

# *City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska*

Economic Development Committee

May 29, 2014

6:30pm Assembly Chambers

## AGENDA

1. Call To Order
2. Roll Call
3. Amendments to the Agenda
4. Approval of Minutes: April 16, 2014
5. Persons to be Heard
6. Correspondence
  - a) Press Release from the USFS regarding appointments to the Tongass Advisory Committee
  - b) State Proposed Budget for Wrangell
7. Old Business
  - a) Borough-USFS collaboration and coordination efforts: Update and discussion on the Wrangell Island Timber Sale alternatives and issues with District Ranger Bob Dalrymple and staff
  - b) Former Institute Property- update
  - c) Mill Property – update
  - d) Waterfront Master Plan - update
8. New Business
9. Adjournment

# *City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska*

Economic Development Committee

April 16, 2014

6:30pm Assembly Chambers

## MINUTES

### Call To Order

Present: Bob Maxand, Rudy Briskar, Julie Decker (by phone), James Edens, Marlene Clark

Amendments to the Agenda: Add Item C, request for equipment for shop class under workforce development

### Approval of Minutes:

Bob Maxand moves to approve minutes of March 26, 2014

Marlene Clark 2nds

Approved unanimously

Persons to be Heard: None

### Correspondence

a) 2014-2015 EDC Workplan

b) Press Releases from the American Maritime Partnership regarding Alaska Ranking #3 for domestic maritime industry economic impact

### Old Business

a) Maritime business development: Looking at painting the warehouse building with a sign and information.

b) Former Institute Property- RFP responses due in end of next month

c) Comprehensive Plan Assessment Review - defer

d) Borough-USFS collaboration and coordination efforts: District Ranger Bob Dalrymple would like to come talk about just Wrangell Island timber sale only at a meeting soon.

Working on draft EIS. Current logging is occurring on Zarembo, Vank, Rynda islands

On Wrangell Island there are only a couple of micro sales a few trees at a time

MHTL cutting behind Institute, close to being done

State has sale at St. Johns Zarembo Island

USFS will have precommercial thinning happening in spots all over on second growth, where it is too thick, at a certain age at 18 or 20 years, they go back and thin it out, then get better tree growth and faster growth over time. Keep the brush in there longer.

Brutal physical work. 14-15 feet spacing. American contractors who hire, often times migrant workers. Will have a couple of camps, usually in rock pits. Will start in Spring

Road work on district: Zarembo - reconditioning roads, fresh gravel surface on mainlines. Also on Wrangell Island close to Fools inlet.

Etolin - reconditioned mainline roads there as well. Spent millions of dollars for the roads. The life span of the road depends on use whether it is big trucks vs. recreational.

USFS has agreement with Tribe, they have road money, all of the USFS roads and trails are on the Tribal road inventory. Last year put nonslip down on the trails. This year will be doing road work - culvert replacement - about 80... so there will be delays on some roads. Start back up road report on radio quickly. Please send to the City for Facebook notification.

Timber NEPA documents - Navy sale was challenged. Trying to get that back out. Wrangell Island, Anita Bay. State doing a state forest plan - one plan for all parcels and there are a lot on this island. Very important to tell them information.

Clarence Clark is working on part of plan an infrastructure part of plan... includes how you would move wood around.. planning for roads as well as in water. Transport off island looking at a deep water site somewhere off the fill near the former mill site. ... mill could be critical in the plan. Establishing infrastructure is critical. A lot of timber is exported... but if have a site permitted could provide stevedoring jobs.

Institute Property... looking at whole island. Need to establish a sort yard on the island. Used to take to the mill. If the borough would want an area to store logs.. need hardened ground to do the industrial activity.

The land north of Pats LTF belongs to MHTL but part of proposed land trade. CR: PZ wanted some of that land NOT to go to USFS. RB The land north of the LTF could be pretty good for a sort yard. BD: Right now wood is being taken down to KTN to a ward cove. If a log leaves here, lose a job if not handled here.

