



Indigenous People's Council for Marine Mammals (IPCoMM)

Annual (Fall) Board of Directors Meeting

Egan Civic and Convention Center, Anchorage, Alaska
December 11-12, 2018

MINUTES

The Annual (Fall) Board of Directors Meeting was called to order on December 11, 2018 about 9:00 a.m. in Room 2 of the Egan Civic & Convention Center at 555 W. 5th Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska by Vice-Chair Taquik Hepa. Invocation was offered by Arnold Brower. The roll call established a quorum was present. Weather, an earthquake, and illness prevented some from attending. 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.....	Katya Wassillie (alt)
Aleut Marine Mammal Commission.....	Peggy Osterback
Assn. of Village Council Presidents—(IUM).....	Jennifer Hooper
Chugach Regional Resources Commission.....	Robert Henrichs
Eskimo Walrus Commission.....	Vera Metcalf
Ice Seal Committee.....	Billy Adams
Maniilaq Association.....	Percy Ballot
North Slope Borough, Dept. of Wildlife Management.....	Taquik Hepa
Traditional Council of St. George Island.....	Dennis Lekanof

<u>Organization Represented via Teleconference</u>	<u>Representative</u>
Alaska Sea Otter and Steller Sea Lion Commission.....	Lianna Jack Peterson (alt)
Bristol Bay Native Association.....	Helen Aderman
Sitka Marine Mammal Commission.....	Mike Miller
NOAA/NMFS.....	Jon Kurland

Organizations not represented

Aleut Community of St. Paul Island	Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
Inuit Circumpolar Council—Alaska	Native Village of Tyonek

Visitors/Others Present

Landye Bennett Blumstein: Sky Starkey; Elizabeth Hensley
Foraker Group: Jonella Larson White
Udall Foundation: Dana Goodson; Courtney Owen
Native Nations Institute: Miriam Jorgensen
USFWS: Patrick Lemons
NOAA/NMFS: Pete Jones; Jenn Hall-Brown; Shawn Carey; Barbara Mahoney
USMMC: Daryl Boness; Victoria Cornish; Jennafer Malek
ABSI: Aaron Poe; Lauren Divine
U.S. Senator Dan Sullivan: Kate Wolgemuth
Bristol Bay Marine Mammal Council: Myra Olsen
Eskimo Walrus Commission: Jacob Martin; Orlin Gologergen
IPCoMM: Carol Torsen

TUESDAY – December 11, 2018**Seating of New Members and/or Alternates**

One new IPCoMM member was in attendance: Percy Ballot of Buckland representing Manilag Assn.

There was discussion on Bristol Bay Marine Mammal Council's representative to this meeting since Myra Olsen, BBMMC's chairperson, was in attendance in person, and Helen Aderman was on teleconference.

MOTION: Billy Adams moved that before next spring we should get some clear indication whether it's Helen Aderman or Myra Olsen representing BBMMC when attending IPCoMM meeting in person. Write letter to Ralph Andersen. Seconded by Tom Gray. Motion carried.

MOTION: Robert Henrichs moved that Percy Ballot be seated as an IPCoMM member. Seconded by Vera Metcalf. Motion carried.

MOTION: Billy Adams moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Robert Henrichs. Motion carried.

MOTION: Robert Henrichs moved for approval of BOD Minutes of April 11-12, 2018. Seconded by Billy Adams. Motion carried.

Financial Report

Peggy Osterback, IPCoMM Secretary/Treasurer, reported on a meeting the previous day of the financial committee.

MOTION: Robert Henrichs moved to approve financial report. Seconded by Tom Gray. Motion carried.

MOTION: Lianna Jack moved to change IPCoMM's fiscal year from September 1 – August 31 to October 1 – September 30. Seconded by Peggy. Motion carried.

MOTION: Tom Gray moved for IPCoMM to negotiate an indirect cost rate with NOAA. Seconded by Helen Aderman. Motion carried.

