

Tibbles, Kristy R (DFG)

From: Mike Peterson
Sent: Monday, May 07, 2012 7:03 AM
To: Tibbles, Kristy R (DFG)
Cc: Stone, Shannon C (DFG)
Subject: JDAC Chair comments for Joint Board Committee meeting 05/15/2012

Good Afternoon to the Committee of the Joint Board

Its my understanding this committee will be discussing 3 items for potential changes to regulations concerning the AC uniform rules:

- 1: removal for advisory committee members for cause;
- 2: conducting of AC meetings;
- 3: the use and sufficiency of AC minutes.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments, and unless otherwise noted, these comments are my own, based on my experience as Chair.

#1: The J-D AC, within the past two years, has the policy of including a removal for cause provision to new prospective members when asking qualifying questions . This is done in the form of asking a prospective member if they have been convicted of a crime within the preceding five years. This question gets the facts out on the table and eliminates any confusion. If an issue comes up in the future with that committee member having a criminal record we can point to our minutes and their answer. Currently, with the "Removal for Cause" regulations buried on page 1058 of the F&G Laws and Regulations, its too easy for someone to say 'I did not know' and then what do you do? Board Support does provide a copy of AC Regulations to new members, but all too often it is left up to the Chairs to see that new members are duly informed.

A suggestion that has been brought up several times during our meetings is to have all the Removal for Cause on the back of the current AC Member Form, with the signature line underneath it. This would go a long ways to avoiding confusion, eliminating evasive behavior, it would be simple to implement, it would be legal, and it would be inexpensive as the signed forms are already sent to Board Support, and, within 3 years there would be a state wide AC compliance.

#2: 5 AAC 96.060. Uniform rules of operation (r) Rules of Meetings. "Meetings of a committee must be conducted according to the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order."

This is a very tall order and, in my opinion, difficult to enforce when you consider the futherest outreaches of the AC areas. Having read the literature handed out by Board Support, bought Roberts Rules of Order, attended meetings and observed Roberts in action, - there is a very steep learning curve to running a meeting. Its easy to envy the Board of Fish and Board of Game for their quick, ready access to legal council when a question of protocol arises. And we all know how easy is to get lost within the minutia of motions and amendments As it is, Chair's of AC's have to keep on their toes to run orderly meetings, which does not always translate into meetings being run exactly according to Roberts Rules.

(If a AC meeting is not conducted according to Robert's Rules, are the results of that meeting invalid?) A suggestion would be to fly all current Chairs to Bethel, Anchorage, Juneau, or Fairbanks and train them to the proper use of Roberts Rules. This would give you compliance. Then, once a year thereafter, bring all new Chairs to town and train them to the proper procedures. This would go a long ways to facilitate Roberts being used at AC meetings. This would necessitate more funding for Board Support, on an ongoing basis.

#3: The use and sufficiency of minutes is a tough one and we (J-D AC) have struggled with it at times. My first couple meetings as Chair were a joy as we had a committee member (Secretary) who took great notes on his laptop and was able to contribute to the meeting. He resigned not long after and it was very tough getting good minutes. Remember, you cannot make somebody take notes, and ultimately the responsibility of the minutes falls to the Chair. I have audio recorded the meeting and then written the minutes. I have translated and transcribed barely legible scribbles from a AC member into minutes. Currently, we are enjoying having a volunteer who takes excellent notes at our meetings. At this date, we do not have a Secretary.

However, there does seem to be an issue on a broader scale as to when AC minutes can be submitted to the board - 5AAC 96.060 Uniform rules of operation (s) Record of Meetings reads: "Preliminary minutes of each committee meeting must be recorded in writing and forwarded to the director of the division of boards within THREE WEEKS after the meeting. Before an advisory committee chair or a designee will be allowed to represent the advisory committee before the joint board, the Board of Fisheries, or the Board of Game, the advisory committee must submit to the respective board a set of its relevant minutes".
(What are Preliminary minutes as compared to Relevant minutes?)

In front of the Board of Game Proposal booklet:

"Public comment, in combination with Advisory Committee comments and department staff presentations, provide the Board of Game with useful biological and socioeconomic data to form decisions. Comments MAY be submitted AT ANY TIME until the public testimony period for that proposal and/or its subject matter is closed at the meeting and the board begins deliberations".

