

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 15, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** (Quorum 5+ Elected Board Members) 7:04 PM

2. **INTRODUCTIONS** (Board Members / Presenters / Guests from outside the Chugiak Community Council area)
 - Jake Horazdovsky, President (at large)..... Present Excused Absent
 - Blake Merrifield, Vice President (E. Peters Creek/ Mirror Lake)..... Present Excused Absent
 - Paul Schneider (at large)..... Present Excused Absent
 - Burke Wonnell, Treasurer (Eklutna/Thunderbird)..... Present Excused Absent
 - Darryl Parks (Fire Lake) Present Excused Absent
 - Will Tagen (E. Peters Creek/Mirror Lake)..... Present Excused Absent
 - Matt Hickey (W. Peters Creek/Mirror Lake opened to At Large)..... Present Excused Absent
 - Rashae Johnson (W. Peters Creek/Mirror Lake)..... Present Excused Absent
 - Tom Looney (alternate, at large)..... Present Excused Absent
 - Harold Parker (alternate, at large)..... Present Excused Absent

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
 - Moved by Darryl and Seconded by Blake Merrifield, passed Unanimously.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – November Minutes Motion Made and Pass
 - Minutes Approved as Amended

5. **UPDATES**
 - Legislative
 - Kelly Meyrick – Senator for Chugiak and Eagle River
 - No Update – In Juneau
 - Rep Dan Saddlers
 - Called in from the capital in Juneau
 - Education Funding
 - Senate Bill 140 – Has policy issues, adds funds for transportation, increases homeschool funding, 4 random audits in school districts, allows school districts to.
 - Addresses defined benefit pension.
 - Governor issued 12 executive orders
 - Governor is proposing to remove several boards and include these roles back into the industry.
 - Cook Inlet Natural Gas – Bills to eliminate natural gas in the area.
 - Helly Clean Coal Plant – may stay operational
 - Natural Gas Pipeline
 - Natural gas import maybe the short-term solution
 - The governor's budge creates a billion-dollar deficient.
 - State department of transportation plan doesn't meet federal requirements so they are scrambling to revise it.
 - Capital Priorities Starner bridge, T-Bird Falls, Artillery Road
 - Chugiak Volunteer Fire Dept. – Scott Fisher Fire Chief
 - Volunteer Hours – 5023
 - 5,023 total for the year.
 - In January - 102 Volunteers

January Responses 109

- Vote - Kelsey Sullivan as a write in candidate for the fire board.

- Assembly
 - Kevin Cross
 - AMATS – Antiliter Road interchange is an issue. Planning Funding is on the books and is in the plan to push the project Forward.
 - Eagle River Road – Upgrades are in the works but these have moved to the 2050 plan. Chugiak Eagle River is not getting our fair share of the state funding.
 - Comments period is open please go add comments – Comments end march 15th.
 - Keep The Eagle River Road Rehabilitation in the funding.
 - Keep the Artillery Road updates in the works.
 - Recent Resolution regarding the Eklutna Dam
 - They had 30 years to come up with the solution to the Dam River and the producers have waited to the end of the proposed the solution. The producers misrepresented the data and there is a flaw with the plan per their own data.
 - There are issues with the plan and a pause is needed to deal with the plan.

- Homeless Task Force
 - Ken McCarty – No Update
- ASD School Board
 - Andy Holleman – Update
 - Changing how we issue ignite.
 - Elementary Schools will change how they issue teach health class and remove the specialists and have teachers teach these topics.
 - Changing the teacher ratio in grades 4 through 12 to reduce costs by having more students in the classroom.
 - Bond Packages
 - Roof Replacements
 - Elementary School Security Entrance Upgrades

6.

7. **NEW BUISNESS**

- Eklutna Dam – Presentation from Eklutna Inc.
 - Kyle Foster – CEO of the Eklutna Inc
 - Eklutna owns the majority of the land around river and all the land around Eklutna.
 - The elders of the village tell stories of salmon so thick in the river that you can walk across them and that all 5 species of salmon were in the river.
 - A report paid for by the owners that discusses the cost of removal of the dam. Eklutna owns the land where the fill will be placed that results from removal dam. Eklutna Inc can provide value by reducing this cost and could make it feasible to replace the dam with dam that allows fish passage.
 - Dustin Laura – Village of Eklutna
 - Residents have the right to benefit from the river. The dam has taken all of the benefit from the rivers away from the people.
 - **Discussion on the Issue**
 - There was discussion on red salmon in the river. There were red salmon in the river and the dam solution should include red salmon in the river and fish ladders to allow access.

