

PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND
REGIONAL CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL
MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
September 22 and 23, 2022
Seward, Alaska

Members Present

Robert Archibald	City of Homer
Amanda Bauer	City of Valdez
Robert Beedle	City of Cordova
Mike Bender	City of Whittier
Nick Crump	Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation
Ben Cutrell	Chugach Alaska Corporation
Wayne Donaldson	City of Kodiak
Mako Haggerty	Kenai Peninsula Borough
Luke Hasenbank <i>(via videoconference)</i>	Alaska State Chamber of Commerce
Elijah Jackson <i>(via videoconference)</i>	Kodiak Village Mayors Association
Melvin Malchoff	Port Graham Corporation
Dorothy Moore	City of Valdez
Bob Shavelson	Oil Spill Regional Environmental Coalition
Angela Totemoff	Tatitlek Corporation & Tatitlek Village IRA Council
Michael Vigil	Chenega Corporation & Chenega IRA Council
Aimee Williams <i>(via videoconference)</i>	Kodiak Island Borough
Kirk Zinck	City of Seldovia

Members Absent

(Vacant)	Cordova District Fishermen United
Patrick Domitrovich	City of Seward

Committee Members Present

Jim Herbert	OSPR Committee
Jerry Brookman	OSPR Committee
Savannah Lewis <i>(via videoconference)</i>	IE Committee
Ruthie Knight	IE Committee
Cathy Hart	IE Committee
Steve Lewis <i>(via videoconference)</i>	POVTS Committee
Max Mitchell	POVTS Committee
Tom Kuckertz	TOEM Committee
Davin Holen <i>(via videoconference)</i>	SA Committee
Wei Cheng <i>(via videoconference)</i>	SA Committee
Ana Aguilar-Islas <i>(via videoconference)</i>	SA Committee
John Kennish <i>(via videoconference)</i>	SA Committee

Staff Members Present

Donna Schantz	Executive Director
Joe Lally	Director of Programs
KJ Crawford	Director of Administration
Brooke Taylor	Director of Communications
Ashlee Hamilton <i>(via videoconference)</i>	Financial Manager
Danielle Verna	Project Manager
Roy Robertson	Project Manager
Linda Swiss	Project manager
Austin Love	Project Manager
Jeremy Robida	Project Manager
Alan Sorum	Project Manager
Amanda Johnson	Project Manager
Maia Draper-Reich	Outreach Coordinator
Nelli Vanderburg	Project Manager Assistant
Hans Odegard	IT Coordinator
Jaina Willahan	Administrative Assistant
James Holzenberg <i>(via videoconference)</i>	Administrative Assistant

Ex Officio Members

Allison Natcher	Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation
Lee McKinley	Alaska Dept. of Fish & Game
Reid Olson <i>(via videoconference)</i>	Bureau of Land Management
Katie Farley	Alaska Dept. of Natural Resources
CDR Patrick Drayer <i>(via videoconference)</i>	USCG MSU Valdez

Others Present

Betsy Haines <i>(via videoconference)</i>	Alyeska Pipeline Service Company
Andres Morales	Alyeska Pipeline Service Company
Mike Day <i>(via videoconference)</i>	Alyeska Pipeline Service Company
Klint VanWingerden <i>(via videoconference)</i>	Alyeska Pipeline Service Company
Michelle Egan <i>(via videoconference)</i>	Alyeska Pipeline Service Company
Kate Dugan <i>(via videoconference)</i>	Alyeska Pipeline Service Company
Diana Bouchard <i>(via videoconference)</i>	Alyeska Pipeline Service Company
Lindsey Vorachek <i>(via videoconference)</i>	Alyeska Pipeline Service Company
Suzanne Cunningham <i>(via videoconference)</i>	Alyeska Pipeline Service Company
Melissa Woodgate <i>(via videoconference)</i>	Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation
Sonja Mishmash <i>(via videoconference)</i>	Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation
Mo Radotich <i>(via videoconference)</i>	Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation
Eileen Oliver <i>(via videoconference)</i>	Bureau of Land Management
Steve Weeks <i>(via videoconference)</i>	Bureau of Land Management
Rob Kinnear <i>(via videoconference)</i>	Hilcorp Alaska
Chris Merten <i>(via videoconference)</i>	Alaska Tanker Company

Angelina Fuschetto	Crowley Alaska Tankers
Andrea West	Polar Tankers
Ian Maury <i>(via videoconference)</i>	Southwest Alaska Pilots Association (SWAPA)
Bill Mott	Taku Engineering
Robert Thomas	AVTEC
Joe Levesque	Levesque Law Group
Roy Jones <i>(via videoconference)</i>	PWSRCAC legislative monitor (Federal)
Jessica Rude	CDFU
Merv Fingas, Ph.D. <i>(via videoconference)</i>	Spill Science
Heath Smith	Candidate for Alaska State Senate District C
Joy Merriner <i>(via videoconference)</i>	BDO
Chip Arnold	Alaska SeaLife Center
Wei Ying Wong, Ph.D.	Alaska SeaLife Center
Bianca Vazquez <i>(via videoconference)</i>	Purpose Driven Consulting
Meghan Sobocienski <i>(via videoconference)</i>	Purpose Driven Consulting
Maureen Okasinski <i>(via videoconference)</i>	Purpose Driven Consulting
Senator Gary Stevens	Alaska Legislature
Representative Louise Stutes	Alaska Legislature
Matt Gruening	Alaska Legislature
Doug Gardener	Alaska Legislature
Elise DeCola	Nuka Research & Planning Group, LLC
Haley Griffin <i>(via videoconference)</i>	Nuka Research & Planning Group, LLC
Sierra Fletcher <i>(via videoconference)</i>	Nuka Research & Planning Group, LLC
Walt Wrede	Citizen
Natalie Kiley-Bergen	Council Graduate Student
Anne Schaefer <i>(via videoconference)</i>	Prince William Sound Science Center
Katrina Lohan <i>(via videoconference)</i>	Smithsonian Environmental Research Center

Thursday, September 22, 2022

CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME, AND INTRODUCTIONS

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council was held September 22 and 23, 2022, at the Seward Gateway Hotel, Seward Alaska. President Robert Archibald called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on September 22, 2022.

A roll call was taken. The following 16 Directors were present at the time of the roll call, representing a quorum for the conduct of business: Archibald, Bauer, Beedle, Bender, Crump, Cutrell, Donaldson, Haggerty, Hasenbank, Malchoff, Moore, Shavelson, Totemoff, Vigil, Williams, and Zinck. (Elijah Jackson joined the meeting telephonically during Internal Opening Comments of PWSRCAC Technical Committees at approximately 9:00 a.m.)

Introductions and Directors' reports followed.

1-0 AGENDA

President Archibald presented the agenda (green-colored sheet) for approval. Amanda Bauer suggested moving up Item N (Closing Comments) before Item L (Executive Session) on 9/23/22). No objections were raised.

Amanda Bauer **moved to approve the agenda** (green-colored sheet) with the change in the order of the agenda as proposed (moving Item N before Item L on 9/23/22). Robert Beedle **seconded** and **the agenda was approved with the change as proposed.**

1-1 MINUTES

Amanda Bauer **moved to approve the minutes** of the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors of May 5 and 6, 2022. Michael Vigil **seconded** and the **minutes were approved** as presented.

1-2 MINUTES

Amanda Bauer **moved to approve the minutes** of the Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of June 21, 2022. Melvin Malchoff **seconded** and the **minutes were approved** as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

(None at this time.)

INTERNAL OPENING COMMENTS – PWSRCAC TECHNICAL COMMITTEES**TERMINAL OPERATIONS AND ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING COMMITTEE (TOEM)**

Committee Chair Amanda Bauer updated the Board on the TOEM Committee’s activities since the last Board meeting:

- The committee reviewed and provided comments on a report from Taku Engineering regarding the Tank 8 Floor and Cathodic Protection System Replacement Design Review project. A presentation on the Tank 8 report would be made to the Board later in this meeting and the Board will be asked to take action on it under Item 4-1.
- The committee monitored and worked on items related to the secondary containment liners at the Valdez Marine Terminal (VMT). A report and model analyzing how oil could leak through a damaged secondary containment liner was distributed to Alyeska and regulators. The committee reviewed the results of the secondary containment “tabletop” spill drill that Alyeska conducted on August 11, 2022.
- A TOEM project titled Valdez Marine Terminal Spill Prevention Plan Review was canceled due to lack of available funds.

- The committee monitored Alyeska's progress to repair the tank vents that were damaged this past winter and measures taken to prevent a reoccurrence of such an event. Alyeska staff provided the committee with updates on that progress. Taku Engineering presented the TOEM Committee with the results of their analysis of peak oxygen concentrations that may have occurred in the storage tanks as Alyeska worked to clear snow from the roofs and secure damaged vents. A presentation would be made to the Board on the tank vent damage later during the meeting (Item 4-5).

OIL SPILL PREVENTION & RESPONSE COMMITTEE (OSPR)

Chair Jim Herbert explained the OSPR Committee's goals and thanked his fellow committee members, two of whom are Board members (Robert Beedle and Mike Bender), as well as staff members Nelli Vanderburg, Linda Swiss, Jeremy Robida, Roy Robertson, and Alan Sorum. He went on to report on the committee's activities since the May Board meeting:

- The committee was updated on area and regional planning efforts for the Alaska Regional Plan, and the Prince William Sound, Arctic and Western Alaska, and Inland Alaska area committees.
- The Arctic and Western Alaska Area Contingency Plan was scheduled to go out for public review on September 19.
- The Alaska Regional Response Team (ARRT) was scheduled to meet in Anchorage on September 22.
- The committee received updates on PWSRCAC's 2019 request for informal review of Alyeska's Valdez Marine Terminal oil spill contingency plan.
- Since the May Board meeting, the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) issued a decision on PWSRCAC's request for informal review.
- Alyeska must identify methods to evaluate the integrity of the secondary containment liner by October 2023.
- Alyeska must select a final evaluation method for the liner by March 2025.
- Alyeska was required to hold an exercise showing capability to remove oil prior to impacts to groundwater and the Port of Valdez. This exercise was held in August.
- PWSRCAC is working with Dr. Craig Benson, a geotechnical expert, to identify and assess non-destructive evaluation methods on the integrity of the catalytically

blown asphalt liner at the VMT. Dr. Benson is also working on identifying a statistically significant area of the liner to be tested.