Recreation: Eliminating low use rec cabins. Binkley Slough cabin was determined to go away. Hope to contract out or buy it and use it elsewhere. Opportunity for work camp at Roosevelt, convert to a rec cabin. Sell with a business plan. Real asset. May need community support to do this.. might ask for letters. Used for larger parties. Work camp to rec camp. Boy Scouts going to Roosevelt to clean up. Have been working on doing the vehicle clean up. Required people to register.. but now have 50 up from 40. Officer put impound notices in Feb. May is the date that they must be contacted.

Positions on district... been losing but now slowly gaining. Looking to fill 5 positions.

RAC committee was reauthorized. About \$500,000 accepting applications for proposals. May 9<sup>th</sup> is the first meeting. Will be asking to put money into cabins, hot tub shelter, invasive weed needs and fund festivals - bear and bird fest.

FLAP program is federal highways from national gas tax program. Borough submitted three NOI proposals in cooperation with USFS Haven't heard back. Handled through FHwy department.

Looking for camp hosts, own their RV and stay for the summer.

Roadless rule - We were exempt, was challenged, and 9<sup>th</sup> circuit reversed. Alaska is exempt, but thrown back to court to determine need supplemental. Still in court system. Ability to appeal to supreme court is still a possibility. In appeal court... usually reviewed by only 3 judges and the other side could ask for the entire court to weigh in.

Ranger house will be coming on the market soon.

Putting together a contract for duplex to be remodeled.

May 29<sup>th</sup> next meeting to discuss the Wrangell Island Sale.

e) Land Entitlement Final Selection options

Discussion focused on the areas with land remaining for selection: Thoms Place, Zarembo St. Johns; Earl West Cove, Wrangell Island East. Road access, proposed uses – residential, recreation, commercial tourism activities.

Marlene Clark moved to recommend by priority 1) Part of Section 31 Thoms Place; 2) Section 34 of St. Johns; 3) Wrangell Island East area with road access per state's request 4) Earl West Cove

Bob Maxand 2<sup>nd</sup>

Approved Unanimous

New Business

a) Budget for 2015

b) Mill Property discussion – clean up is complete

c) Drew Larrabee, shop teacher, is seeking funding assistance for purchasing a vinyl cutter that can make signs locally – approximately \$2000. Would provide free Borough signs up to the cost of the equipment funded in exchange.

Committee indicated there were other similar equipment in town and did not want to compete – Denise Svendsen, Kelsey Martin, and Valerie Hayden K.

Committee declined request by consensus.

Adjournment

## Carol Rushmore

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**From:** Zirngibl, Wendy M -FS <wmzirngibl@fs.fed.us>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 22, 2014 12:28 PM  
**To:** jaeleen.araujo@sealaska.com; woodmarkl@sitkaschools.org; rpeterson@ccthita.org; Robert.Mills@KakeTribalCorp.com; wade.zammit@sealaska.com; eric@alcanforest.com; lesc@sousteve.com; bmcritt@alaskaconservation.org; andrew@sitkawild.org; krush@TNC.org; chris@realaska.org; chris.maisch@alaska.gov; ecodew@wrangell.com; administrator@thornebay-ak.gov; Kate.Troll@gmail.com; lynnj@hayfork.net; kahardcastle@alaska.edu; e.steinkruger@pdx.edu; Jason.c@aptalaska.com; widmarkl@mail.ssd.k12.ak.us; happple1956@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** USDA Announces Selection of Tongass Advisory Committee Members, Notice of Intent to Amend Tongass Forest Plan

Below is the news release issued from the U.S. Forest Service Washington Office at 11 a.m. Alaska time.



Contact Press Office

Forest Service Alaska Region: (907) 586-8892

Forest Service National Press Office: (202) 205-1134

### **USDA Announces Selection of Tongass Advisory Committee Members** ***Notice of Intent to Amend Tongass Forest Plan***

**WASHINGTON, May 22, 2014** – Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced the selection of 15 advisory committee members and five alternates tasked with providing guidance and recommendations to the U.S. Forest Service as it transitions to a young growth timber program on the Tongass National Forest in Alaska. Also today, the Forest Service released for public comment a Notice of Intent to amend the 2008 Tongass Land Management Plan.