- AWWU has an agreement that allows them to pull 44 million gallons of water a day from the lake.
- Someone asked what does Eklutna Want.
 - Dustin Eklutna Village Line in the sand. They want the fishery restored. There needs to be water flowing from the lake to the river in the riverbed.

8. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- Jeff Urbas Eagle River Parks and Rec
 - Peters Creek Dog Park
 - There was an update on the dog park and they presented their plan for the park.
- Shawn – Alaska Long Trail
 - Presented a resolution on the Alaska long trail plan with several different options.
 - Resident from Peters Creek trail head commented on the trailhead.
 - Peters Creek subdivision has some concerns on proposed parking area at Peters Creek trail head.
 - Motion to table the resolution vote 9 to 9
 - A second Motion was made to table and return to the resolution in March.

9.

10. **REPORTS:**

- CBERRSA - Blake Merrifield
 - Average Snow Fall is around 80 inches a year.
 - This year and last year snow plowing has cost way more than average.
 - Proposed operating budget has a deficit.
 - \$400,000 home pays \$800 a year in property tax to the road service area. The proposed increase would be around \$40 a year in tax to properly maintain the road.
 - Base revenue has been reduced over the years by the different exceptions and there is less money for roads.
 - Equipment costs are going up and the costs will likely be more next year.
 - Motion to Increase the mill rate from 2.0 to 2.1 for road maintenance. Motion carries 12 for, 1 opposed and several abstained including Matt Hickey.
 - Eklutna Valley has asked for a seat on the road board. They have 1.6 miles of road in the road board area. Should there be a min amount of road miles before a council gets a voting board seat.
 - Motion to have CBERRSA set some metric for a min number of miles to have a voting seat on the road board. The motion Carries.
- CER Advisory board – Jake Horazdovsky
 - No Meeting
- Federation of Community Councils (FCC), Darryl Parks
 - No Meeting Until Next Week
- Financial – Burke Wonnell
 - No Reports
- Parks and Recreation Board of Supervisors –Will
 - Things are moving forward there is another fiscal crisis at the Mac Center. Investigation is on gong.
- AMATS Update – Will
 - None Given
- CER Chamber of Commerce- Leslie Lance
 - PAWS Adventures
 - They are looking for bands for Bear Paw.

- Secretary – Position Open
 - No comments
- General Council Business – Jake Horazdovsky
 - None

11. ELECTIONS

Seats 2, 4, 6, 8 and B. Were up for election. Results are listed in the table below, along with the Term Expiration Dates.

2 yr	Jan-25	Burke Wonnell	Treasurer	Eklutna/Thunderbird	1
2 yr	Jan-26	Blake Merrifield	Vice President	West Peters Creek/Mirror Lake	2
2 yr	Jan-25	Rashae Johnson	Board Member	West Peters Creek/Mirror Lake - Opened to At Large	3
2 yr	Jan-26	Will Taygan	Board Member	East Peters Creek/Mirror Lake	4
2 yr	Jan-25	Paul Schneider	Board Member	East Peters Creek/Mirror Lake	5
2 yr	Jan-26	Darryl Parks	President	Chugiak/Fire Lake	6
2 yr	Jan-25	Matt Hickey	Board Member	At Large	7
2 yr	Jan-26	Jake Horazdovsky	Secretary	At Large	8
2 yr	Jan-25	Tom Looney	Alternate Board Member	At Large	A
2 yr	Jan-26	Harold Parker	Alternate Board Member	At Large	B

12. OPEN FORUM

- Mirror Lake Park Board –
- Rashae will serve as our board member and Craig can be the alternate.
- Motion to move the elections – Motion carries unanimously.

13. NEXT MEETING DATE:

- The next scheduled meeting is Thursday, March 21th, 7:00 PM

14. ADJOURNMENT:

- Moved Adjourn by **Jake Horazdovsky** seconded by **Burke Wonnell** 9:47 PM