- Due to lessening of COVID-19 restrictions, staff was able to observe SERVS exercises again from tugs and barges. The committee discussed and accepted a few exercise reports since the last Board meeting.
- The committee received a presentation and reviewed the final report of the Out of Region Response Equipment Survey project. The Board would learn more about conclusions and recommendations in this report and be asked to take action on this item later at this meeting.
- The U.S. Forest Service issued a permit to PWSRCAC to install a weather station on Kokenhenik Island in the Copper River Delta. This weather station is expected to be installed and running by May of 2023.
- The committee approved travel for a member to attend the Oiled Wildlife Conference in California at the end of September.
- A project team for the committee worked with Rob Campbell on a draft Valdez Weather Buoy data analysis report. A presentation on the final report will be provided to the committee this fall and the report will be before the Board at its January meeting.

SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC)

Committee Chair Davin Holen briefly outlined the committee's work and thanked the committee, including the two Board members (Wayne Donaldson and Dorothy Moore) who serve on the committee and staff. He then updated the committee's activities since the May Board meeting.

- Long-Term Environmental Monitoring Program (LTEMP): The 2021 LTEMP Summary Report and Technical Supplement were finalized by Dr. Morgan Bender of Owl Ridge Natural Resource Consultants and accepted as final by the Executive Committee the week before this Board meeting. (The results of these reports were presented to the full Board at the May meeting.)

The Council's extensive LTEMP dataset, which has been collected across decades of surveys, will be uploaded to the Alaska Ocean Observing System and made available to the public.

2022 LTEMP fieldwork was conducted successfully this summer. In late April, passive sampling devices were deployed at three sites in Port Valdez. In early June, the passive sampling devices were retrieved, and marine sediment and blue

mussel samples were collected. Results from the passive sampling devices have been received from the lab; results from the mussel and sediment samples are forthcoming. Further analysis and interpretation of the results is pending additional funding.

Dr. Liz Bowen of USGS and collaborators are currently interpreting a copious amount of mussel transcriptomics data provided from Novogene, the lab that genetically analyzed the Council's April 2020 oil spill mussel samples.

- Dispersant Use Position Update: Between March and June, a series of four Board workshops were held to discuss updates to the Council's position on the use of chemical dispersants in our region. Based on feedback and discussion at the workshops, a draft of the updated position was presented to SAC this summer. SAC provided valuable comments on the content of the position and ultimately made a recommendation to the Board to accept the updated position statement. Elise DeCola of Nuka Research and staff member Danielle Verna will present the position statement at this meeting and ask the Board to consider adopting the updated position.
- Winter Marine Bird Survey: In early March, the second year of winter marine bird surveys were conducted by staff of the Prince William Sound Science Center on board the research vessel New Wave. SAC reviewed the final report summarizing the results of the 2022 survey with a comparison to results from the 2021 survey. The final report will be presented to the Board at this meeting.
- Forage Fish Survey: In June, the fourth and final year of aerial forage fish surveys were conducted by staff from the Prince William Sound Science Center. SAC will review the results of this survey and a comparison of results from all four survey years this fall. The final report will be presented to the Board at the January meeting.
- Oxygenated Hydrocarbons: The Council and Alyeska reached an agreement on the scope of work and sampling design for this project. As of August 31, five of twelve total sample sets have been collected at the Ballast Water Treatment Facility (BWTF) by Alyeska staff. Very little unsegregated ballast water was discharged to the facility this summer and as a result no samples were collected since the last Board meeting. Additional samples will likely be collected this fall and winter. Alyeska provided a tour of the facility for Council staff and contractors on June 9. Max Harsha, a Ph.D. student from the University of New Orleans, who will analyze the samples, traveled to Valdez for the facility tour.
- Marine Invasive Species: After extensive zooplankton sampling in Port Valdez during summer 2021, Council contractors Dr. Katrina Lohan and Dr. Jon Geller

finalized the genetic analysis of the samples. SAC reviewed and provided comments on the final draft of the report. The results and recommendations from the study would be presented to the Board at this meeting.

A broadscale survey for marine invasive species in Prince William Sound will begin next year in late spring and extend through the summer, conducted by a team from the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center. Analysis of the samples collected during the broadscale survey is anticipated to take place next fall. SAC is actively discussing analysis options with the contractor and will present their recommendation to the Board during the Long Range Planning process later this year.

The Council's internship to support marine invasive species monitoring in communities within the region was expanded to include Kodiak this year. There are now students in Cordova, Valdez, and Kodiak monitoring for the invasive European green crab and fouling species, such as tunicates. As of August, no invasive green crab or tunicates were detected in our waters this year. A final round of sampling for the season will take place in September. Staff deployed settlement panels to monitor for invasive species at the Valdez Marine Terminal in June and will retrieve the panels in late September.

- Subsistence Harvest Surveys: The recent Subsistence Way of Life project demonstrated the need for updated data on community subsistence harvests in the region and an assessment of how harvests were impacted by the Exxon Valdez oil spill. This fall, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Subsistence, will begin planning and preparation for updated subsistence harvest surveys in Tatitlek. Scoping meetings and on-the-ground surveys will take place early next year. SAC supports these surveys. The committee is actively discussing next steps for this project, which will include one or two additional years to analyze the data with the option to conduct updated surveys in Chenega as well.
- Conference Update: SAC members Roger Green and Debu Misra will be attending the International Oil Spill Science Conference in Halifax, Nova Scotia, October 4-7. Roger will be giving an oral presentation on the history of LTEMP, including his direct involvement in field sampling shortly after the spill occurred.

Holen added that a few years ago the National Academy of Sciences Gulf Research Board (of which he is a member sitting on their Health & Community Resilience Board) and his former colleagues at the Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant helped him host an Alaska Sea Grant workshop in Anchorage on the social, economic, and health impacts of the EVOS event and other oil spills. Holen had a conversation the previous day with some of those board members and they are planning to host future roundtable sessions

for researchers and stakeholders in the two regions (the Gulf of Mexico and Alaska) to learn from each other. He hoped that would happen in 2023.

PORT OPERATIONS AND VESSEL TRAFFIC SYSTEMS COMMITTEE (POVTS)

Committee Chair Steve Lewis briefly outlined the committee's charge, its members, and staff. He reported that the POVTS Committee was looking for additional committee members and welcomed recommendations.

He reported on the efforts of the POVTS Committee since the last Board meeting, as follows:

- The POVTS Committee continues to stay informed about the weather-based projects led by the OSPR Committee and on matters pertaining to the Port Valdez weather buoys.
- Project 8012 - Line Throwing Device Trials: The committee reviewed the final version of the line throwing devices video and agreed it should go to the Board for approval. The video will be shown later in the agenda at this Board meeting (Item 4-4) followed by requested action.
- Project 8300 - Sustainable Shipping: The committee selected Nuka Research and Planning Group, LLC, as the contractor for the current phase of this project, which is a review of the evolving regulatory framework for reduction of ship generated emissions. Work will begin on this project soon.
- Project 8520 - Miscommunication in Maritime Contexts: POVTS supports Board approval of a contract with Dr. Nicole Ziegler to begin work on this project. This item was on the consent agenda (Item 3-1) for this meeting. The main thrust of this project will be to look at the potential impact and severity of maritime miscommunication in Prince William Sound due to language and specifically with respect to tanker traffic and terminal operations, particularly as more foreign spot charters are being used to move oil from the VMT.
- Project 8010 - Escort Tug Best Available Technology (BAT): This project was canceled due to lack of interest from contractors. The committee learned from talking with potential contractors that best available technology in this area is evolving too quickly to make a viable project, coupled with significant concerns of owners, designers, and ship builders with commercial confidentiality and that such information would be necessary for assessing BAT in escort tugs. The committee may try to focus on developments in the various aspects of escort tug equipment and operations rather than trying to conduct an overarching escort tug BAT review.

Lewis asked the Board and others to think about other projects in maritime operations that the organization may want to undertake as part of the Long Range Planning process that was currently underway. He pointed out that as a group the POVTS Committee had a good idea of what is going on in maritime operations, but they do not have direct contact with the vast majority of PWSRCAC's constituents that other organizations involved with PWSRCAC may have.

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE (IEC)

Committee Vice Chair Cathy Hart reported for the Information and Education Committee (IEC) in the absence of Chair Trent Dodson. She stated that IEC had had two regular meetings and their annual workshop since the Board met in May.

Hart said the committee would like to recognize the Council's new Outreach Coordinator and IEC lead staff member, Maia Draper-Reich. Hart went on to update the Board on the following committee activities:

- Community Outreach: Since the last Board meeting, former Outreach Coordinator Betsi Oliver presented at the hybrid symposium hosted by the Prince William Sound Stewardship Foundation in Whittier. Her presentation was on the Exxon Valdez oil spill, the Coping with Technological Disasters Guidebook, and the Regional Stakeholder Committee resources developed by the Council. A former Council intern also spoke at this symposium. Back in May, the Council hosted an event for guides in Valdez to help educate about the Valdez Marine Terminal. Some staff and Board members also attended the Copper River Nouveau in Cordova hosted by the Prince William Sound Science Center at their new research facility. Project Manager Danielle Verna also staffed the Council booth at Salmon Jam in Cordova in July.
- Youth Involvement: Both the Prince William Sound Stewardship Foundation and the Prince William Sound Science Center completed their Youth Involvement contracts and met all deliverables. IEC accepted the reports at their most recent meeting. A third contract with the Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies will be reviewed for acceptance at IEC's upcoming October meeting.

