

Officers (*Term Expires EOY*)

Pres. – Morris Pickel Jr. (2022)

v. Pres. – Chuck Homan (2023)

Sec. – Jamin Goecker (2021)

Treas. – Sharon Gibbons (2023)



Directors (*Term Expires*)

Sean Murphy (2023)

Camila Hussein (2022)

Jason Hemphill (2023)

**EAGLE RIVER COMMUNITY
COUNCIL
12001 Business Blvd. #123
EAGLE RIVER, ALASKA 99577**

Minutes

**Thursday, December 09, 2021
Zoom Meeting**

Call to order – 6:33 PM

Establish Quorum

Approval of Agenda

Membership Introductions

Reports

- Meeting Minutes
 - Approved
- Treasurer Report
 - \$65
- Parks & Rec: Camila Hussein
 - Parks and Rec did not meet.
- Road Board (Chuck Homan for Jason Hemphill)
 - Work on Farm Avenue is on the list of work for the Capital Improvement Project, but it is not likely to be approved. Most of the projects are road or drainage improvements.
 - A big item on their agenda continues to be the Sterner Bridge in Chugiak. They passed a motion to do it, it will be a big hit to the improvement budget. It's a good project to qualify for some federal money to replace it and they are exploring that option.
 - There was money in the budget last year but the funds were allocated to other projects. Even though outside of the Community Council, it is something that will impact Eagle River financially.
- Advisory Board (Sean Murphy)
 - Until recently, the Assembly did not recognize the Eagle River or Chugiak Advisory Board. It's been written in website as all the seats being vacant and without alternates. So he would be willing to apply now, considering Foster's info isn't up there. Murphy given approval to apply for the position.
- Federation Community Councils (Sharon Gibbons)
 - Their next meeting is 15 December and they will have an election because the VP resigned.
 - FCC discussed the homeless taskforce, the Muni budget, and the ASD.

Guest Speakers

Assembly/Legislative Updates

- MOA Assembly update (Chrystal Kennedy)
 - The information available on the Muni website may or may not be accurate. The Administration is aware of the gaps in the websites so they are working on it.
 - Debbie Ossiander is in process of organizing groups because there is talk about revisions to Title 21. Crystal asked the board to look at our minutes and see when the ERCC appointed people for the Advisory Board for what term, as well as the alternate we appointed. Crystal will then give it to Terrance.
 - The Muni never assigned staff to help the Advisory Board, so that's why we see those gaps now.
 - They want to have Advisory Board meet around mid-January. Advisory Board was authorized before and required that it meets so it has not been correct that they have not met.
 - The Assembly did not finish all the items on their agenda, so there will be another meeting on Dec 21. There will be a special meeting to discuss the mayor's vetoes of the budget.
 - The Assembly set aside \$6 million to help with homelessness, starting with construction of the property at Tudor and Elmore.
 - The Muni is also redistricting like the state is also doing. They are deciding where the lines need to be drawn. To get some ideas of where the lines should be drawn today, check on the Muni website. Allard and Kennedy are coming together to talk about something specifically for Eagle River.
 - Nothing has been decided. We might lose section of Muldoon and JBER. Hoping to have decision by March but the redistricting will not affect this spring elections.
- Legislative update (Sen. Reinbold, Rep. McCarty, Rep. Merrick)
 - NA

Community Updates

- Anchorage School Board update (Pat Higgins)
 - The ASD received federal funds to keep bus drivers employed because it is more expensive to hire employees than to continue to pay during off-times. The funds for that did not come out of our operating budget.
 - Projected at \$66 million deficit. What we have had the last 5 years is zero adjustments, matches or adjustments for inflation in last 5 years. Higgins pointed out that if you go back 10 years you will see a \$67 million deficit. We came down in student population approximately 47,000 to 44,000, so ASD is running a deficit with student population being down. We are getting some fed funds to help make up the gap.
 - ASD is heavily focused on the low math scores and changing the curriculum that we need to do.
 - The Board is appreciative of the Assembly funding for having police in the schools. They want the security, but it is challenging with budget.
 - The Board will come out with a list of bonds. For Eagle River there are concerns with roof issues that would need to be addressed. Went a little above what the Board wanted, but the Board that proposal.
 - The Super Intendant says that she is not renewing herself. They have brought on a recruiter and then 2 committees. When down to the finalists, there will be meetings with each candidate for the public to talk with them. Board will select the Super Intendant at that time.
 - There are mediations ongoing with teacher unions. We are losing teachers and we can't fill those roles. Cannot fill staffing with substitute teachers. Difficult to keep people and then more

difficult to find someone new.

