



Solutions for the Future

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Board of Directors Regular Scheduled Board Meeting

Tuesday, August 19, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

800 Kenny Wren Road

Nushagak Cooperative Conference Room

MINUTES

Call to Order: Board President Pete Andrew called the Regular Scheduled Board of Directors Meeting to order on Tuesday, August 19, 2025, in the Nushagak Cooperative Board Room. The time was 6:01 p.m.

Directors Present: *(Quorum Established)*

Pete Andrew, President

Sue Flensburg, Director

Annie Fritze, Secretary

Mark Lisac, Director

Bruce Baltar, Director

Cade Woods, Director

Wanda Wahl, Director <Zoom 6:10>

Directors Absent: Henry Strub, Vice President

Jean Barrett, Director

Staff Present:

Will Chaney, CEO/GM

Deon Lopez, Comptroller <Zoom>

Michael Timmerman, Telecom Operations Manager

Angela Thames, Business Office Manager

Guests: None.

Approval of Agenda: Sue Flensburg motioned, and Annie Fritze seconded the motion to approve the August 19, 2025, Regular Scheduled Board Meeting Agenda with the following addition:

X. Director Items:

D. Executive Session. AS 10.25.175 Board Meetings Open; Exceptions; Remedy. (C4) Personnel Matters.

The motion carried 6-0

Approval of Minutes: Sue Flensburg motioned, and Mark Lisac seconded the motion to approve the July 15, 2025, Regular Scheduled Board Meeting Minutes as submitted.

The motion carried 6-0

Guests and Member Comments: No comments at this time.

Reports:

A. Will Chaney, CEO/GM – Annie Fritze inquired about the final stages of the Alaska Directional (AKD) punch list. Will Chaney outlined some of the remaining punch list items and proposed solutions. Despite these outstanding tasks, the fiber is currently active and functional.

Sue Flensburg offered her availability and support to assist in obtaining funding to keep the USGS Stream Gauge at Nuyakuk operational.

Mark Lisac requested an update on the inspection and maintenance of tanks #2 and #4. Mr. Chaney reported that the inspection revealed more extensive corrosion than expected, with estimated repair costs of approximately \$30,000. Mr. Chaney explained that the contractor is puddle patching and welding rust spots to determine material needs. Mr. Chaney also mentioned the option to coat the tank, which would extend the inspection timeline from 10 to 20 years.

Mark Lisac inquired about the status of the ETIPP Grant Application. Mr. Chaney stated that the application, along with the letters of support, has been submitted.

B. Michael Timmerman, Telecom Operations – Annie Fritze asked when a decision could be expected regarding the outcome of the BEAD application. Michael Timmerman believes that the awarded applicants will be released in September. If awarded to Nushagak, the funds would be used to bring fiber to the unserved and underserved communities within the service area. Continuing the fiber to the home build in Aleknagik and Dillingham would require an additional \$2M in funding. There is currently fiber along Lake Road, Waskey Road, and on Wood River. Mrs. Fritze requested that an update be made available to the membership.

- C. Electric Operations Manager (vacant) – No questions at this time.
- D. Deon Lopez, Comptroller – Annie Fritze requested an explanation for the ending balance of \$2.6M on the Fiber to the Home Build. Approximately \$1.7M of the balance is a reclassification of electric utility work that was completed along Lake Road, and another roughly \$600,000 is being withheld until AKD completes the punch list items.

Annie Fritze expressed appreciation for Deon's monthly board reports.

Mr. Lopez stated that he will present the 2025 budget for approval at the September board meeting.

- E. Angela Thames, Business Office Manager – Annie Fritze thanked Ms. Thames for organizing the Annual Membership Appreciation BBQ held in August. Ms. Thames noted that the event was a great success and that hosting it later in the season contributed to a better turnout and overall outcome.

Safety Moment: Work Safe – Bucket Truck Operations

Discussion/Review:

- A. General Board Discussion – Pete Andrew emphasized the importance of taking a proactive approach to both the Hydro Project Concept and the Fiber-to-the-Home initiative. He expressed interest in engaging surrounding communities to form a consortium that could support and advance these efforts.
- B. General CEO Discussion – Will Chaney noted that school resumed today and reminded everyone to be mindful of changing traffic patterns, increased pedestrian activity—especially children—and the frequent stops made by school buses.

Moose Hunting season is set to open on the 20th. A member of staff will be taking leave, which means that Mr. Chaney will be responsible for all field work, including but not limited to physical connects, disconnects, and boat moves.

Mr. Chaney shared his reflections on participating in the Subsistence Workshops held in Koliganek and New Stuyahok.

Mr. Chaney expressed his appreciation to Angela Thames and the staff for organizing the Annual Membership Appreciation BBQ. Although he was unable to attend, he noted that he heard only positive feedback about the event.

C. 2026 Directory Options – Angela Thamas presented options for the 2026 Directory, noting a significant increase in printing costs. She recommended transitioning to an online-only version. The board agreed that a digital format would be the most practical solution.

Action Items:

A. **2026 Directory Options** – Sue Flensburg motioned to transition to an online-only version, with an in-house print available to the public upon request, and Mark Lisac seconded the motion.

The motion carried 7-0

Director Items:

A. Future Board Items/New Business – None at this time.

B. Unfinished Business – None at this time.

C. Future Meetings & Conference Dates:

1. APA & ARECA Annual Meeting, September 23 - 26, 2025, Cordova, AK
2. ATA Broadband Tech Showcase, October 29 – 30, 2025, Anchorage, AK
3. ATA Winter Conference, January 25 – 28, 2026, Poipu, Kauai

D. Call for executive session. (C4) Personnel Matters.

Sue Flensburg motioned, and Annie Fritze seconded the motion to move into Executive Session. The motion passed 7-0. The time was 7:50 pm.

Sue Flensburg motioned, and Mark Lisac seconded the motion to move out of Executive Session. The motion passed 7-0. The time was 8:38 pm.

Adjournment: Mark Lisac motioned, and Sue Flensburg seconded the motion to adjourn, and with no further business to come before the board, Board President Pete Andrew adjourned the August 19, 2025, Regular Scheduled Board of Directors Meeting. The time was 8:39 pm.

The motion carried 7-0.

Respectfully Submitted By:

 9/16/2025
Angela Lopez, Executive Secretary/HR Generalist Date

Approved By:

Annie Fritze, Secretary  Date