IEC voted to fund two new Youth Involvement projects so far for FY2023. The Prince William Sound College will allow three students to participate in independent research projects based on environmental topics related to Prince William Sound. The Chugach Mountain Institute will engage Prince William Sound College students to provide hands-on education to Valdez grade school youth across multiple age groups using the Council's Alaska Oil Spill Lesson Bank. Both projects will be considered pilot programs and will provide a self-evaluation of project successes, challenges, and lessons learned upon completion.

- Peer Listener: IEC received the evaluation report on the Council's Peer Listener Program from the contractor, Purpose Driven Consulting, and recommended the Board accept it. This would be an action item on the agenda for later that day (under Item 4-2).

For the project's next phase in the current FY2023 budget, SAC will take over as the primary committee for the work, with Danielle Verna taking over as lead project manager. IEC is still interested in the project moving forward and will receive updates from staff as it progresses.

- Workshop: IEC held their annual workshop as a hybrid meeting in August. During the workshop, IEC updated some of their goals and objectives to better align with their mission and decided to add an evaluation component to ensure goals are being met. An updated workplan with their edits can be found on the committee website.
- Other: IEC is looking for a new committee member and welcomed recommendations.

(This concluded the Opening Comments of PWSRCAC's Technical Committees.)

INTERNAL OPENING COMMENTS -- PWSRCAC BOARD SUBCOMMITTEES

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (LAC)

Chair Dorothy Moore thanked the committee members and staff and reported that the committee had had two meetings since the May Board meeting. The committee also received updates by email and provided feedback to staff as needed.

Activities Since the Last Board Meeting:

- The committee received bi-weekly updates from the Council's state and federal legislative monitors on proposed bills and topics of interest to the Council.

State:

- Several bills being followed/supported by PWSRCAC failed to be approved by the end of the state legislative session. They will need to be reintroduced in the next session to be taken up again.
- The bills that did not pass were HB104 (which would have provided a stable funding source for the ADEC's Spill Prevention and Response (SPAR) Division

by increasing the refined fuels surcharge); SB121 (regarding PFAS); and HB54 (which would have established an Alaska Invasive Species Council).

- The bills followed by PWSRCAC that passed were SB177 (relating to microreactors) and HB322 (Alaska Marine Highway System Fund, Vessel Replacement Fund, and Alaska Higher Education Investment Fund).

Federal:

- PWSRCAC and the LAC continue to track and support the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund draft legislation proposed by Senator Dan Sullivan, by working with his staff through our legislative monitor and offering advice and recommendations.
- PWSRCAC and the LAC continue to track and offer recommendations on Western Alaska/Alternative Planning Criteria language contained in the 2022 Don Young Coast Guard Authorization Act, which ensures that Trans Alaska Pipeline System tankers operating in Prince William Sound are exempted.

LAC Priorities Going Forward:

- The committee's top state legislative priority continues to be the long-term sustainability of the ADEC's SPAR Division. LAC will continue to support legislation proposing a raise of the refined fuel surcharge in order to provide a stable funding base for the SPAR Division in the future.
- The committee will continue to monitor potential changes to ADEC's regulations and possible statute changes associated with ADEC's regulatory reform activities.

Moore concluded the report by reminding everyone that 2022 was a redistricting year and encouraged everyone to check where they are in the redrawn boundaries on the new legislative map which sets out their representation for the next 10 years.

Mako Haggerty thanked Brooke Taylor for supplying a copy of the Bradner Report. He commented that he was still learning the implications of the new ranked choice voting system that Alaska has adopted.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Treasurer Wayne Donaldson reported that the Finance Committee had met twice since the May Board meeting as follows:

- In July the committee reviewed the June 30, 2022 interim financial statements which were the final financials for FY2022. The committee met with Joy Merriner,

representing BDO, to review FY2022 audit planning, which focuses on a review of PWSRCAC expenses.

- Along with the planned audit, the committee decided to continue the additional review of expenses for travel, lobbying, and non-contractual revenue. This expanded look at travel, lobbying, and non-Alyeska fund expenditures highlights areas previously audited by Alyeska. BDO also provided training to committee members on various issues from fiduciary responsibility to cyber security issues. The committee reviewed draft guidelines for research contributions, heard information on electronic payments, received an update on implementing the SAGE Intacct accounting system, as well as a review of the conflict of interest and financial disclosure forms for the Board and staff. Finally, the committee reviewed several FY2022 budget modifications and had no concerns.
- At the September meeting, the Finance Committee received the draft audit report from BDO. BDO reported a clean audit, with no corrected misstatements. There were a few minor audit adjustments and no suspected fraud or abuse in the audited financial statements. After receiving the report, the committee has recommended the Board accept the FY2022 audit results at this meeting (Item 4-3). The agreed-upon procedures report for travel, lobbying, and non-Alyeska funds has not yet been completed, but is expected in October. The committee also approved internal guidelines for research contributions.

BOARD GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE (BGC)

Committee Chair Luke Hasenbank reported that the committee had met once since the May Board meeting and took up the following:

- After the previous BGC meeting, the committee consulted and sought the opinion of PWSRCAC's legal counsel, Joe Levesque, regarding the potential rewording of Section 6 of the Bylaws, specific to indemnification. Levesque confirmed that Section 6 mirrors the intent of the Alaska Statute and recommended no change to the language.
- There were no other outstanding bylaw edits for the Board to review at this meeting. Any outstanding and future edits will be brought to the Board during the January meeting.
- The committee discussed a work plan for the coming year, to include drafting job descriptions for Board seats and reviewing the Board Mentoring Manual that was developed in 2015.

- The committee discussed options and next steps to establish job descriptions for Board members and officer roles. These job descriptions could be used as a guidance document for new and potential Board members.
- The committee was tasked with reviewing the Board Mentorship Manual. The committee discussed best practices to support the on-boarding of new Board members and ways to foster greater engagement by Directors. Discussion will continue at the next BGC meeting. Current Board members were encouraged to contact KJ Crawford or Luke Hasenbank if they are interested in mentoring new or incoming Board members or learning more about Board mentorship in general.

(This concluded the Opening Comments of PWSRCAC's Board Subcommittees.)

EXTERNAL OPENING COMMENTS - EX OFFICIOS

ALASKA DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION (ADEC)

Allison Natcher stated she had no specific report but was available for questions.

Robert Beedle asked about the proposed decommissioning of the Alaska Land Mobile Radio (ALMAR) Repeater Stations and what would replace them.

Natcher stated that she was aware of a fact-finding email issued by SPAR Director Tiffany Larson, as well as calls made to USCG and the Department of Defense, to find out if the ALMAR stations were still being used. The information that ADEC received back was that people were not using the stations but were using other sources, such as USCG sites or cell phone sites. She pointed out that the ALMAR system's towers were old and were no longer being utilized. However, if people had information to the contrary, she encouraged them to let ADEC know.

Beedle pointed out that the ALMAR sites were originally established for use in an emergency, primarily so responders could have a secure form of communication not interrupted by operations on the VHS, cell phones, etc., and they could be used in an emergency when cell service is not available. Beedle listed off several agencies that run into communications problems during incidents. These ALMAR sites are in remote areas where there are no other forms of communication other than the ALMAR emergency system. He asked why the system was allowed to fall into disrepair. Natcher encouraged Beedle to put his concerns and comments in writing to ADEC.

Jim Herbert asked if it was just the four ALMAR sites in Prince William Sound that ADEC proposed to decommission and what the costs savings would be to remove and remediate the site. He pointed out that there was some confusion and panic among some in the maritime community when the ADEC email came out because they thought

that the high sites run by the USCG were going to be eliminated because of some co-location confusion with the ALMAR sites. Herbert stated that the USCG high sites are very important to the maritime community and PWSRCAC had advocated strongly when those sites were down, and with some congressional help PWSRCAC got some remediation action on the USCG high sites. Herbert emphasized that ADEC needed to clearly state that the ALMAR system was an independent system. He agreed with Beedle that in an emergency there needed to be extra communication capability. He cited as an example that anyone who participates in the SERVS drills knows that even on a local training exercise the VHF channels and the CB channels get garbled, and communication is probably the biggest problem with most of the exercises. So, in the case of an emergency, it is vital that ADEC at least think about what else it would use to facilitate high level communication. Herbert continued that if the four proposed sites are eliminated now it was likely the others along the TAPS line and other areas in Alaska would be eliminated in the future, and while it may offer significant cost savings now, it could have significant impacts for emergency response in the future for all users. Natcher stated that Alaska Regional Response Team had had a conversation about this same issue at its meeting the previous day, so it is something they are aware of and working through the issue.

Bob Shavelson asked about SPAR funding levels, noting that the SPAR Prevention Account would go into the red next year. Natcher was unable to give an update at that time. She said she was told the situation was in flux and pending, but she would get additional information and report back. Shavelson noted that PWSRCAC had supported the proposed increase in the refined fuels surcharge during the 2022 legislative session but the draft bill went nowhere. He pointed out that the oil companies were making huge profits and, speaking only for himself, said he would like to see a small increase in the refined fuels surcharge to ensure adequate funding of safe transportation of oil and oversight in Alaska. He said he looked forward to hearing from Natcher as to how ADEC/SPAR planned to deal with the shortfall in funding in 2023.