- For the cost of living for the budget, they are making allocations based off of the 1990s. We need to make that change.
- Eagle River Community Patrol update (Cliff Cook/John Rathert)
 - Cook received a message from Sen. McCarty. He is looking into snowed-in sidewalks, state sidewalks are not plowed from the recent snowfall. The ones along the Old Glenn sidewalks are not done and is forcing kids to walk on the road.
 - The Community Patrol drove 17 hours and drove 92 miles. They also helped with traffic at the Thanksgiving Blessing. We may help with Polar Plunge, which will take place on Dec 18. Expecting 800 jumpers. Downside is that no spectators are allowed.
 - Sonny LaRosa is our new liaison with APD and he works swing shifts. None of his shifts line up with our meeting times. If we want an APD officer to show up, we need to coordinate with the Chair and Public Affairs.
 - Crime slow within Eagle River. Chugiak, Birchwood have been getting petty theft with mail. Watch out for Porch Pirates. Vehicle theft continues to be a thing that we're dealing with.
 - Report all crime so assembly members can justify more police presence
- Chugiak\Eagle River Library General Update (Nancy Clark)
 - Absent

Presentation

Old Business

- Issues with pot shop applying, they'll be hung up until early spring. They were talking like they wanted to do some growing but you can't do that. It's on hold.

New Business:

- Joy Boston, Application deadline for FL next summer, aged 16-23. If you know kids interested in aviation, have them check.
- ** December 10 application deadline for Air Force Recruiting Service AIM HIGH Flight Academy opportunity (attached flyer) for 16-23 year olds, 3 *FREE* three-week sessions in Florida, includes transportation to/from, room/board and *15 hours of flight instruction*! More info at www.aimhighflightacademy.com ** There is also a budget analyst internship opportunity on JBER in Summer 2022, see the PCIP flyer.
- Wreaths Across America is coming up soon and you can get access, must talk with Security Folks.
- JBER Gates Holiday Hours: Richardson Visitor Center – Open 0800-1800, 24-25 Dec and 31 Dec-1 Jan Muldoon Gate – Open 0900-2200, 24-27 Dec and 31 Dec-2 Jan Gate Closures: Post Road Gate – 24-27 Dec and 31 Dec-2 Jan Government Hill Gate – 25 Dec and 31 Dec Post Road Vehicle Inspection – 25 Dec and 1 Jan For up-to-date Gate hours, including holidays please visit <https://www.jber.jb.mil/Units/673abw/673SFS/>
- The Animal Control Advisory Board (ACAB) has been reviewing Title 17 provisions concerning adoption of animals from Animal Care and Control by individuals and by rescue organizations.
- At 5 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 19, Community Leaders are asking Alaskans across the state to step outside and light a candle or turn on lights, flashlights, headlamps or a lantern. There's no one way to do this. All they're asking is that you step outside and shine a light.

Comments from Eagle River Community Council Membership/Guests

- 3 Minutes each (time permitting)
 - Chuck got an email asking if we would pass a resolution for increasing capacity for the highway.
 - There are discussions about relaxing the Accessory Dwelling Unit (also known as “Mother-in-law

units”) requirements. Not sure if they are going to do that, but Eagle River and Chugiak has been left out of that discussion and the Administration asked if the ERCC want to be part of it.

Upcoming Events

- *CBERRRSA Board of Supervisors* monthly meeting:
- *Parks and Rec Board of Supervisors* monthly meeting:
- *FCC meeting: TBD*

Adjournment

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Important Dates (2021-2022)

- **December 10th, 2021**
 - Monthly meeting
- **January 13th, 2022**
 - Monthly meeting