



Meeting Minutes

November 14th, 2018

5:00 PM

USDA Service Center, 432 E, Pioneer Ave Homer, AK

- A. Call to order: 5:25
- B. Roll call: Chris Rainwater, Otto Kilcher, Genarita Grobarek, Tim Alzheimer, Jim Engebresten, Devony Lehner, Pam Voller, Dorian Perrez
- C. Approval of the Agenda: Approved
- D. Approval of the Minutes: Fox River Flats: Issue over wordage of status: legal, controversial? Minutes are adjusted to show trail as being named Red Balletine Trail. Motion to approve Gena, approved
- E. Visitors: Pam Voller, Dorian Perez
 - a. NRCS Report: Pam Voller just transferred from Kenai. Dorian Perez moved up from North Carolina. NRCS is still waiting on Farm Bill.
 - b. FSA Report: Erin Sturdivant called in, RTCD approval received for the year. Unknown what the future will hold for future funding due to farm bill hold up. Farm Loan is business as usual. Elections for County Committee election coming up with our are voting between 2 candidates.
 - c. Others:
- F. Financial Report: Motion to approve Gena, Jim seconded

G. MANAGERS REPORT

- **Land Use: Trails**
 - **Watermelon Trail:** DNR has pointed out to the Snomads trail manager that since getting an easement has turned out to be so difficult on the Watermelon Trail that they could clear along the section lines without a permit, only needing a letter from DNR. A new twist to the complications on the Watermelon...
 - **Fox River Flats Trail:** ADF&G had hoped that we could get some experimental geoblock down on the Fox River Flats before winter set in so that we could see how it responds to ice and scouring. Unfortunately, lack of permit from DNR to do so has prevented our moving forward. We did assemble and deliver geoblock to the Flats, but it is presently it is in a pile by the corals.
 - **Board Comments:** *How do we keep geoblock safe since permitting is keeping experiment on hold.*
- **Water Quality**
 - **Anchor River:** Learned from ADF&G folks that they have chosen a different location for a streambank restoration workshop, so our hopes at getting volunteers for a spring project diminished. However, upon taking a tour with Fish and Wildlife folks, it was agreed that between USFW, HSWCD, ADF&G, and an experienced contractor, we could pull off a small local workshop that would focus on two little scalloped erosion locations at the Silver King Campground this spring.
 - **Board Comments:** *Coal Point fridge space possibly available for willow cuttings. Tim gathers willow cuttings late feb/early march.*

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- **Agriculture/Soil**
 - **New Specialty Crop grant:** In the planning stagespace for three producer meetings this winter to address market issues for local agriculture
 - **BLM funding:** it's getting interesting too now...they have plenty of money listed in the budget for them, but no budget. Like USF&W, they will be waiting on continuing resolutions.
 - **Board Comments:**
- **Invasive Weed Program**
 - **CNIPM Conference:** Happening in Homer now. And, wow, is it ever big. Lots to learn, lots of people to be meet. Chris to present on Thursday, then a two-hour training open to the public.
 - **Board Comments:**
 - **CWMA:** Held a meeting of local cooperating agencies in the Cooperative Weed Management Area while everyone was here for the statewide CNIPM meeting. Talked about \$17,000 from Tesoro settlement
 - **Board Comments:** *Keep board posted.*
- **Education**
 - **Ag in the Classroom:** Funding has finally been defined for our portion of a statewide indoor growing project for teachers. The funding is so low we are looking to engage volunteers from the Garden Club.
 - **Board Comments:**
- **Administration**
 - **New office space agreement:** Nothing new...we are officially just hanging out now.
 - **Devony has Access!!!!** Devony finally got a LinkPass security clearance to work on NRCS computers.
 - **Palmer NACD Funds:** Working with Jeff Smeenck to take on some of their NACD funding. They have not touched barely any of it this year, so they want it off their list of responsibilities. Since NRCS did not give us any new funds this fiscal year, this will make it so we can continue doing work for them.
 - **Kyra on vacation:** Leaving Thursday, out till December. Due to family health issues, may take off at other random times. Just FYI.
 - **Brad on vacation:** Out till mid December
 - **Board Comments:** *Tim will be gone December Meeting.*

H. Old Business

- a. Borough Ag plan: working group with representatives from borough will be arranged

I. New Business

- a. Update on AACD meeting and Resolution: update from Chris
- b. Wetlands viewer on the KPB parcel viewer: Do a little research about and bring up to Borough representatives.
- c. Alaska Food Policy Council sponsorship: Display Ag Plan? Sponsoring items for raffle.
- d. Other? Card to Jared!

Next Meeting November 14, 2018, 5pm

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