Wayne Donaldson asked Natcher for an update on ADEC's review of Article 4 oil spill response regulations. Natcher reported that it was currently under legal review and out of ADEC's hands. Once the legal review is complete, it will be sent back to ADEC, corrections will be made, and then on to the Governor for signature. In response to a follow-up question regarding a paper trail of changes and a presentation of the changes to PWSRCAC, Natcher stated that there will be a matrix of changes and that she would make a request that those changes be presented to PWSRCAC and why they were made.

On staffing levels, Natcher reported that ADEC had recently hired Sonja Mishmash and she is located in the Valdez office, making four ADEC personnel in the Valdez office. She reported that recruitment is ongoing and they were working on retention measures.

Robert Archibald asked for a status update on the tank vent vapor discharge. Natcher noted that that type of discharge falls under the Air Quality Division and not SPAR, but she would inquire and report back.

Break: 9:49 a.m. – 9:59 a.m.

ALASKA DEPT. OF FISH AND GAME (ADF&G)

Lee McKinley, the ADF&G liaison to the Joint Pipeline Office, had no specific report but was there to gather information and answer questions the Board might have.

U.S. FOREST SERVICE (USFS)

(No report.)

OIL SPILL RECOVERY INSTITUTE (OSRI)

(No report.)

ALASKA DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES (ADNR)

Katie Farley reported for the State Pipeline Coordinator's Section of ADNR's Division of Oil & Gas in the absence of Tony Strupulis. ADNR deals with land use and water use issues along the TAPS pipeline Right of Way. She had no specific comments but was available for questions during the meeting.

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA)

(No report.)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR (DOI)

(No report.)

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD (USCG)

CDR Drayer reported on the following since the May Board meeting:

- He reported a relatively uneventful summer. Annual staff rotations were completed and new personnel were getting up to speed.
- The Prince William Sound Area Committee meeting was scheduled for October 13, which will be the day after the VMT exercise, so the meeting will be in person in Valdez.
- The comment period for the Prince William Sound Area Contingency Plan has been completed. The review by ADEC has been completed and the comments are being adjudicated. ADEC was working to finalize that plan.

- All the radars are up and running except one of the two at Potato Point. Once a cable has been replaced, that one should also be up and running.
- Over the summer the USCG recapitalized the microwave relay and completed other maintenance issues for the Rescue 21 system.
- He was currently monitoring the legislation in the U.S. Senate and House on the Coast Guard Authorization Act and was waiting to see what the final version will look like, as it could have impacts for Alaska.
- He was waiting to see what the final version of the Alternative Planning Criteria language in the Coast Guard Authorization Act holds as the Senate and House versions are quite different.

Robert Beedle asked about the repairs and maintenance completed on the radar system and the VHF systems.

CDR Drayer stated that the work done this summer was to recapitalize the microwave transmittal system under the Rescue 21 program contract. Where needed, a new transmitter/antenna was installed, realigned, and updated. It is an improvement going forward. As to the VHF system, Sector Anchorage and Sector Southeast (Juneau), as well as District 17, monitor all search and rescue mayday transmissions and the Rescue 21 high sites. Drayer stated that as far as he was aware the VHF system was working. Beedle disagreed with that assessment and stated that when he called on his VHF in Prince William Sound, he received a message that the VHF was not working and was told to call on his cell phone. Drayer assured Beedle that he would take it up with Sector Anchorage.

Jim Herbert asked if there had been any near-miss interactions with tankers in the Narrows or Port Valdez during the summer. CDR Drayer stated that no reports of such had come into his office.

In response to another question from Herbert about the Council's concerns with the Copper River Flats and the need to have the area included in the geographic response strategies (GRS) for that area, Drayer responded that he was made aware of the concerns after the Council's May meeting and the question now is how USCG will fit that in with the zones, but he agreed it will be part of the greater review and that it needed to be dealt with.

Herbert also asked Drayer about a possible timeline for an upgrade of the Vessel Traffic System (VTS) in Prince William Sound (and nationwide) and whether there was anything specified in the draft versions of the USCG Authorization Act that were before the House and Senate. Drayer stated that there was nothing specified in either version of the Act and that the VTS was still conducting its study and what will best fit.

President Archibald assured CDR Drayer that PWSRCAC wanted to be proactive in its support of USCG and asked CDR Drayer to reach out to the organization if the Council could be of help.

NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA)

(No report.)

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT (BLM)

Reid Olson reported that since the Board's May meeting BLM has attended the tabletop exercise on August 11 and continued to track all the exercises completed; attended oil spill exercise planning meetings; and attended the VMT coordination group meetings, as well as reviewed all VMT exercise quarterly reports. The office plans to attend the October 11 and 12 oil spill exercises at the VMT and also plans to attend the Prince William Sound Area Committee meeting on October 10.

In response to a question from Jim Herbert for an update on Native Hire compliance, Olson reported an overall compliance of 23.6% Native Hire for Alyeska as a whole, which is above the requirement of 20%. BLM's Eileen Oliver added that Alyeska no longer breaks down the compliance numbers by location or contractor.

Mako Haggerty asked the status of unfilled positions along the pipeline and particularly in the VMT. Olson reported that it was his understanding that there was one unfilled BLM position in the JPO in Valdez and there is no intention of filling it anytime soon.

Archibald asked about any change in priorities in oil spill response capabilities that his office was working on at the JPO since the Council's May meeting. Olson stated that BLM works with ADEC on their annual approvals and otherwise leaves it up to the c-plan to cover compliance. He stated that there is one permanent BLM employee in Valdez at the present time but other personnel can be brought in from other offices, such as Fairbanks and Anchorage, when needed.

ALASKA DEPT. OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (ADHSEM)

(No report.)

(This concluded the External Opening Comments of PWSRCAC's Ex Officio Members)

EXTERNAL COMMENTS – TAPS SHIPPERS, OWNER COMPANIES, AND PILOTS

CROWLEY ALASKA TANKERS (CAT)

Angelina Fuschetto conveyed apologies from Paul Manzi for missing this meeting. She reported that year-to-date Crowley Alaska Tankers had moved over 18.6 million barrels of oil out of Valdez without a single spill for which she gave kudos to the Crowley

crews who had faced many challenges in the past couple of years and were still facing challenges.

She reported that Crowley's 2022 shipper's exercise was very successful and they were able to conduct a simultaneous deployment to achieve their condition of approval of their c-plan. They were also able to do a live stream with drones (which was requested by ADEC) and that went well.

She reported that Crowley had recently conducted UWILD inspections (under water inspections in lieu of drydock) on both the California and the Washington tankers, and they also completed their CAIP surveys (Critical Area Inspection Plan surveys) as well as some interesting logistics with the firefighting systems, moving bottles for testing, etc., but all went well. All ballast water treatment systems (BWTS) have been installed on Crowley ships and they are in use.

In response to a question from Mako Haggerty about supply chain issues for parts and repairs, Fuschetto stated that Crowley was going as fast as it could, with only a few delays on some things, but nothing critical. They keep an adequate supply of spare parts on board for most repairs.

POLAR TANKERS

Andrea West reported that as of September 1 Polar Tankers had completed 55 loads carrying 45.3 million barrels without incident. Polar currently has three ships with fully commissioned BWTS working (the Enterprise, the Adventure, and the Resolution). The Endeavour was in the process of returning from its shipyard in Singapore and is in the process of commissioning its BWTS. The Discovery will have its BWTS installed during its shipyard time in the third quarter of 2023.

West reported that during the past two weeks Polar Tankers had conducted its fall Bridge Resource Management Training courses at AVTEC and they were going very well. Polar had also just completed a Puget Sound tug exercise on September 19 (which it does every few years) and the tugs are able to do similar exercises to those they do in Prince William Sound. Polar was able to test its self-recovery time and execute some of those exercises.

Jim Herbert stated that he had talked to staff at AVTEC and they were very impressed with the quality of Polar Tankers' personnel and the nature of the interactions and the kind of feedback Polar wanted from them.

ALASKA TANKER COMPANY (ATC)

Chris Merten reported that Alaska Tanker Company (ATC) had had a safe and successful year to date, completing 41 voyages carrying 44.9 million barrels since May, all for Hilcorp. All three vessels were in operation right now.

Since the May meeting, the Alaskan Explorer transited to Korea to carry out her intermediate survey and drydocking. Merten reported that ATC also performed inspections on its other vessels looking for fractures similar to the one he reported on the Alaska Legend at the last Board meeting, but they did not find any more issues.

He reported that all three ATC ships have had their BWTS installed and they are working well. Sometimes the rates are slowed in certain ports but there were no major issues.

MARATHON PETROLEUM COMPANY

(No report.)

SOUTHWEST ALASKA PILOTS ASSOCIATION (SWAPA)

Capt. Ian Maury reported that he was now the president of the association. He also reported that there had been one retirement this spring/summer and was replaced with one new deputy. He reported that the group is maintaining 18 pilots but is down one in Valdez because it takes three years for a deputy to become Valdez qualified.

For the most part the tanker vs. fishing vessel interactions were few, with just two separate minor incidents where a tanker captain had to slow down for a fishing vessel. This was probably not reported to USCG but the SERVS tug did get the names involved. The 48-hour fishing opener in Whittier is always of concern to SWAPA because it means that for many of the one-man crewed fishing boats they are sleeping on their nets, with their nets out, for the duration of the opener. Maury said the pilots give the fishing vessels as wide a berth as possible and have not had any incidents this summer, but it has happened in the past. On this issue, Robert Beedle suggested to Maury that SWAPA involve the Cordova District Fishermen United in a discussion of the opener issues in Whittier. He said he would be happy to be included and help disseminate information to the fishing fleets.

