

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH**  
**MSB Fish and Wildlife Commission**  
Regular Meeting: July 2, 2024  
DSJ Building, Assembly Chambers/TEAMS  
Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Andy Couch called the meeting to order at 4:03 PM.

II. ROLL CALL – DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Present:

Andy Couch

Howard Delo

Bill Gamble

Kendra Zamzow

Jim Sykes

Larry Engel – arrived at 4:27 PM

Gabriel Kitter – left at 6:15 PM

Absent:

Pete Probasco

Tim Hale

Quorum was established.

III. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

KZ read the land acknowledgement:

*"We acknowledge that we are meeting on traditional lands of the Dena'ina and Ahtna Dene people, and we are grateful for their continued stewardship of the land, fish, and wildlife throughout time immemorial."*

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

HD moved to approve the agenda; seconded by GK.

No objection, motion passed unanimously.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

HD moved to approve the May 9<sup>th</sup> minutes; seconded by GK.

No objection, motion passed unanimously.

**HD moved to approve the June 6<sup>th</sup> minutes; seconded by GK.  
No objection, motion passed unanimously.**

**VII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

**Stephanie Nowers – MSB Assembly  
Angela Stephyl – Chief of Staff to Rep. McCabe  
Chennery Fife – Trout Unlimited  
Marc Lamoreaux – Native Village of Eklutna  
Margaret Stern – Susitna River Coalition  
Rodney Fodge – MSB Planner  
Alex Strawn – Planning Director**

**VIII. STAFF/AGENCY REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS**

**Staff Report – Maija DiSalvo  
Chair’s Report – AC**

**IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**X. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Waterbody Setback Advisory Board Update**

**Alex Strawn, MSB Planning Director provided an update on the progress of the Waterbody Setback Advisory Board and held a question and answer session with the FWC. The FWC expressed opposition to allowing a path to compliance for current violations. There was additional discussion on lakes vs streams/ivers and the way they are identified in the ORD currently, MSB staffing plans and utilizing relationships with law enforcement to help support compliance, coordination with lenders, additional MSB engineering reviews and signoffs, viewshed violations, and following state standards for consistency.**

**B. Legislative Budget Updates – Jim Sykes, FWC**

**\$2.5M request from MSB was vetoed from state capital budget.**

**i. Funding of MSB Salmon Studies – Larry Engel, FWC**

**Discussion of budget timing and implications to ADF&G project staffing; genetic study, two weirs, and Anchor Point test fishery did not receive funding and/or staffing for this season.**

**C. Endangered Species Act – Chinook 90-Day Finding**

Discussed agenda item G (Stocks of Yield Concern) simultaneously.

**JS moved to extend the meeting to 6:15 PM; seconded by KZ.**

**No objection, motion passed unanimously.**

GK departed at 6:15 PM.

**KZ moved to extend the meeting to 6:30 PM; seconded by HD.**

**No objection, motion passed unanimously.**

**HD moved to authorize a work group to submit an agenda change request (ACR) to ADF&G for the upcoming board cycle, requesting a Stock of Concern designation for king salmon in the Susitna Drainage (justified due to the pending Golf of Alaska ESA designation); seconded by BG.**

**Amendment: (KZ) additionally, work group will draft a comment letter regarding ESA designation, explaining the Stock of Concern ACR and preference for state management, and also acknowledging that if the ACR fails, the FWC would support the ESA listing.**

**No objection, amendment passed unanimously.**

**Main Motion: No objection, motion passed unanimously as amended.**

*Work group consists of: AC, HD, LE.*

**D. Updates Re: Management of EEZ**

Discussion on number of deliveries (72) in relation to drift permits (500+).

**E. MSB CAPSIS Request**

Work group will present a draft to FWC at next meeting.

**F. House Bill 169 – Fisheries Rehabilitation Permit**

**HD moves to show opposition to HB 169; LE second.**

**Amendment: (JS) cannot support as currently written, some concepts with oversight and knowledge that could be useful and supported in the future.**

**No objection, motion passed as amended.**

*JS will communicate this message to DeLena Johnson's office.*

G. Stocks of Yield Concern

Discussed with item C above.

XI. MEMBER COMMENTS

KZ – Thank you for the feedback and direction for Waterbody Setback Advisory Board.

LE – Apologize for being late.

HD – Good discussion, appreciate KZ's devotion to Waterbody Setback Advisory Board.

AC – No comment.

BG – No comment.

JS – No comment.

XII. NEXT MEETING DATE: Regular Meeting - September 26, 2024 @ 4:00 PM

XIII. ADJOURNMENT


**HD moved to adjourn; seconded by LE.**

**No objection, motion passed unanimously.**

*Meeting adjourned at 6:37 PM.*



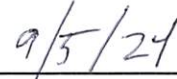
Andy Couch, FWC Chair



Maija DiSalvo, Planning Division Staff



Date



Date