Chairman's Updates

Chairman Mike Miller reported via teleconference. There have been several presentations to IPCoMM members from Udall Foundation and Native Nations Institute to help focus on potential shared services so we can leverage our funds and find deficiencies in communities.

IPCoMM had been working with NMFS and PSFMC on a Grant Writing Workshop in October. We have received good feedback from attendees from rural communities. Those who attended were those who have capacity for writing grants for ANOs possibly to Department of Commerce and others.

IPCoMM Chair was able to testify to Senator Sullivan's subcommittee related to the importance of maintaining the co-management language in the MMPA. We would like to introduce positive enhancements to the MMPA, both in funding and in scope.

We are talking with our attorneys about updating our documents, such as IPCoMM Conflict of Interest and references to BBNA/BBMMC.

The IPCoMM Umbrella Agreement is somewhat outdated and we may focus on a potential renewal of that in the spring meeting.

NMFS Updates

Pete Jones and Jenn Hall Brown updated on grants-related information. Jon Kurland of NOAA Protected Resources reported. Dr. Jennafer Malek will be hired by them full time in March. NMFS is working with FWS on rulemakings of Endangered Species Act, Sections 4 and 7. Unusual marine mammal strandings have taken place in 2018, involving 8 beaked whales at Adak, numerous ringed seals along Aleutian Chain, and a Steller sea lion in Utqiagvik.

USFWS Updates

Patrick Lemons of FWS Marine Mammals Management briefly updated on Polar Bear Co-Management, which is moving along well with the Alaska Nannut Co-Management Council. Next fall will be the next Russia Polar Bear meeting. FWS is about to finalize funding for new Pacific Walrus Research.

GEOFENCING: Large Vessel Tracking in Subsistence Areas

Aaron Poe and Lauren Divine reported on Arctic Vessel Monitoring, Geofencing and Alert Awareness. There is a need for active monitoring of vessels in the Arctic to determine if vessels are impeding subsistence marine hunting activities. A pdf of slides entitled "Developing Geofence Tools to Address Community Concerns About Large Vessel Traffic" is available.

Senator Dan Sullivan, Alaska Congressional Delegation

Kate Wolgemuth, Rural Advisor to Senator Sullivan, spoke about 116th Congress and that Senate Armed Services committee assignments are not out yet. There's an interest in additions to MMPA amendments in draft or bill form.

Marine Mammal Commission Co-Management Review Project Update

Presented by Dr. Jennafer Malek. A hand-out was distributed showing a summary of 2008 MMC Co-Management Review; 2008 MMC Co-Management Review Recommendations; Follow-Up to 2008; 2018 Review; Methods; Focus Groups and Interviews; Methods; Findings; Recommendations; Moving Forward; Management Implications.

Ongoing Discussion of Shared Services Potential and Planning

By Dana Goodson of Udall Foundation and Miriam Jorgensen of Native Nations Institute. Two break-out groups were formed for discussions on services potential and planning.

WEDNESDAY, December 12, 2018

Continued from Day 1: Ongoing Discussion of Shared Services Potential and Planning

Ms. Goodson and Ms. Jorgenson recommended members get a list as complete as we can without dollar amounts. They will try to get a financial consultant to help us get a current list.

Conflict of Interest Policy Consideration

MOTION: Peggy Osterback moved to adopt the Conflict of Interest Policy. Seconded by Percy Ballot. The motion carried.

Discussion of Potential MMPA Amendment Package

Amendments to MMPA are recommended, since it is outdated. Three attempts by IPCoMM for amendments to MMPA have been done, primarily for harvest management plans. State of Alaska would always intervene in previous times, by not recognizing tribes. Amendments would possibly update funding caps. IPCoMM would work with Alaska Delegates.

Set Spring Meeting Date

A March time frame or first part of April was recommended for next spring meeting date.

Convene in Executive Session

MOTION: Billy Adams moved to adjourn. Seconded by Peggy Osterback. The motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:51 p.m.