HILCORP

Rob Kinnear reported that Hilcorp had utilized only one foreign flagged ship year-to-date (as reported at the May meeting) and had expected one more this year, but they managed to get through the Explorer's out-of-service period sufficiently without another. The company did not anticipate the need for any additional foreign flagged charters this year, with all three ships back in service and the demand from the West Coast remaining strong.

(This concluded the External Opening Comments of TAPS Shippers, Owner Companies, and Pilots.)

Break: 10:54 a.m. - 11:04 a.m.

ALYESKA/SERVS ACTIVITY REPORT

Alyeska's Emergency Preparedness & Response Director, Andres Morales, prefaced his report by commending the PWSRCAC organization for running a professional meeting and investing the time to ensure that all the technology for a hybrid (in-person/virtual) meeting works. He went on to deliver the Alyeska/SERVS activity report for the second quarter 2022.

VMT Operations:

- Operations: *(As of 8/31/2022)*

	<u>YTD 2022</u>
○ Tankers Loaded	140
○ Tankers Escorted	145
○ Barrels Loaded	110,823,365
<u>Since start up</u>	
○ Tankers Loaded	23,216
○ Tankers Escorted	14,547
○ Barrels Loaded	17,732,574,685

- Safety: *(As of 8/31/2022)*

○ Days away from work cases	2
○ TAPS Combined Recordable Rate %	0.74

- Environment (Valdez): *(As of 8/31/2022)*

○ Spill Volume (Gallons)	7.8
○ Number of Spills	6

Fishing Vessel Availability by Port (end of 2Q 2022):

<u>Port</u>	<u>Tier 1</u>	<u>Tier 2</u>
Valdez	20	21
Cordova	27 (7 Rapid Resp.)	122
Whittier	11	20
Seward		24
Homer		60
Kodiak		<u>29</u>
Totals	65	276

VMT C-Plan Condition of Approval #2C:

- Tabletop to clean tank cell.
- Conducted workshop 8/11/2022.
- 27 personnel from Alyeska, ADEC, BLM, USCG, and PWSRCAC attended.

- The following areas were highlighted during the presentation:
 1. VMT Operations
 2. VMT Safety
 3. Recovery Operations
 4. Soil Removal Operations
 5. Remediation
- Alyeska received the evaluations from ADEC, BLM, and PWSRCAC.
- Next step – submit the After-Action Report to ADEC.

2022 Contingency Plan Activities:

- VMT Contingency Plan Minor Amendment 2022-1:
 - Submit by 4Q 2022.

2022 VMT/PWS Upcoming Training & Exercises:

- Fall Fishing Vessel Training in Cordova 9/20 – 28.
- VMT IMT Exercise with Equipment Deployment 10/11 – 12.
- Wildlife Training in Valdez 10/17 – 19.
- Wildlife Training in Cordova 10/20 – 21.

Also:

- PWS Traveling Health Fair 10/3 – 8.

2022 Valdez Projects:

- Replace sulfuric acid tank with HDPE tank.
- Tank 94 Internal API 653 Inspection.
- West BTT – Repair and Coat.
- Tanks 2 and 7 – Internal API 653 Inspection.
- B Header Ballast System Inspection.
- Relief Systems to Tanks 1 and 3 Inspection.
- ECO Escort Tug Commander – Dry Dock.
- OSRB 5 (Mineral Creek) Construction.

New Scope/Concerns:

- Tank Vent Damage.
- Tank 2 Bottom.

Morales answered questions at the conclusion of his report. He commented that Alyeska is concerned about the recordable injury rate TAPS-wide and the safety pyramid. The recordable incident in Valdez was a slip and fall on ice. Alyeska is working on awareness and a better solution to ice accumulation so these incidents may be avoided.

As to the spill volume of 7.8 gallons, Morales reported that it is a higher number than Alyeska is used to and was mostly attributable to two events: the sensor in the East Tank

Farm that was damaged by snowfall which broke off a pressure sensor (5 gals); and 1.5 gallons of residual hydraulic fuel that leaked out of a tank.

As to the Tank 2 bottom issue, when the paint was removed Alyeska found water seeping into the tank. It was sampled and tested. There was no indication that oil went below the tank bottom. The analysis was not back yet on how it happened. This will come up in the TOEM Committee and as soon as the analysis is available it will be shared with PWSRCAC. (Later, Project Manager Austin Love reminded the Board that PWSRCAC has a project looking at the maintenance of Tank 2, so there is already focus within the TOEM Committee on Tank 2.)

Herbert asked if it is a compromise to have the fishing vessel training spread out between spring and fall. Morales stated that it is working out better because it better accommodates some of the volunteers' schedules and is a much better balance both for Alyeska and the participants. It also allows SERVS to incorporate other exercises.

Herbert asked about the number and types of fishing vessels that SERVS wants in the program. Morales stated that SERVS still has the number of boats it would like to have in the program, but that number ebbs and flows. SERVS is comfortable with the current status. He said his biggest concern is the turnover of fishing vessel crew, through retirements and people leaving the program for various reasons, but he is comfortable with the present status. He commented that one of the advantages of doing the fishing vessel training twice a year was being able to adjust the training to fit the participants.

Robert Beedle brought up issues he felt could be improved upon with the new HAZWOPER and fishing vessel training format and suggested a meeting to discuss the improvements he felt could be made.

Bob Shavelson asked if Alyeska had implemented a mindfulness program, such as that undertaken by Alaska Tanker Company under Anil Mathur's leadership a few years ago. Morales stated that a lot of Alyeska personnel were doing mindfulness and emotional awareness training in 2018-19, until COVID-19 slowed it down, and then there was a turnover of personnel. It has been rolled out again, shared, and included in the leadership basics training at Alyeska as well.

Amanda Bauer pointed out that a SERVS representative used to attend the Council's Board meetings, but Edison Chouest Offshore (ECO) had not attended a PWSRCAC meeting since the beginning of their contract. She asked if Morales felt ECO needed an invitation to attend the Council's Board meetings. Morales commented that ECO has a different corporate culture and they have less of a presence in public forums, preferring instead face-to-face meetings in small groups, but it may be worth reaching out to them.

Lunch Break: 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

For the Good of the Order

The next item on the agenda -- Item 4-3 FY2022 Audit Acceptance -- was deferred temporarily to accommodate the presenter's schedule. The Consent Agenda and presentation of Item 4-4 Line Throwing Trial Summary Video were moved ahead of Item 4-3 on the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda consisted of three items (3-1, 3-2, 3-3).

Amanda Bauer **pulled Item 3-3 – Approval of FY2023 Budget Modifications** pending approval of the FY2022 Audit Acceptance (Item 4-3). Item **3-3 was placed under Item K – Consideration of Consent Agenda Items for the following day.**

Amanda Bauer **moved to approve the consent agenda, with the exception of Item 3-3** as follows:

- **3-1 CONTRACT APPROVAL: MISCOMMUNICATION IN MARITIME CONTEXTS**
Authorization of a sole source contract with Dr. Zeigler through Sky Island Language Learning Research in an amount not to exceed \$55,000 for Project 8520 – Miscommunication in Maritime Contexts.
- **3-2 CONTRACT APPROVAL: ADF&G SUBSISTENCE HARVEST SURVEYS**
Authorization of a sole source contract with Alaska Department of Fish and Game for the project Comprehensive Update of Subsistence Harvest and Uses in Prince William Sound, in an amount not to exceed \$49,750.

Angela Totemoff **seconded** and the **motion passed** without objection.

4-4 LINE THROWING TRIAL SUMMARY VIDEO

The Council previously sponsored a study by Glosten exploring the best available technology used to pass messenger lines to disabled vessels. The project outcomes were well received and a follow-on project was completed that evaluated the effectiveness of the line throwing devices identified in the original study through field trials. A descriptive video of the field trials was produced that allows the project's results to be shared and furthers PWSRCAC's goal of sharing research information with a wider audience.

Following the showing of the video, the Board was asked to accept it as meeting the terms and conditions of the contract with OnPoint Outreach and allow its distribution to the public.

Amanda Bauer **moved to accept** the line throwing trial summary video produced by OnPoint Outreach as meeting the terms and conditions of Contract 8012.22.03 and allow the video to be distributed to the public. Angela Totemoff **seconded** and the **motion passed** without objection.

4-3 FY2022 AUDIT ACCEPTANCE

Joy Merriner, audit partner with the Council's independent auditor, BDO, LLP, presented the June 30, 2022 audited financial statements and report and was available to answer questions. She had previously reviewed the financial statements and audit reports (included in the meeting notebook under Item 4-3) with the Finance Committee. She reported a clean audit and an unmodified opinion. She commended the Council's excellent financial and management team in the transition of staff. The Board was asked to accept the June 30, 2022 audited financial statements and audit report.

Amanda Bauer **moved to accept** the June 30, 2022 audited financial statements and audit report. Mako Haggerty **seconded** and the **motion passed** without objection.

4-1 REPORT ACCEPTANCE: EVALUATION REPORT TANK 8 FLOOR & CATHODIC PROTECTION SYSTEM DESIGN REVIEW

Project Manager Austin Love gave a brief overview of this project that looked at whether Alyeska's design of Tank 8's new floor and cathodic protection system is aligned with industry best practices. Bill Mott of Taku Engineering, the Council's contractor on the project, gave a more detailed background on the issues surrounding Tank 8's inspection and Alyeska's subsequent repairs to its floor which allow it to be operated until at least 2023, when Alyeska plans to replace the floor and install a new cathodic protection system underneath it. Mott also described several recommendations to improve the design of Tank 8's new cathodic protection system, which were included in the report up for Board acceptance.

A previous report by Taku Engineering ("Crude Oil Storage Tank 8 Maintenance Review") was forwarded to Alyeska with a request for appropriate action on the report's recommendations. Alyeska had not responded to the recommendations in that report despite commitments that it would do so by the winter of 2021/2022. Council staff continue to work with Alyeska staff to obtain a response to the recommendations from Taku Engineering's April 2021 report.

