



## Indigenous People's Council for Marine Mammals (IPCoMM)

### Spring Board of Directors Meeting

Dena'ina Civic & Convention Center, Anchorage, Alaska

May 9-10, 2019

#### MINUTES

The Spring Board of Directors Meeting was called to order on May 9, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. in Kahtnu 1 Room of the Dena'ina Civic & Convention Center at 600 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska by Chairman Mike Miller. Invocation was offered by Arnold Brower. The roll call established a quorum was present. Attending the meeting were:

<u>Organization Represented in Person</u>	<u>Representative</u>
Alaska Beluga Whale Committee.....	Tom Gray
Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission (Observer).....	Arnold Brower
Alaska Nannut Co-Management Council.....	Millie Hawley (alt)
Alaska Sea Otter and Steller Sea Lion Commission.....	Lianna Jack Peterson (alt)
Aleut Community of St. Paul Island.....	Maxim Malavansky (alt)
Aleut Marine Mammal Commission.....	Peggy Osterback
Assn. of Village Council Presidents—(IUM).....	Jennifer Hooper
Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska.....	Ralph Wolfe
Chugach Regional Resources Commission.....	Robert Henrichs
Eskimo Walrus Commission.....	Vera Metcalf
Ice Seal Committee.....	Billy Adams
Inuit Circumpolar Council—Alaska.....	Kelly Eningowuk
Maniilaq Association.....	Percy Ballot
North Slope Borough, Dept. of Wildlife Management.....	Taquilik Hepa
Sitka Marine Mammal Commission.....	Mike Miller
Native Village of Tyonek.....	Arthur Standifer

#### Organizations Not Represented

Bristol Bay Native Association  
Traditional Council of St. George Island

#### Visitors/Others Present

Landye Bennett Blumstein: Elizabeth Hensley  
Foraker Group: Jonella Larson White  
Udall Foundation: Dana Goodson; Courtney Owen;  
Native Nations Institute: Miriam Jorgensen  
Hope Nation: Stephanie Gutierrez  
USFWS: Patrick Lemons  
BIA: Eugene Peltola, Jr.; Pat Petrivelli  
NPRB: Danielle Dickson; Betsy Baker  
NOAA/NMFS: Jon Kurland; Jenn Hall-Brown; Kristie Balovich; Jenna Malek  
USMMC: Daryl Boness; Victoria Cornish  
EDA: Shirley Kelly  
U.S. Senator Dan Sullivan; Kate Wolgemuth  
U.S. Senator Lisa Murkowski: Deborah Vo  
CRRC: Patricia Schwalenberg; Loren Petersen  
IARPC: Meredith LaValley

IPCoMM: Carol Torsen; Tom Parker

## **THURSDAY – May 9, 2019**

### **Seating of New Members and/or Alternates**

Three alternate IPCoMM members were in attendance: (1) Millie Hawley representing Ben Payenna of ANNC; (2) Maxim Malavansky representing Amos Philemonoff of ACSPI; (3) Lianna Jack Peterson representing Margaret Roberts of TASSC.

**MOTION:** Peggy Osterback moved to accept alternate members. Seconded by Tom Gray. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** Lianna Peterson moved to approve agenda. Seconded by Millie Hawley. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** Percy Ballot moved for approval of BOD Minutes of December 11-12, 2018. Seconded by Taqulik Hepa. Motion carried.

### **Financial Report**

Carol Torsen summarized the IPCoMM Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual statement.

### **Chairman's Updates**

Chair Mike Miller reported on IPCoMM's recent activities, including Funding Gap Analysis and Capacity Building sessions which address concerns about capacity building for organizations. IPCoMM is working with Udall Foundation, Native Nations Institute, and Stephanie Gutierrez, contractor with Hope Nation on this project.

Some employees are actively writing grants as a result of the Grant Writing Workshop last October.

