



Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly
Special Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 30, 2024 – 1:00 P.M.
Assembly Chambers – Kotzebue, AK

CALL TO ORDER

Vice President Sampson called the meeting to order at 1:01 P.M.

INVOCATION/MOMENT OF SILENCE

Member Cleveland an invocation.

ROLL CALL/MEMBER EXCUSAL

Assembly Members present at the time of roll call:

<i>Dood Lincoln-Carr</i>	<i>Reid Magdanz</i>	<i>Miles Cleveland Sr.</i>	<i>Elmer Armstrong Jr.</i>
<i>Derek Haviland-Lie</i>	<i>Craig McConnell</i>	<i>Delores Barr</i>	<i>Nathan Hadley Jr</i>
<i>Austin Swan Sr.</i>	<i>Raven Sheldon</i>	<i>Walter Sampson</i>	

Quorum present to conduct business.

Introduction of Staff and Guests

<i>Dickie Moto</i>	<i>Matt Mead</i>	<i>Fritz Westlake</i>	<i>Noah Star</i>
<i>Jade Hill</i>	<i>Ingemar Mathiasson</i>	<i>Stella Atoruk</i>	

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agenda presented for October 30, 2024. Member McConnell added safety moment. *Member Armstrong mentioned ice safety while fishing.* Member McConnell echo: also, drugs coming into the area are more dangerous than ever been, educate people. *Member Sheldon stated they've seen it; both governments met, plan to meet on Friday to discuss.* *Member Lincoln Carr stated it's time to sign a statement, come forward.*

Vice President Sampson suggested to have all four major organizations to have a wellness workshop in each community. Even though NWALT too, public statement. *Member Lincoln Carr raised concern of time of essence.* *President Hadley suggested having an Assembly meeting in Selawik, good for the people.*

Mayor Moto recommends reaching out to the Public Safety Commission to make any suggestions to the Assembly. Member McConnell supports having a meeting in Selawik. Vice President Sampson stated at the meeting tomorrow than can use that to reinforce what Public Safety Commission is trying to do. *President Hadley stated possibly invest in two dogs.* *Member Lincoln Carr suggested to declare emergency in the villages that have drugs; have Borough, Maniilaq, NANA, and School District involved.*

Vice President Sampson asked Legal Mead if he can present a resolution or statement to address tomorrow for the City and Tribe of Selawik. *Member Sheldon provided a summary of the community meeting held recently regarding the issues on drugs.*

Member Lincoln Carr asked if can have another special meeting tomorrow to get a signature Mayor need and swear in the Assembly members? Member McConnell recommended delayed meeting separately than the November meeting. Vice President Sampson recommends Monday for the postponed October meeting.

Vice President Sampson mentioned can have meeting all day of 12th November. *Member Armstrong requested to add AML, Retreat and Borough summit. Although this is a special meeting, for resolution 24-43.*

Member Armstrong made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Member McConnell; passed unanimously.

RESOLUTIONS

1. **Resolution 24-43** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly accepting three grant awards (DE-CD0000070, DE-CD0000118, DE-IE0000196) from the U.S. Department of Energy, and for related purposes.*

Energy Manager Mathiasson summarized Resolution 24-43, recommends do pass. *Member Lincoln Carr asked if any of these monies are available for the Kotzebue residents? Member McConnell echo that Kotzebue residents recognizes that.*

Mayor Moto mentioned they have been discussing hiring another grant writer. Energy Manager stated this will be publicly announced beginning of November.

Member McConnell made a motion to approve Resolution 24-43, seconded by Member Lincoln Carr; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

None presented.

ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

Haviland Lie *thank you for discussions with the agenda item and drug issue. Kotzebue needs heat pumps too.*

Armstrong *thankful for today's discussion. Adding to Sheldon's comment, winter highway along with tournaments coming up. Thank you.*

Barr *echoes all comments, important discussion. Look forward to addressing the issue. Also, appreciating all the work the administration is doing and meeting in communities.*

Magdanz *thank you for calling the special meeting. Congratulations on getting this big grant. Agree with all the comments on the drug problem.*

Swan *in Inupiaq, can't add to what has been said already.*

Cleveland *good meeting. Update on Tribe up in Ambler, BIA chose the other tribe.*

McConnell *raised concern of having the Kivalina Gym ready to use for the residents.*

Veterans Day is coming up, we shall honor them. They experienced a lot of sacrifices. He would like to follow to Selawik, if there is an opportunity for him to go.

Sheldon *thanked Mayor and staff for working with Selawik. DOT had a meeting there, planning the stages of upgrading the airport. Congratulations to those that got re-elected.*

Hadley *hope all is well with the flood in Kotzebue. Glad the drug problem will be addressed. Thankful for the VPSO presence in the villages. Hopefully Kotzebue will have something soon.*

Sampson *thank you for your comments, certainly respect each one. A couple of months*

ago the Veterans Program had 40 veterans to get updated your information.
Lincoln Carr recommends a BSW for our Veterans, Honor them. One emergency is this flooding, have City of Kotzebue extend erosion control both sides. Move forward with the drug problem, can't delay. Suggest emergency task force. Thank you.

MAYORS COMMENTS

Mayor Moto mentioned staff will go Kivalina and assess. To date we have had a lot of material flown in for the disaster; 10,000 sq ft insulation and plywood along with 2X4, had a TBI contractor started today. Project Manager Walker went to Selawik, worked on needs although need to finalize. Know there was an overdose; drugs are present. Currently at 13 VPSO and working on getting more monies allocated for our area.

Look forward to the November 12th meeting. Thankful that the State sent staff here, there was National Guard, Forestry to do assessment and we will be down to four five workers next week.

Member Sheldon thanked the School District, he asked the principal for temporary housing for the VPSO for up to four weeks. That drug is powerful that is circulating.

Cleveland mentioned the Tribe is leaded by Chief Molly Brown, although will move forward. Kotzebue was in our prayers.

Mr. Mathiasson mentioned when in Ambler recently and they are aware of the grant, will send MOU between Borough and Tribe.

ADJOURNMENT

Member Lincoln Carr motion to adjourn at 2:44 P.M., seconded by Member McConnell; motion carried.