The report before the Board at this time was Taku Engineering's review of Tank 8's new floor and cathodic protection system design. The Board was asked to accept this report titled "Crude Oil Storage Tank 8 Floor and Cathodic Protection System Design Review" as meeting the terms of the contract, directing staff to forward the report to Alyeska and state and federal regulators, and asking each entity for appropriate action and a complete response to the Council.

A briefing sheet and a copy of the report were included in the meeting notebook as Item 4-1.

Amanda Bauer **moved to accept** the report titled “Crude Oil Storage Tank 8 Floor and Cathodic Protection System Design Review” by William Mott of Taku Engineering, dated June 2022, as meeting the terms and conditions of the Contract 5056.22.01, and with direction to staff to forward the report to Alyeska and state and federal regulators accompanied by a cover letter summarizing the findings and recommendations with requests for appropriate action and a complete response. Mako Haggerty **seconded** and the **motion passed** without objection.

Break: 2:12 p.m. – 2:22 p.m.

4-2 REPORT ACCEPTANCE: EVALUATION REPORT OF PEER LISTENER PROGRAM

This agenda item requested Board acceptance of an evaluation report of the Council’s Peer Listener Program. The purpose of the project was to review and assess PWSRCAC’s Peer Listener Training Program and similar programs nationwide that promote peer-to-peer community support.

Project Manager Danielle Verna briefly reviewed the history of the program and introduced Bianca Vasquez, Meghan Sobocienski, and Maureen Okasinski of Purpose Driven Consulting who summarized this evaluation project.

A briefing sheet and the report were included in the meeting notebook at Item 4-2.

Amanda Bauer **moved to accept** the report titled “Evaluation Report Peer Listener Program” by Purpose Driven Consulting dated August 2, 2022, as meeting the terms and conditions of Contract 6560.22.01 and for distribution to the public. Michael Vigil **seconded** and the **motion passed** without objection.

Break: 3:03 p.m. - 3:13 p.m.

For the Good of the Order

President Archibald acknowledged that the Council’s former Director of Administration Walt Wrede was in attendance. Archibald pointed out that Wrede retired from the organization during the pandemic and the Council had been unable to fully thank him or show its appreciation in person for his work. Archibald led the room in a round of applause in appreciation of Wrede’s contributions to PWSRCAC.

DISCUSSIONS WITH SEN. GARY STEVENS AND REP. LOUISE STUTES

President Archibald introduced Alaska legislators Sen. Gary Stevens and Rep. Louise Stutes who engaged in an open dialogue on various topics of interest to PWSRCAC. (Seward is now their district under the new redistricting map.)

Sen. Gary Stevens acknowledged PWSRCAC's concerns for the SPAR Division's budget and the inability to pass an increase in the refined fuels surcharge during the past session. He suggested that the House/Senate Finance Committee should simply put the one million dollar shortfall into the budget for SPAR. Sen. Stevens said the Governor would be less likely to veto that than he would a bill with a tax component in it. He pointed out that same bill could be reintroduced next session but it would likely meet the same veto by the Governor because he has guaranteed that there would be no new tax on his watch. Rep. Stutes pointed out that there would be a supplemental budget coming up in January and that would be a perfect place and time to add these funds for SPAR. She said it "scared" her not to have the response funds available and have an unforeseen accident happen to a tanker carrying oil through Alaska waters.

Rep. Stutes stated she was also disappointed with the demise of HB54 - the Invasive Species Bill - which passed in the House with bi-partisan support, but the Senate just did not get to it by the end of the session. She emphasized that invasive species really needed to be addressed, and if not addressed now then there would be trouble in the future on a lot of fronts for Alaska. She expected that bill to come back next session.

Rep. Stutes commented on the importance of the Alaska Marine Highway system to the state and she was delighted to see the shipyard in Seward up and running, sustainable and as efficient as it seemed to be. With all the capacity that Seward has available, she would like to see some of the shipyard work that is undertaken in Southeast Alaska shared with Seward.

President Archibald emphasized to Stevens and Stutes the utmost importance of ADEC to Alaska-statewide for any kind of cleanup of hazardous releases, and specifically to PWSRCAC with regard to Prince William Sound and the safe transportation of oil. It is totally incumbent upon the Council to see the SPAR Division stay solvent and that it has the expertise to do its mandated job competently. Rep. Stutes added that it is incumbent upon everyone to educate legislators about the far-reaching impacts of hazardous releases and contaminations in the state.

Jim Herbert asked about the Governor's goal to take over state compliance of the Clean Water Act and the proposal to add 20 additional personnel to ADEC to do that. ADEC's Allison Natcher said she did not know the status of that proposal at that time. Rep. Stutes commented that the funding for this proposal passed the Legislature but it was a very close vote. It was her understanding the state would have to make a proposal to the federal government (which would likely take at least two years) and that would be the time for the Legislature to make a change to the decision.

Robert Beedle pointed out that the purpose of the proposed increase in the refined fuels surcharge was to give SPAR a stable funding mechanism going forward, rather than an annual dip into the general fund for its budget. He pointed out that PFAS was

going to be a big issue and ADEC's plate will be full. The refined fuels surcharge increase was a mechanism to keep the agency financially whole and able to do its job on all fronts. Stevens agreed that in the long term PWSRCAC had the right answer - to create a stable funding source - but at the same time it could not ignore the Governor's pledge to veto even a small tax increase. The situation is how to make something work for SPAR now. A bill with a tax in it was going to be vetoed. His strong suggestion was to put it directly into the budget.

Rep. Stutes stated it was imperative not to drop the ball on this SPAR funding issue.

Dorothy Moore thanked Sen. Stevens and Rep. Stutes for coming to talk to the Council and for their suggestions.

Executive Director Schantz pointed out the significant reductions in staff that have occurred at SPAR over the last several years which have left the division barely able to perform its statutory requirements, and even with an infusion of a million dollars it will only stop further reductions in staff while they are already running the division on empty. This is a big concern to PWSRCAC.

Rep. Stutes said that the legislators need information on what service is provided by PWSRCAC and what it does. She asked for a one-page information sheet to distribute to each legislator about the Council, its mission and what it does. Sen. Stevens said that the Council needed to emphasize and remind people that disasters occur, and the state needs to be ready to deal with them.

4-5 UPDATE ON VALDEZ MARINE TERMINAL TANK VENT DAMAGE MONITORING

Project Manager Austin Love with Bill Mott of Taku Engineering and Klint VanWingerden of Alyeska updated the Board on the pressure/vacuum/vent (PVV) tank vent damage at the Valdez Marine Terminal's (VMT) East Tank Farm.

Love gave an overview of the Council's efforts to monitor the substantial tank vent damage that occurred at the VMT in late February and March 2022, and the subsequent work that Alyeska and state and federal regulators engaged in to investigate, repair, and prevent a recurrence of such an event. Bill Mott summarized the findings and initial recommendations from a technical memorandum he authored and shared with the TOEM Committee, dated September 9, 2022, regarding his analysis of oxygen concentrations within the storage tanks when Alyeska was working to mitigate the damaged PVVs this past February and March. Klint VanWingerden provided information on Alyeska's efforts to deal with the damage, the mitigation measures, and the repairs. A briefing sheet was included in the meeting notebook as Item 4-5.

Mott's initial recommendations were that:

- Installation of more oxygen monitoring locations were needed.

- Alyeska should work closely and openly with the Council to better model the vapor system.
- Alyeska should conduct an open “lessons learned” assessment, including PWSRCAC’s participation.

Going forward, Love stated that PWSRCAC would continue to monitor the PVV repairs, as well as Alyeska’s progress on the prevention measures, such as snow diverters; it will continue to monitor Alyeska’s response and efforts to keep people safe on the tanks while mitigating the conditions; and will continue to monitor the federal and state investigations. PWSRCAC, through the TOEM Committee, will also work on efforts to improve the oxygen concentration analysis. He reported that PWSRCAC staff had been working closely and openly with Alyeska and VanWingerden’s team to help PWSRCAC staff understand the systems, so that the initial recommendations Bill Mott outlined in his memorandum could be addressed by the people who were most knowledgeable about the relevant VMT systems. Love said he was pleased with those discussions and that more discussions with Alyeska would be needed to better understand each other’s points of view.

Klint VanWingerden emphasized that the “common ground” everyone was working towards was ultimately an outcome that ensures the safety of their people working, the process, and the environment, whether they validate risks with additional telemetry or concentration analysis, or they assume a worst-case situation of an explosive atmosphere in the tank and they manage it as such.

VanWingerden went on to outline in depth the repairs that had to be made to the nozzles/PVVs, addressing the leaking vents first and cognizant that personal safety was Alyeska’s highest priority. He acknowledged that the repairs would take time, but they have finally hit a stride and are pushing hard to get things in place before the snow falls. Alyeska will have contingencies in place in case the weather gets ahead of them.

The status of repairs as of September 21 were: 68 PVVs identified as needing repair (not including Tank 2 which will be addressed separately under its own project and under its API 653 inspection). The total repairs completed as of that date were 37 (54% complete); six nozzles on Tank 10 were straightened the previous day; and maintenance personnel were on Tank 9 that day to straighten five nozzles identified as needing repair. The goal was to complete the repairs on Tanks 9 and 10 by the end of the weekend, which would bring the total repair status to 71%.

On the prevention side, VanWingerden stated Alyeska is shoring up snow removal plans and procedures so they better support snow removal activities going forward. Alyeska has identified additional baseline and on-call resources that will be maintained so they can more readily respond to snow removal as needed. Also, Alyeska has identified additional contingency equipment, which is being acquired if not already in place.