IPCoMM is still under contract to FWS for the Polar Bear group, Alaska Nannut Co-Management Council (ANCC). The contract is expected to end January 2020, making ANCC a stand-alone group. ANCC has moved to Nome.

IPCoMM submitted an FY2019 proposal to NOAA with BBNA & TASSC as sub-awardees.

IPCoMM adopted the new Conflict of Interest Policy.

IPCoMM is working with attorneys on MMPA amendments.

IPCoMM is planning to bring more funding in place to hire an assistant type position, to be titled "Organizational Specialist."

## **Agency Updates**

### **NMFS Updates**

Jon Kuland of NOAA Fisheries Protected Resources undated on recent and pending actions under the Endangered Species Act and Marine Mammal Protection Act. He emphasized Humpback Whale Stranding in Turnagain Arm; Petition to Delist Arctic Ringed Seals under the ESA; Notice of Intent to Sue for Failure to Designate Critical Habitat for Bearded & Ringed Seals; Status Review for Western Steller Sea Lions; Fur Seal Harvest Regulations on St. Paul Island; New Staff Working on Co-Management.

### **USFWS Updates**

Patrick Lemons of FWS Marine Mammals Management updated Polar Bear activities and the extension of the IPCoMM contract on Alaska Nannut Co-Management Council until January 2020. Had to cancel Polar Bear field season activities due to declining ice.

**Presentation on Co-Management Review**

Dr. Jenna Malek reported. A handout was distributed showing A Case Study-Based Review of Co-management of Marine Mammals in Alaska.

**BIA Natural Resources Programs in Alaska**

Reported by Eugene Peltola, Jr. and Pat Petrivelli. A hand-out summarized Potential Funding Sources for Tribes regarding Natural Resources / Subsistence, which supports tribal activities in fisheries, wildlife, or outdoor recreation. They also support a Tribal Youth Initiative in projects that provide opportunities for youth involvement in natural resource management. Tribal Resilience Program Funding supports tribal governments with training, data, tools and access to technical experts.

**Gap Analysis Project Update and Discussion**

Led by Dana Goodson, Miriam Jorgensen, Mike Miller and Stephanie Gutierrez. Discussions continued on IPCoMM members working to determine the difference between their current funding levels and what funding is needed to help them carry out their missions on a more sustainable level.

**Overview of Organizational Capacity Building and Succession Planning**

Jonella White of Foraker Group presented. Completing a succession plan would be helpful for Alaska Native organizations whose emphasis is on subsistence uses of marine mammals by Alaska Natives. A job description should be prepared for a second person in those offices where growth of job duties is occurring.

**FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2019****Senator Sullivan Updates and Discussion of Alaska Native Marine Mammal Issues**

Senator Dan Sullivan presented. He indicated he and his staff want to make sure their relationship with IPCoMM is strong on the issues being worked on. The Senator wanted to get IPCoMM members' thoughts and ideas for things they're doing for us, and some they could be doing better. The Senator is focusing on Armed Services and Veterans as well as issues IPCoMM is related to, such as all the fish and wildlife service issues, and costs having oversight of marine mammal issues and other wildlife issues. He also focuses on Environmental Public Works committee, Commerce committee, enhancing the MMPA.

**NPRB Arctic Updates**

Presented by Danielle Dickson and Betsy Baker. They handed out a booklet of Arctic Program updates dated May 2019. It listed the overarching question as "How will reductions in Arctic sea ice and the associated changes in the physical environment influence the flow of energy through the ecosystem in the Chukchi Sea?"

**Set Next Meeting Date**

Next meeting will include three days for meeting - 3<sup>rd</sup> day kind of like a retreat for BOD. Three days for meeting, on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, passing from 1<sup>st</sup> of October through second week of December. IPCoMM will send Doodle poll to members.

**MOTION:** Lianna Peterson moved to adjourn. Seconded by Peggy Osterback. The motion carried.

Meeting adjourned about 4:30 p.m..