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SOUTHWEST ALASKA CONSERVATION COALITION

Board Meeting Minutes

May 10, 2005

I. Introduction

The SWACC Management Board convened at the Bristol Bay Native Corporation office at 1:00 P.M.

Board members present were Tom Hawkins, BBNC; Tim Troll, Nushagak/Mulchatna-Wood/Tikchik Land Trust; David Banks, TNC and Glenn Elison, The Conservation Fund. Terry Hoefflerle, Bristol Bay Native Association and Nanci Morris, Katmai Fishing Adventures participated by telephone. Teal Smith, Land and Resource Manager for BBNC also attended.

II. Agenda

The agenda was reviewed and approved. Tom Hawkins moved and Terry Hoefflerle seconded. Motion adopted. A copy is attached.

III. Minutes from the March 15, 2004, Management Board meeting were reviewed and approved. Moved by Tom Hawkins and seconded by David Banks. Motion adopted.

IV. Election of Officers

Tom Hawkins moved and David Banks seconded retaining the existing slate of officers with the change that Tom Hawkins is treasurer. The motion was approved.

Tim Troll is Chairman; Glenn Elison is vice-chair and coordinator; Tom Hawkins is Secretary-Treasurer.

V. Information Items

A. Moore Foundation Grant: Glenn discussed the \$4.5 million, three-year grant received by The Conservation Fund from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation in June 2003. Progress under the grant was described along with the significant commitment to leverage the grant. The grant is a great opportunity for Coalition members and partners to leverage habitat projects in Southwest Alaska.

B. Habitat projects completed were discussed: Curtis allotment on the Agulukpak. Togiak River Native allotments, Knutson on the Naknek River, Apokedak on the Alagnak River and the Zimmin property on Big Creek.

Habitat projects in progress were discussed: Wood-Tikchik State Park Allotments, Togiak Refuge, Becharof Refuge, Alagnak Wild River and Katmai Park Allotments. Levelock, Igiugig, Chignik Lagoon, Pilot Point, and Port Heiden Easement discussions.

C. Tim Troll discussed the Land Trust's activities. Tim is now the Executive Director of the Land Trust. He is working in a shared position mostly funded by TNC. The Land Trust has recently received support from TCF's Moore Foundation grant, the Donner, Oak and Mead Foundations.

D. Washington D.C. activities: Glenn discussed recent meetings in Washington, D.C. with Alaska Delegation staff, Senate and Appropriations committee staff, and John Katz. The April visit with ANL and BBNC to the Delegation offices and Appropriations staff was discussed at length.

E. The receipt authority issue currently before the Legislature for the \$1 million coastal grant and Forest Legacy funds for the agreement with ANL on the Agulowak River was discussed at length. The appreciation of the Board was extended to BBNC for hiring David Rogers to help keep track of this issue in Juneau.

F. Media Outreach: Several articles in newspapers and magazines have been published in the past year. Contacts with the Indianapolis Business Journal, Dallas Business Journal and Houston Chronicle were discussed.

G. Fund Raising Activities: Fund raising status through work with outdoor retailers and manufacturers was discussed. Companies like BBNC, ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc., Orvis, Columbia Sportswear, Woolrich, Gander Mountain and PureFishing have donated. A series of fund raising dinner events in Lower 48 metropolitan areas has continued. Events have been held in Detroit, Indianapolis, Dallas, Houston, and Kerrville, Texas. Events are scheduled for Seattle in May and Anchorage later this year.

H. Conservation Buyer Program: Glenn described the interest of a real estate entrepreneur in launching a conservation buyer program for Native allotments in Southwest Alaska. Because of uncertainty about revisions to the Internal Revenue Code the program's development is on hold until any action by Congress on existing proposals is resolved.

I. Website: statistics on website use were provided.

VI. Agulowak River Project: The Board was updated on progress. Agreement has been reached on the terms of a conservation easement. An appraisal commissioned by ANL and BBNC has been completed on 20,213 acres of ANL lands within the Wood-Tikchik State Park. The appraisal includes the subsurface.

The Fund's appraisal on the property is expected at the end of May or early June.

The Fund received a \$1 million grant from the National Coastal Wetlands program in FY-05 for the agreement. The Fund is applying for a grant from the National Coastal Wetlands Program for phase 3 of this project. Funding is also being sought through the Forest Legacy Program.

VII. Nushagak River Watershed Planning: Tim Troll and David Banks discussed the ongoing planning effort, which is largely supported by the Moore Foundation.

VIII. State of the Salmon Conference: Ecotrust and the Moore Foundation sponsored a State of the Salmon Conference in Anchorage in April. Tim, Glenn and David attended the conference and shared highlights from the Conference.

IX. Board Expansion: The board agreed that expansion would be wise. Prospective members and who would initiate contacts were discussed. It was agreed the following people would be contacted by the individuals indicated.

Prospective Board Member	Contact Person
Russell Nelson	Tim Troll
Bryce Edgman (BBEDC)	Tim Troll
Dave Jensen (Aleut Corp)	Tom Hawkins
Tim Bristol (Trout Unlimited)	Glenn Elison

Agency representatives: The Board wants to contact Mike Roy, FWS; Marty Rutherford, DNR; the new State Parks Director and NRCS about participating in the SWACC Board meetings. **Glenn will follow-up.**

X. Other business: The Pebble mine was discussed at length. Terry pointed out local communities need technical and legal advice. The consensus was there is no reason for SWACC to take a position on the mine at this time. The board agreed Bruce Jenkins should be invited to a SWACC Board meeting for a discussion about what SWACC and the Pebble Mine can do for each other as well as discussing local and development concerns. **Tom Hawkins agreed to invite Jenkins to the next Board meeting once it is scheduled.**

XI. Next meeting: at the call of the Chair

XII. Adjourn: Tom moved and David seconded. The meeting adjourned at 3:00 P.M.