Alyeska is also working on some emergency contingency procedures that will expedite tank top snow removal to better protect the vents and nozzles by getting to them quicker. He hoped to have those procedures in place before this winter.

On the engineering control side, VanWingerden stated that engineering is evaluating potential protections for PVVs from snow and ice. They are also working on more efficient tank top snow management. Alyeska recognizes that BAT is constantly evolving and so the engineers have been tasked with canvassing the industry in the coming months to look for other solutions that might be applicable to TAPS.

Bill Mott added that he was pleased with the repairs Alyeska had completed so far; the solutions were innovative and the repair crews had worked well with engineering staff.

An open discussion with the Board followed with Board members asking questions specific to how the repairs were made and the procedures and processes undertaken to effect those repairs.

In response to a question by Wayne Donaldson about how the PVV damage and repair has impacted Alyeska's planned maintenance projects for 2022, VanWingerden stated that it certainly had affected the prioritization of some planned maintenance projects, with a cascading effect on other maintenance and repairs projects. He noted that it is a constant effort to make sure that the highest priorities are worked first.

In response to a question from President Archibald about augmenting the oxygen detection system (as recommended by Bill Mott), VanWingerden stated that Alyeska was looking at that issue now.

Recess:

The meeting recessed at approximately 5:10 p.m. to reconvene the following day.

Friday, September 23, 2022

CALL BACK TO ORDER

President Archibald called the meeting back to order at 8:30 a.m. on September 23, 2022. A roll call was taken. There were 17 Directors present at the time of the call back to order (Archibald, Bauer, Beedle, Bender, Crump, Cutrell, Donaldson, Haggerty, Hasenbank, Jackson, Malchoff, Moore, Shavelson, Totemoff, Vigil, Williams, and Zinck).

DISCUSSIONS WITH BETSY HAINES, INTERIM ALYESKA PRESIDENT

Interim Alyeska President Betsy Haines introduced herself to the Council. She has committed to Alyeska's owners to serve in the interim position until at least the end of 2022, and possibly into the first quarter 2023, until they find a permanent replacement. She recapped the status of the Alyeska organization as she found it when she took over

in this interim capacity. She pledged to Executive Director Donna Schantz that she would look back at items and information requests that were outstanding between Alyeska and PWSRCAC.

4-6 REPORT ACCEPTANCE & UPDATE TO COUNCIL'S DISPERSANT USE POSITION

Project Manager Danielle Verna, along with Elise DeCola of Nuka Research & Planning Group, LLC, gave an overview of the proposed update to the Council's position statement on the use of dispersants.

A briefing sheet, a summary of the Board's workshops that were held between March and June 2022, and the draft of the updated position statement were included in the meeting notebook as Item 4-6.

The Board undertook a general discussion of the draft updated position. Several wordsmithing revisions were suggested and discussed, some of which were withdrawn without action by the Board.

Bob Shavelson stated that there is an unproven assumption that oil on the surface is worse than oil in the water column. He suggested that that statement be added as a standalone subparagraph.

Shavelson **moved to add** a new section 2 to read: *There is an unproven assumption that oil on the surface is worse than oil in the water column*" and to renumber the following paragraph sections accordingly. Mako Haggerty **seconded**. Discussion continued.

Dorothy Moore **moved to amend the motion** to add the language suggested by Shavelson as a subparagraph (d) under the existing paragraph 2. Robert Beedle **seconded**. The **amendment passed** without objection.

Executive Director Schantz pointed out that once the wording of the position statement was finalized, there would be a companion report developed that will link each of the items in the position statement to peer reviewed science and provide more detail.

Shavelson suggested striking "Alaska North Slope" from the preamble and "ANS" from Section 2(a). After a brief discussion of the uncertainty of whether the remaining fact statement under Section 2(a) would be accurate, Shavelson withdrew his suggestion.

Jim Herbert asked for guidance from the Alaska Native members of the Board as to whether the wording of paragraph 4(d)(i) accurately described Alaska's Native communities in the document. Discussion followed. After various suggestions and input from Directors Michael Vigil, Angela Totemoff, and Melvin Malchoff, Amanda Bauer **moved to change paragraph 4(d)(i) to read:**

- i. *Alaska Native Tribes and rural community members in the EVOS region ...*

Michael Vigil **seconded** and the **motion passed**.

Shavelson **moved to amend** Section 4(a) and 4(b) by adding the words “and the oil spill affected region” after the word “PWS.” Dorothy Moore **seconded**, and the **motion passed** without objection. [Recorder’s note: For clarity and consistency throughout the position statement, the phrase “PWS and the [EVOS/oil spill] affected region” was updated where reference to PWS was made.]

Mako Haggerty stated that he was adamantly opposed to dispersants and he thanked everyone for working on this updated position statement.

Amanda Bauer **moved**:

- A. To accept the report titled “Summary of Board of Directors Workshops and Draft Evidence-based Updated Position” **as amended at this Board meeting**, by Elise DeCola of Nuka Research, dated July 26, 2022, as meeting the terms and conditions of contract number 9550.22.01, and for distribution to the public; and
 B. To adopt the Dispersant Use Position dated July 26, 2022, as presented and **amended at this meeting**.

Mako Haggerty **seconded**. A **roll call vote** was taken.

Robert Archibald	Yes.
Amanda Bauer	Yes.
Robert Beedle	Yes.
Mike Bender	Yes.
Nick Crump	Yes.
Ben Cutrell	Yes.
Wayne Donaldson	Yes.
Mako Haggerty	Yes.
Luke Hasenbank	Yes.
Elijah Jackson	Yes.
Melvin Malchoff	Yes.
Dorothy Moore	Yes.
Bob Shavelson	Yes.
Angela Totemoff	Yes.
Michael Vigil	Yes.
Aimee Williams	Yes.
Kirk Zinck	Yes.

The **motion passed** unanimously.

Wayne Donaldson asked that a definition of EVOS/oil spill affected region be included in the companion supporting report. He commended those who worked on the updated statement. He pointed out that while the decisionmakers have plenty of checklists to use, they have neither studied dispersants nor their effectiveness in Alaska waters, and this document lays out a very good rationale for the Council's position on dispersants which was lacking in the previous statement of position.

4-7 REPORT ACCEPTANCE: OUT-OF-REGION OIL SPILL RESPONSE EQUIPMENT SURVEY

Project Manager Jeremy Robida introduced a whitepaper for Board acceptance titled "Out-of-Region Oil Spill Response Equipment Survey," compiled by Nuka Research and Planning Group, LLC, with support from Nielson, Koch and Grannis PLLC. This whitepaper sought to analyze if the out-of-region (OOR) equipment was readily available, identify the sources of these resources to meet the State of Alaska's response planning standards for oil spills, and focused on the feasibility of outfitting 14 Nearshore Task Forces (NSTFs) with boom, skimmers, and primary storage devices.

A briefing sheet and a draft of the whitepaper (originally dated June 2022 but updated in September 2022 with additional information from Marathon Oil and Cook Inlet Spill Prevention & Response, Inc.) was included in the meeting notebook as Item 4-7.

Elise DeCola of Nuka Research presented the key findings and recommendations of the survey to the Board (acknowledging that the analysis was primarily done by Nuka's Tim Robertson.)

Based on the analysis, the authors recommended several follow-up actions for PWSRCAC to consider:

- Conduct additional research into contractual relationships, access for networks, and memorandums of understandings (MOUs) with government and vendors.
- Inquire about the force of the American Petroleum Industry Co-op Managers (APICOM) and Alaska Oil Spill Removal Organization (OSRO) MOUs during future c-plan reviews.
- Request that ADEC and the Prince William Sound Shippers conduct a tabletop exercise to demonstrate the process and estimate timelines involved in resourcing 14 OOR task forces. The exercise should require that specific equipment be identified, sourced, authorized for release, and transportation arrange for each task force. The exercise should also arrange for logistical support for the 14 NSTFs including fueling and resupply.

- Conduct additional analysis to examine the personnel, vessel, and logistics support required to assemble 14 OOR NSTFs to identify any potential gaps or shortfalls.

Davin Holen inquired as to the amount of response equipment that is available in remote areas, such as the Western Alaska, and how difficult it would be to access it. He also stated that the Gulf Research Program through the National Academies (of which he is a member) had recently had gaming simulations on oil spill response. He was the only Alaskan present during those gaming simulations and he learned that they respond differently to spills in the Gulf of Mexico from those in Alaska. Holen stated that there are very different capabilities in Alaska. If the Council was interested in doing a tabletop exercise like that, he would try to facilitate one through his contacts in the National Academies.

Robert Archibald opined that a fire on board a ship could cause just as much oil to go into the water as a grounding on Bligh Reef. He reminded everyone how much equipment had been needed for the EVOS and finally brought into Prince William Sound.

Bob Shavelson **moved to accept** the Out-of-Region Oil Spill Response Equipment Survey whitepaper (updated September 2022), compiled by contractors Nuka Research and Planning Group, LLC, and Nielson, Koch and Grannis PLLC, as meeting the terms and conditions of Contract 7050.22.01, and for distribution to the public. Robert Beedle **seconded** and the **motion passed** without objection.

Break: 10:20 a.m. – 10:35 a.m.

4-8 REPORT ACCEPTANCE: GENETIC ANALYSIS OF ZOOPLANKTON

Project Manager Danielle Verna introduced this agenda item which sought Board acceptance of the final report for Project 9520 Genetic Analysis of Zooplankton titled “Variation in Zooplankton Community Composition in Prince William Sound across Space and Time” by Dr. Katrina Lohan of the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center and Dr. Jon Geller of Moss Landing Marine Laboratory, dated July 5, 2022.

