meetings with NSRAA and DIPAC. I have just tried to lay out a pathway if the board was interested in offering the contract. Jesse asked if he could vote on Jonathan being hired as he is his brother and it was also asked if it was appropriate for Jonathan to stay on the board if hired. Kathy looked up the conflict of interest in the by-laws and said he could. *(Bylaws Conflict of Interest - Section 2.10: A. It may be deemed to be in the best interest of Yakutat Regional Aquaculture Association Directors to employ, or establish contracts for paid services, with individuals who happen to serve on the Board of Directors, or businesses for which Directors may have a direct financial interest. The policy of Yakutat Regional Aquaculture Association is that in these cases, an individual board member who is being considered for employment or paid services by Yakutat Regional Aquaculture Association, or a board member with a direct financial interest in a business or organization being considered for paid services, shall not participate in the Board vote on the matter of the paid employment or services.)* A board member brought up the concern of paying \$36,000 a year. Another board member brought up that she would prefer to see the contract issued in quarters, so the board is not locked into a long term contract. Kathy stepped up and make the recommendation that if a contract was offered to make it July 1st to October 31st, partly on the assumption that by October we would have back the strategic plan from UAG, likely be having our fall meeting in October so seems like a logical time frame and at that point the scope of work would be changing based on the information received from UAG. A board member supported the proposal to hire Jonathan as someone needs to do the work and unless the board members stepped up and volunteered a lot more time, we need to hire someone. A board member asked what exactly would we be getting for our money and wouldn't he be duplicating the work of UAG. The document on the screen with potential scope of work bullet points were enumerated. Point person for Unakwik Aquaculture Group (UAG) visit to Yakutat and provide information when requested by UAG. Coordinate with UAG on data collection so there is not unnecessary duplication of information gathering

- Contact entities & agencies doing salmon work in Yakutat and write a summary of work being performed and timeline where available

- Contact agencies and entities and determine what water sampling (temp and flow) data is available for the Situk and other possible enhancement sites and collect the information
- Talk to ADF&G (Rick Hoffman and Ed Jones) and find out as much as possible about the Situk Chinook (spawning areas, timing, size at emergent and out-migrating fry. Any out-migrating fry sampling that may have occurred.
- Start reviewing the permits that will be needed.
- Review Yakutat Salmon Board documents (YRAA website and those received from USFS & City) and summarize any useful data
- Work and coordinate with Kathy
- Replace Debra on sub-committees listed on the May 16 Board meeting Action item list.
- Help with pre-planning (finding dates, reminding board members etc)

Kathy mentioned that the one item from the action item list she did not add to this scope of work was organizing a salmon summit as it is more important that we stay focused on what we are working on and there was a second action to summarize the work that is being done and provided to the board.

Devin/Mark made a motion to hire Jonathan for July 1st to October 31st at \$3,000 a month using the scope of work as a basis for a contract to be signed by Larry as President.

Jim left the meeting so there was no longer a quorum. It was suggested that we do a poll by text. Jonathan stated that he can't continue to spend the time he has as he needs to make a living and can't keep doing it for free. Another board member stated this is the plan and it's what it's going to take to get a project off the ground. Otherwise that money sits in the bank, nothing gets done, and it depletes by just trying to be solvent enough to keep the corporation and keep everything going. If we are going to move forward, we are not going to do it by volunteering, all of us. We all got things to do and that was the object of having Debra here to consolidate all the information that Kathy has, past and future information, that we can narrow it down and come to a meeting without having to go

through it. And then we can get updated on everything basically in a sentence or two and not a couple of pages.

The President directed Kathy to send out a poll vote for giving Jonathan a contract July 1-October 31, 2026 with a 48 hour timeline by text and keep a screen shot of the responses for the minutes.

A motion to adopt the financials and the meeting minutes and notes was postponed until the next meeting due to lack of a quorum

Kathy mentioned that the newsletter was sent to the printer and she made the changes suggested.

Meeting adjourned at 7:59 pm.

Minutes were adopted on October 2, 2026

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kathy" followed by a stylized flourish or initials.

YRAA Secretary 10/7/26