

**MINUTES OF THE
PRINCE OF WALES COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, November 29th, 2016**

LOCATION: Prince of Wales Vocational & Technical Center in Klawock

Chairman Fitzpatrick called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Coffman Cove, Craig, Hollis, Hydaburg, Hydaburg Cooperative Association, Klawock, Klawock Cooperative Association, Thorne Bay, Whale Pass Community Association, Prince of Wales Chamber of Commerce

INTRODUCTIONS:

Those present were: Misty Fitzpatrick, Prince of Wales Community Advisory Council Chairman; Jon Bolling, City of Craig; Brian Templin, City of Craig; Jim Gould, City of Thorne Bay; Tyra Huestis, Whale Pass Community Association; Lawrence Armour, Klawock Cooperative Association; Jan Bush, Past President Prince of Wales Chamber of Commerce; Karen Cleary, Prince of Wales Vocational & Technical Center/Klawock Schools; Jim McFarland, Thorne Bay; Wayne Benner, City of Thorne Bay; Jackie Duden, Coffman Cove Library VISTA; Emma Fisle, Craig Public Library VISTA; Mark Lisowski, Thorne Bay Public Library VISTA; Jim Holien, Klawock School District; Bob Andrews, Hollis; Margaret Andrews, Hollis; Jean Bland, City of Hydaburg/Hydaburg Cooperative Association; Bob Clause, Craig City School Board; John Rice, Tongass Communications;

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Bolling moved to approve the agenda as presented. Gould seconded the motion. With no opposition, the motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Gould moved to approve the September 27th meeting minutes. Bland seconded the motion. With no opposition, the motion passed.

OPEN DISCUSSION

1. Prince of Wales Landscape Assessment Team (POW LAT) Update
Bolling explained the POW LAT process and gave the group an update. Bolling encouraged the group to try and make it a priority to attend and participate in the POW LAT meetings. Bolling explained that with more participation in the meetings, the stronger the product would be and more likely that the Forest Service would be able to include it in their draft document. Bolling informed the group that more information and updates on the POWCAC website under the POW LAT link.

2. Telecommunications on Prince of Wales Island – The Alaska Plan Update
Fitzpatrick gave a brief background about The Alaska Plan, explaining that the FCC administers universal service funding, and the Alaska Plan would change how universal service funding was administered. Fitzpatrick explained that it was very complicated and hard to understand the way funding is allocated to cellular service providers unless you were educated on it. Fitzpatrick stated that Jonathon Kreiss-Tomkins had a staff member named Harry Choe who had been talking to cellular service providers, FCC and others to try and come up with an easy to understand informational document for the Prince of Wales Island residents. Fitzpatrick stated that Choe hoped to have had the document prepared in time for the meeting, but unfortunately was unable to make it happen.

Fitzpatrick suggested the group consider that POWCAC write a letter to the FCC letting them know the status of telecommunications/broadband by community, and requested the Authority allow her to post information on this topic on the POWCAC website.

Fitzpatrick also recommended that this item be tabled for the time being until she could gather more information from the office of Kreiss-Tomkins. Further discussion continued about telecommunications on the island. Bolling suggested the membership not act on this topic until hearing from the office of Kreiss-Tomkins on the documentation they plan to prepare. Fitzpatrick stated that from her understanding the reverse auctions, where the cellular service providers begin to bid on the service areas, would take place starting in January. Fitzpatrick suggested that when she received the memo from Kreiss-Tomkins, she would email it out to the membership and discuss possibly sending a letter to the FCC if there was a clear compelling reason to do so, based on the information in the document. The membership concurred with Fitzpatrick's suggestion to send a letter to the FCC if the membership agreed to do after review of Kreiss-Tomkins memo.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

No continuing business items for discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1) Appoint POWCAC Officers for 2017 Term:

- a. Chair

Fitzpatrick moved to appoint the City of Thorne Bay POWCAC representative to the POWCAC Chair position for the 2017 calendar year term. Bolling seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposition.

- b. Vice Chair

Bland moved to appoint Armour to the POWCAC vice Chair position for the 2017 calendar year term. Gould seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposition.

c. Treasurer

Fitzpatrick moved to appoint Bolling to the POWCAC treasurer position for the 2017 calendar term year. Bland seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposition.

d. Secretary

Gould moved to appoint Doucette to the POWCAC secretary position for the 2017 calendar term year. Bush seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposition.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) – Response to POWCAC Comments

Fitzpatrick stated that in July POWCAC had moved in support of all but 1 of the STIP amendments and had written a letter of support for the amendments to DOT. Fitzpatrick commented that the one amendment not supported by POWCAC was the amendment, which was part of the Neck Lake Road. Fitzpatrick continued that the change proposed in the STIP Amendment 1 had moved approximately 27 million dollars in allotted funding for FY19 to after the fiscal year end.

Fitzpatrick continued to tell the group she had received a response from DOT regarding the letter POWCAC had sent. Fitzpatrick stated the letter said that they understood that the project was important but it was in the STIP originally as an illustrative project, which meant that DOT would keep it in the STIP so that if funding became available in the future they could move forward with the project.

NEXT MEETING

January 24th, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. – St. John Catholic Church, Klawock
Lunch hosted by the POW Chamber of Commerce starting at noon.

ADJOURNMENT

Gould motioned to adjourn the meeting. Zellhuber seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.