In a July 2013 memorandum "Addressing Sustainable Forestry in Southeast Alaska," Secretary Vilsack stated his intent to transition to a predominantly young growth-based timber program in 10 to 15 years while maintaining a viable timber industry. The memo also requested that the Forest Service consider amending the forest plan and establish an advisory committee (TAC) to inform this process.

"Members of the Tongass Advisory Committee will have the chance to define common ground on this unique, nationally important forest," said Vilsack. "The input of the committee will be essential as we chart a new future for both the public lands and local communities of Southeast Alaska."

"We believe this advisory committee represents an opportunity for starting a new chapter in collaborative management on the Tongass," said Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment Robert Bonnie. "We welcome new ideas and

perspectives on how to transition the Tongass National Forest to a timber program based on young growth management while maintaining jobs in the forest industry.”

The committee members and alternates were selected from 75 candidates who responded to the Secretary’s request for nominations. Meetings of the committee will be open to the public.

“We look forward to a productive conversation with the TAC on recommendations identifying options for transitioning to young growth timber harvests on the Tongass, especially as we consider a forest plan amendment,” said Forrest Cole, Supervisor of the Tongass National Forest. “Our goal is a smooth transition to a forest industry that utilizes young growth timber and provides jobs for local Alaskans for years to come.”

The Forest Service will also release for public comment a Notice of Intent to amend the 2008 Tongass Land Management Plan through a proposed action and need for change. In the Notice of Intent, the Forest Service proposes analyzing how to define the suitable timber base to support the transition, whether restrictions on harvest age should be relaxed, and whether changes in management direction regarding young growth should be considered. Additional updates will reflect the improvements of the 2012 Planning Rule. The advisory committee will be asked to provide recommendations to be considered for inclusion in the Forest Service’s proposed action, focusing in particular on ways in which the agency can accelerate the transition to a young growth timber program.

The forest plan will be amended using new 2012 Planning Rule, which calls for collaboration throughout the process. The advisory committee, in combination with public meetings, represents an opportunity for stakeholders and members of the public to provide feedback. The Notice of Intent will be published in the Federal Register on May 27, 2014, kicking off a 30-day public comment period. Comments and TAC recommendations will be considered for inclusion in a proposed amendment and draft EIS, expected to be published by August 2015.

The first TAC meeting is currently scheduled to occur during the week of July 21st in Southeast Alaska. The committee will be asked to make recommendations no later than May 2015.

The committee members are:

Jaeleen J. Araujo; Juneau, AK; Federally Recognized Tribes, Alaska Native Organizations, and/or Alaska Native Corporation Representative

Wayne K. Benner; Thorne Bay; AK Federal, State, and Local Government Representative

Kirk A. Hardcastle; Juneau, AK; Representing other commercial users, those holding land use permits, or the public at large

Philip A. Hyatt; Thorne Bay, AK; Timber Industry Representative

Lynn Jungwirth; Hayfork, CA; Representing other commercial users, those holding land use permits, or the public at large

(Chris) John C. Maisch; Fairbanks, AK; Federal, State, and Local Government Representative

Brian T. McNitt; Sitka, AK; Representing national or regional environmental and/or conservation organizations

Eric L. Nichols; Ketchikan, AK; Timber Industry Representative

Richard J. Peterson; Kasaan, AK; Federally Recognized Tribes, Alaska Native Organizations, and/or Alaska Native Corporation Representative

Keith E. Rush; Juneau, AK; Representing national or regional environmental and/or conservation organizations

Carol M. Rushmore; Wrangell, AK; Federal, State, and Local Government Representative

Erin Steinkruger; Portland, OR; Representing other commercial users, those holding land use permits, or the public at large

Andrew L. Thoms; Sitka, AK; Representing national or regional environmental and/or conservation organizations

(Woody) Lawrence A. Widmark; Sitka, AK; Federally Recognized Tribes, Alaska Native Organizations, and/or Alaska Native Corporation Representative