As Verna explained, staff conducted extensive sampling of plankton in three locations throughout Port Valdez from April through September in 2021 with the goal of understanding how zooplankton communities varied across location and time to improve monitoring for invasive species. The authors of the report used genetic tools (metagenetics) to analyze the samples and identify potential marine invasive species. Verna thanked staff members Austin Love, Joe Lally, Jeremy Robida, and Nelli Vanderburg for their assistance with the sampling.

Verna introduced Dr. Katrina Lohan who presented the report to the Board and she acknowledged co-author Dr. Jon Geller, who was not present but worked on this project.

A briefing sheet and the report were included in the meeting notebook as Item 4-8.

Following the presentation, Jim Herbert pointed out that no invasive European green crab had yet been detected in Prince William Sound but they had been detected in Metlakatla, Alaska. Verna pointed out that NOAA Fisheries and the Metlakatla Indian Community were collecting eDNA samples to look for invasive green crab in Southeast Alaska. Once they have perfected those methods, they would probably expand their efforts to other areas of coastal Alaska.

Amanda Bauer **moved to accept** the report titled “Variation in Zooplankton Community Composition in Prince William Sound across Space and Time” by Dr. Katrina Lohan of the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center and Dr. Jon Geller of Moss Landing Marine Laboratory, dated July 5, 2022, as meeting the terms and conditions of Contract 9520.22.01, and for distribution to the public. Mike Bender **seconded** and the **motion passed** without objection.

4-9 REPORT ACCEPTANCE: MARINE BIRD WINTER SURVEYS IN PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND

Project Manager Danielle Verna introduced this agenda item which sought Board acceptance of the final report for Project 9110 titled “Marine Bird Winter Surveys in Prince William Sound” by Anne Schaefer and Dr. Mary Anne Bishop of the Prince William Sound Science Center (PWSSC).

In March 2022, staff from the PWSSC conducted surveys of marine birds in Prince William Sound, including Valdez Arm, the Valdez Narrows, and other locations. This survey was the second of three planned years for this project that began in FY2021.

Anne Schaefer, co-author of the report, summarized the survey results and recommendations for the Board in a brief presentation and acknowledged the contribution to the project of collaborator and co-author, Dr. Mary Anne Bishop, of PWSSC.

A briefing sheet and the report were included in the meeting notebook as Item 4-9.

Amanda Bauer **moved to accept** the report titled “Marine Bird Winter Surveys in Prince William Sound” by Prince William Sound Science Center dated August 5, 2022, as meeting the terms and conditions of Contract 9110.22.01, and for distribution to the public. Michael Vigil **seconded** and the **motion passed** without objection.

4-10 PWSRCAC LONG RANGE PLANNING

Director of Administration KJ Crawford briefly updated on the Board on the Long Range Planning (LRP) Committee’s activities and presented a list of proposed protected

projects for the upcoming Long Range Planning cycle, which the Board was asked to approve.

In early August, the committee was provided the list of proposed Protected Projects for FY2024, as well as the Guidance Memo & Supporting Documents. Both documents were approved by the committee.

On September 13, the LRP Committee met and elected Cathy Hart as Chair of the committee and reviewed edits to the LRP document. Crawford thanked Hart for volunteering once again for this committee and its chairmanship. She also thanked the entire LRP Committee, consisting of Board members Robert Archibald, Amanda Bauer, Elijah Jackson, and Angela Totemoff, as well as all the technical committee chairs, and staff. She reminded the committee members to submit any additional edits to the LRP documents to Nelli Vanderburg by September 30. She thanked staff members Nelli Vanderburg and Joe Lally for their guidance, assistance, and historical perspective as she continued to learn her role with the Long Range Planning process.

The Protected Projects, which consist of mandated and permanent/ongoing projects, were outlined in Attachment A to briefing sheet 4-10 in the meeting notebook. Crawford gave an overview of the scope/goal of the each of the mandated and permanent ongoing projects with the Board. She also briefly reviewed the Guidance Memo (Attachment B to 4-10) and the budget sheets for FY2024 (Attachment C to 4-10).

Angela Totemoff asked the Board to consider having the December LRP meeting in person, with a facilitator, if the budget would allow, to look at how all the projects contribute to the goals of the organization. Executive Director Schantz pointed out that there are two LRP workshops. The one in December was originally intended to be a volunteer workshop with other things including Long Range Planning. All the projects proposed for the next fiscal year are discussed at the December event time so the Board and staff can rank them. Then, in January each year, there is a workshop preceding the January Board meeting, which is a workshop to discuss the whole plan. Schantz noted that there had been previous talk of an in-person Board retreat in the past but no funding was put into the budget for that for 2022; however, there may be contingency funds that could be used. Several Board members expressed support for this proposal. On the advice of LRP Chair Cathy Hart noting that such a meeting would take some planning, the consensus was to put this issue on the agenda for the January Board meeting to allow planning for such a meeting later in 2023.

Amanda Bauer **moved to approve** the Protected Project list for the upcoming Long Range Planning process as presented in Attachment A to briefing sheet 4-10. Angela Totemoff **seconded** and the **motion passed** without objection.

President Archibald thanked Crawford for her work on this project.

Break: 12:04 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE BOARD

President Archibald reflected on his long experience in the maritime industry in Alaska and the importance of keeping systems well maintained, repaired, and parts replaced in order for an operation to continue to function profitably. If infrastructure is not well maintained it will not continue to operate and then everyone is in trouble. He reflected that the VMT was now 45 years old and requires vigorous maintenance, repair, and replacement of parts that wear out. He pointed out that everything mechanical has a life expectancy and if one lets that life expectancy get away for lack of upkeep, there will be a problem. He emphasized the importance of vigorously maintaining the VMT to ensure the safe transportation of oil into the future. He said it had been refreshing to hear the comments of Alyeska's Interim President Betsy Haines earlier in the meeting and he hoped whoever followed her as the leader of Alyeska would have her same management skills. He emphasized that it is also incumbent upon PWSRCAC to maintain its vigilance, educate itself, and continue to hire the best people in the industry to help the organization make good decisions and pass those decisions and advice along.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT TO THE BOARD

A written Executive Director's report on issues of interest to the Board was distributed ahead of the meeting. Schantz stated that most of what she had to report was already covered in this meeting, but some of the issues go far beyond the meeting.

One of the Council's mandates under OPA 90 is to be vigilant and fight complacency. Staffing levels at the state and federal oversight agencies, such as the JPO (which are approximately half of what they once were in the 1990s) and the significant cuts at SPAR in the past five to six years, are of great concern to PWSRCAC.

Another charge to the organization is to foster partnerships to promote the safe transportation of oil. This requires a delicate balance between what PWSRCAC is trying to advise without alienating those that it is trying to influence.

She pointed out the impressive amount of work and studies that come out of the organization, with staff and volunteers even writing their own whitepapers in some instances.

She asked Board members to let staff know if the electronic Board packets were not working for them. Staff will provide hard copy Board packets to any Board or committee member who requests it.

She emphasized that the organization must never lose sight of the importance and uniqueness of its work and pointing out that PWSRCAC is one of only two citizens

advisory councils that are congressionally mandated in the entire country, and therefore it was vitally important that the Council's advice and information is credible, and that it is cooperative and reasonable in its advice.

She thanked the Board for its support and the commitment of all volunteers.

FINANCIAL MANAGER'S REPORT TO THE BOARD

Financial Manager Ashlee Hamilton reported that her focus after the May meeting had been to work on the audit. Now that the audit was complete, she would move focus to the IRS Form 990 filing. She hoped to have all the information to BDO by the November 15 deadline, but PWSRCAC would still need to file for an extension so the return could be approved by the Board at its January meeting.

In addition, since May, she had been working on the transition and implementation of the new accounting software and hoped it could go live by October 1, 2022.

In the months to come she will be working on the FY2024 budget, as the LRP process begins. She will also be working with prospective vendors on outsourcing the payroll. The goal is for that to go live on January 1, 2023.

CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

3-3 APPROVAL OF FY2023 BUDGET MODIFICATIONS

Item 3-3 Approval of FY2023 Budget Modifications was pulled from the Consent Agenda pending acceptance of the FY2022 Audit report (Item 4-3). Following that acceptance, the Board was ready to take action on Item 3-3.

Amanda Bauer **moved to approve** the FY2023 budget modifications as listed on the provided [budget modifications] sheet, with a total revised contingency in the amount of \$96,469. Robert Beedle **seconded** and the **motion passed** without objection.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Directors were given the opportunity to make closing comments.

Dorothy Moore stated that she would like staff to follow up on the one-page information sheet about PWSRCAC for Alaska legislators that was suggested by Rep. Stutes in her remarks to the Council earlier in the meeting.

Angela Totemoff encouraged the ex officio representatives and Alyeska to come to the Council's meetings prepared to answer tough questions by the Board and committee members. She also suggested that the Council submit pressing or challenging questions in advance, particularly to USCG, ADEC, ADNR, BLM, and Alyeska, so they have a chance to come to the meeting prepared with information to answer those questions.

Bob Shavelson alerted everyone that the EVOS Trustee Council was proposing to eliminate the EVOS Habitat account.

Robert Archibald reminded the Board that it voted to conduct in-person meetings in masks and that it will need to vote otherwise at some point if it wants to dispense with that requirement.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Bob Shavelson moved to go into executive session to discuss the Executive Director Evaluation Review Committee Update & Way Forward. Angela Totemoff **seconded** and the **motion passed** without objection.

The Board went into executive session at approximately 1:50 p.m., discussed the mechanics of the 360 evaluation and directed staff to enter into a confidential agreement with Mike Meadors to conduct the survey. The executive session ended at approximately 2:23 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m. on a **motion made** by Robert Beedle, **seconded** by Angela Totemoff, and **passed** without objection.

Secretary