In front of the Board of Fish Proposal booklet:

"Timely Submission. Submit written comments by mail or fax so that they are received no later than two weeks prior to the meeting during which the topic will be considered. Written comments received after the two-week deadline will still be accepted but will not be inserted in board member workbooks until the beginning of the meeting or cross-referenced with individual proposals".

Then a bit further on the page: " In addition to the above, please make sure the advisory committee meeting minutes reflect the minority opinion along with the majority opinion. the board benefits greatly from understanding the pros and cons of each issue. Also, minutes should note the number of committee members in attendance as well as the other stakeholders or others in attendance during meetings."

Its slightly confusing.

Board Support has on its AC web page forms that can be downloaded: 1) an Advisory Committee Minutes form and an 2) Voter Record/Comments form. Both are simple in format.

While the use of minutes are somewhat clear, the sufficiency is a bit more murky. Perhaps some clarification is in order, in that if I were to look at the three examples cited above in the future, they would all state the same criteria with no deviation.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Respectfully

Mike Peterson
Chair
Juneau Douglas Advisory Committee
907-723-8369

Tibbles, Kristy R (DFG)

From: Bill Folsom [mailto:bfolsom@matvalleyac.org]
Sent: Monday, May 07, 2012 8:13 AM
To: Wellard, Monica J (DFG)
Cc: Tibbles, Kristy R (DFG)
Subject: Re: FW: Committee Mtg for Jt. Board re: AC Regs

Hi My comments will be brief so I hope the intent is received.

A/ allow AC'S to split into 2 groups if they wish.

1 for fish and 1 for game where any member may attend either or both of the sub groups. Also allow (if desired) to have a different chair for each group. Set the minimum number of committee members per group at 7.

B/ There should be some guide lines as to the running of an AC meeting. I have been in AC meetings where they proceed as if it were a coffee klatch that took 30 min per proposal. This may work for small community AC's that only cover a few proposals.

We need a different venue to go into details as to that needed to elaborate on this issue; however there must be an agenda announced a week in advance only to be altered with a motion for an additional item and then the chair or others should consider if the item could be better dealt with at the next meeting to allow fish and game staff and the public to address the item.

A workshop of AC chairs would better illustrate that needed to address several ways the chair can move the meeting along.

Mat Valley AC chair Bill Folsom

Paxson Fish and Game Advisory Committee
HC 02 Box 7193
Paxson, AK. 99586
John Schandelmeier, Chair

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Comments to the Joint Board of Fish & Game

MAY 07 2012

**BOARDS
ANCHORAGE**

Sirs;

We would like to express the following comments on the proposed review of Advisory Committee regulations;

1. Removal of Advisory members for cause. This is best left to individual Advisory Committees. Sort of like Federal Gov. interfering in State affairs.
2. Conduct of meetings. Again, we feel this is best left to individual committees. For example, a meeting at Paxson, with only our Board members present will be quite different than a meeting held in Anchorage with members of the public present.
3. Advisory minutes. Advisory minutes need to be far more comprehensive than they are at present. Individual committees have great familiarity with the issues that they are dealing with. Board members, who must deal with many regulations statewide, do not have that familiarity. They need more information that the minutes now provide.

*Attn: Kristy Tibbles
AC Comments
JB meeting 5-15-12*

Tibbles, Kristy R (DFG)

From: Terry Marquette
Sent: Monday, May 07, 2012 4:35 PM
To: Tibbles, Kristy R (DFG)
Subject: Input for Joint Board meeting on AC protocol

As Fairbanks AC Chairman I find the whole issue of minutes being taken and typed in some representative professional form very frustrating and nearly impossible. It is next to impossible to participate in open discussions and accomplish this chore. At the present time I don't have a single volunteer for this task, and I don't begrudge anyone because there is no way I want to give up my participation in meetings to attempt the task. Regs. indicate if no volunteer is available the Chair fills the gap!! Then who runs the meeting? We are trying to hire a college student to do this on a regular basis and will pay with AC member donations. I don't feel this is right and might even disqualify the minutes as a legal document. My suggestion is to have AC's budgeted an allocation to pay for this process to be done. It would be a great help and would go a long way toward recognizing the importance of minutes being taken and transcribed in a timely manner. Thank you for your consideration. Terry Marquette, Fairbanks AC Chairman