(Wade) Jeffrey W. Zammit; East Sound, WA; Timber Industry Representative

**Alternates:**

Leslie A. Cronk; Ketchikan, AK; Timber Industry Representative

Jason R. Custer; Ketchikan, AK; Other commercial users, those holding land use permits, or the public at large

Robert D. Mills; Kake, AK; Federally Recognized Tribes, Alaska Native Organizations, and/or Alaska Native Corporation representatives

Christopher W. Rose; Sutton, AK; National or regional environmental and/or conservation organizations

Kathryn A. Troll; Juneau, AK; Federal, State, and Local Government Representatives

The charter, background information, and other information for the Tongass Advisory Committee can be found on the Tongass National Forest website, [www.fs.usda.gov/goto/R10/Tongass/TAC](http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/R10/Tongass/TAC)

Information on the Forest Plan Amendment process can be found at [www.fs.usda.gov/land/tongass/landmanagement](http://www.fs.usda.gov/land/tongass/landmanagement).

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# 2014 Legislature - Capital Budget Project Detail by House District - Enacted Structure

Numbers and Language  
Non Mental Health Transactions  
District by Impact

House District: 33 Ketchikan/ Wrangell

Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development

	[1] GovTotal	[2] SenTotal	[3] HseTotal	[4] Approp	[2] - [1] GovTotal to SenTotal	[3] - [2] SenTotal to HseTotal	[4] - [3] HseTotal to Approp
AP Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority - Ketchikan Shipyard Land Level Berth II 1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	0	1,180,000	1,180,000	1,180,000	>999 %	0	0
AL Alaska Energy Authority - Round VII Renewable Energy Project Grants (AS 42.45.045) Ketchikan Gateway Borough Biomass Heating Project 1210 Ren Energy (DGF)	0	620,000	620,000	620,000	>999 %	0	0
Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315) AP Wrangell - 6 Mile Marine/Industrial Property Development Plan 1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	0	0	90,000	90,000	0	>999 %	0
AP Wrangell - Connection to Upper Reservoir 1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	0	0	90,000	90,000	0	>999 %	0
AP Wrangell - Engineering Condition Assessment For Pool Facility And Community Center 1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	0	0	615,000	615,000	0	>999 %	0
AP Wrangell - Former Institute Property Development Plan 1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	0	0	615,000	615,000	0	>999 %	0
AP Wrangell - Shoemaker Bay Float Design 1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	0	0	35,000	35,000	0	>999 %	0
AP Wrangell - Water Treatment Plant Pilot Study 1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	0	0	35,000	35,000	0	>999 %	0
Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316) AP Southeast Alaska Power Agency - Swan Lake Hydroelectric Project Reservoir Expansion Project 1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	0	3,320,000	3,320,000	3,320,000	>999 %	0	0



# 2014 Legislature - Capital Budget

## Project Detail by House District - Enacted Structure

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[1] GovTotal	[2] SenTotal	[3] HseTotal	[4] Approp	[2] - [1] GovTotal to SenTotal	[3] - [2] SenTotal to HseTotal	[4] - [3] HseTotal to Approp			

Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development (continued)

Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316) (continued)

AP Wrangell Cooperative Association - Carving Facility  
1004 Gen Fund (UGF)

X

Department of Health and Social Services

Non-Pioneer Home Deferred Maintenance, Renovation, Repair and Equipment

AL Ketchikan Public Health Center Deferred Maintenance

1002 Fed Rcpts (Fed)

1003 G/F Match (UGF)

AL Ketchikan Regional Youth Facility Deferred Maintenance

1004 Gen Fund (UGF)

Pioneer Homes Deferred Maintenance, Renovation, Repair and Equipment

AL Ketchikan Pioneer Home Deferred Maintenance

1004 Gen Fund (UGF)

Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

Surface Transportation Program

AL Ketchikan - Deermount Street to Saxman Widening

1002 Fed Rcpts (Fed)

AL Ketchikan - South Tongass Highway Paving - Herring

Cove to End of Road

1002 Fed Rcpts (Fed)

\*\*\* House District Totals

Funding Summary

Unrestricted General (UGF)

Designated General (DGF)

Federal Receipts (Fed)