



*Solutions for the Future*

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## **Re-Scheduled Board of Directors Meeting**

Wednesday, August 25, 2021

Nushagak Cooperative Board Room, 7:00 p.m.

### **MINUTES**

**Call to Order:** Board President, Pete Andrew called the Re-Scheduled Board of Directors Meeting to order on Wednesday, August 25, 2021, in the Nushagak Cooperative Board Room. The time was 7:02 p.m.

**Directors Present:** *(Quorum Established)*

|                                     |                                 |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Pete Andrew, President,             | Annie Fritze, Secretary (Zoom)  |
| Henry Strub, Vice-President, (Zoom) | Wanda Wahl, Treasurer (Zoom)    |
| Chris Napoli, Director (Zoom)       | Steve Noonkesser, Director      |
| Bruce Baltar (Zoom)                 | Sue Flensburg, Director, (Zoom) |
| Josh Bullock, Director (Zoom)       |                                 |

**Directors Absent: None**

**Staff Present:** Robert Himschoot, CEO/GM  
Trung Vo, Telecom Operations Manager (Zoom)  
Angie Venua, Senior Accountant (Zoom)  
Gayla Powers, Human Resource Generalist

**Guests: None**

**Approval of Agenda:** Sue Flensburg motioned, and Henry Strub seconded the motion to approve the August 25, 2021 Re-Scheduled Board Meeting agenda. The motion carried 9-0.

**Approval of Minutes:** Sue Flensburg motioned, and Wanda Wahl seconded the motion to approve the June 15, 2021 Regular Scheduled Board Meeting with changes. The motion carried 9-0.

**Guests and Member Comments: None**

**Reports:**

- A. Bob Himschoot – Submitted a written report. Annie Fritze asked what is the proposed date for the ARWG study plan? Bob stated that Nushagak was hoping to reintroduce the plan to FERC at the end of August, but Nushagak had agreed not to reengage with FERC until we start doing in person meetings, so it is on hold.
- B. Angela Thames – Submitted a written report. Annie Fritze asked if Manokotak was contacted about the EBB program. Trung Vo stated that since this is a program for internet, and we do not currently offer a service that would qualify for the program in Manokotak, but we are hoping to turn them on by the end of the month.
- C. Trung Vo – Submitted a written report. Annie also asked if the field work for the fiber project had started. Trung stated that yes it started last week. Steve Noonkesser gave kudos for the quick efforts of the crew in splicing 800 wires. Trung stated he would pass this along.
- D. Jim Denslinger– Submitted a written report. Annie Fritze asked what the acronym for ODPCP stood for. It was reported that it stands for (Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan).
- E. Will Chaney– Submitted a written report. Wanda Wahl asked about the calls Will made about the carbon offset and asked if this would be something Nushagak could get credit for. Bob Himschoot stated that yes this is an effort that we are looking at through a non-profit company called 3Degrees that works in the carbon reduction field enter the carbon credit market. He stated that this will be presented to the board next board meeting.
- F. Angie Venua– Submitted a handout report. Wanda Wahl asked for info on the check register on Alyeska Information Techno Log. Trung Vo stated that we moved from NEO Nova to these people to host our public email and that we will transition the few email users to use something like google that has better security.

**Safety Moments:** Read by Robert Himschoot.

**Discussion/Review:**

- A. General Board Discussion – Pete Andrew reported on the board and staff that attended the APA annual meeting in Homer. He thanked Henry Strub for his years of service working with the APA and ARECA. He also thanked Bob Himschoot for his representation. Sue Flensburg stated that she found an interesting piece of information in that hydro is not deemed a renewable energy. Legislation has been introduced by Alaska representatives to make congress aware of how essential it is in Alaska. Sue also talked about the information on cyber security and how it was a good precautionary note.
- B. General CEO Discussion – Mr. Himschoot updated the board on our COVID cases in the power plant and our response to the outbreak. Bob stated Trung and his crew are making

good progress in getting the microwave up to Clark's Point and Manokotak. Bob said that within the next week a two we will have the official letter from the USDA allowing Nushagak to direct contract the job. This will help us to be able to single source and then we can start pre-ordering our fiber. This will help our project not be delayed with the current demand of fiber. Bob talked about attending the National Hydro Association meeting and stated that Corey and Will gave the Nuyakuk Hydro project presentation. He took out of this that after Senator Murkowski spoke it doesn't look like any moneys may be coming out of the new infrastructure bill. Mr. Himschoot stated that it was time to ask for a Budget and Finance Committee and the possible dates needed by the committee to attend. Steve Noonkesser nominated the same board members as last year and Josh Bullock seconded the motion. The motion passed 9-0 to have Henry Strub, Sue Flensburg, Chris Napoli, and Wanda Wahl. Steve Noonkesser asked with the microwave build, how far away Nushagak was from turning up the internet service in Manokotak. Trung Vo stated that it should be the end of September or October. Bob Himschoot stated that Angela Thames was planning on her and Trung going over to Manokotak to sign people up for the internet service once the microwave build is done. This will be contingent upon COVID and when the microwave build is complete. Sue Flensburg asked if the PCE endowment looks like it will be coming up on the legislation every year. Bob Himschoot stated that the court decided that the fund was determined that is not sweepable by administrative action so this should not be a yearly thing in the legislature.

#### **Action Items:**

- A. Approval of Scholarship Committee recommendations. Chris Napoli motioned, and Steve Noonkesser seconded the motion to approve the policy revisions to the Nushagak Cooperative Scholarship Policy. Wanda Wahl questioned if it there would be times that the Todd Radenbaugh Scholarship will not be awarded. Chris Napoli stated that the scholarship may not be every year but more than likely would be. The motion passed 9-0
- B. Tribal NTIA Grand Application support Resolutions 2021-10, Resolution 2021-11, & Resolution 2021-12  
Bruce Baltar motioned, and Steve Noonkesser seconded the motion to approve Resolutions 2021-11,12. The motion passed 9-0
- C. 2022 NRECA Benefit Renewal. Steve Noonkesser motioned, and Wanda Wahl seconded the motion to renew the 2022 NRECA Employee Benefits. The motion was withdrawn and tabled until the September 2021 board meeting

#### **Future Board Items-**

#### **Unfinished Business-**

#### **Future Meetings & Conference Dates:**

**Adjournment-** Steve Noonkesser motioned to adjourn. With no further business before the board President Pete Andrew adjourned the August 25, 2021 Re-Scheduled Board of Directors Meeting at 8:15 p.m.

**Respectfully Submitted By:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gayla Powers, Human Resource Generalist

09/2021  
Date

**Approved By:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Annie Fritze, Secretary

Date