

Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G)
Southern Norton Sound Advisory Committee

DRAFT Agenda

October 27, 2022 - 11:00am

Myles Gonongnan Aaron Panek Memorial Hall - Unalakleet, Alaska

to participate by teleconference dial:

1-800-504-8071 Access Code: 4421717 Passcode: 51202

Jacob Ivanoff-Chair, Morris Nassuk-Vice Chair, Renae Ivanoff-Secretary
Wes Jones-Unalakleet; Gary Eckenweiler-Unalakleet
Matilda Hardy-Shaktoolik, Randy Takak-Shaktoolik
Johnny Richardson-Member; Leo Kobuk-St. Michael,
Kelsi Ivanoff-Unalakleet

1. Call to Order

Chair Morris Nassuk called the meeting to order at 11:04 am.

2. Roll Call - 4 to make quorum

Present: Morris Nassuk (telephonic), Wes Jones, Renae Ivanoff, Matilda Hardy (telephonic)

a. Excused -

b. Unexcused - Gary Eckenweiler, Randy Takak, Leo Kobuk

3. Fish & Game Staff present - Kevin Clark, Sarah Germaine, Alicia Carson, Georgie Phillips

4. Guests present - Fred Jay Ivanoff, Ron Pitka, Louisa Paniptchuk, Kelsi Ivanoff, Steve Ivanoff

5. Approval of Agenda

Wes Jones made a motion to approve to approve the agenda with ability to amend as needed, seconded by Renae Ivanoff. There was no opposition.

6. Election of Members

Johnny Richardson submitted a written nomination to fill an undesignated seat. Morris Nassuk (Koyuk), Wes Jones {Unalakleet}, and Matilda Hardy {Shaktoolik} were re-elected in their designated seats. Renae Ivanoff nominated Jacob Ivanoff to the vacant Unalakleet seat. Kelsi Ivanoff nominated herself to fill a fifth Unalakleet seat. All nominations were unanimously approved.

7. Election of officers

Chair - Jacob Ivanoff

Vice Chair - Morris Nassuk

Secretary- Renae Ivanoff

Wes Jones moved, seconded by Matilda Hardy to seat Jacob as Chair. Matilda Hardy moved to close nominations, no opposition. Matilda Hardy moved, seconded by Wes Jones to seat Morris Nassuk as Vice Chair. Wes Jones closed nominations. There was no opposition. Jacob Ivanoff moved, seconded by Kelsi to seat Renae Ivanoff as Secretary. Matilda Hardy closed nominations. There was no opposition. Wes Jones moved, seconded by Renae Ivanoff to approve the election of members. The question was called. There was no opposition.

8. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Wes Jones made a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes of February 20, 2020, as presented, seconded by Matilda Hardy. The question was called. There was no opposition.

9. Reports

a. Chairs Report

Jacob Ivanoff noted the 2020 winter and summer closure of the Norton Sound king crab in addition to Norton Sound related proposals that passed at the last Board of Fish (BOF) meeting cycle.

b. ADF&G

Kevin Clark gave an overview of three proposals (75 - sports fisheries, 77 and 78 - commercial fisheries) that will be presented at the BOF -Arctic/Yukon/Kuskokwim (AYK) Finfish for Norton Sound in addition to proposal 76 regarding the Kotzebue Commercial Fisheries.

Wes moved, seconded by Morris Nassuk to support proposal 78 with no action taken on proposals 75, 76, and 77 as these address areas outside of Southern Norton Sound. The question was called. There was no opposition.

There was a question regarding the deadlines for proposals and comments which lead to a subsequent discussion on proposal 140 which addresses the Chignik Area Salmon Management Plan. Supporting proposal 140 could allow for the reduction of intercepted AYK bound salmon in the June fishery. Jacob Ivanoff added that a further, more in-depth discussion on proposal 140 should be advised before the BOF meeting after committee members have time to thoroughly look through and understand the proposal.

Wes moved, seconded by Morris Nassuk to support proposal 140. The question was called. There was no opposition.

A subsequent discussion on the opposition of proposal 167 took place as this proposal addresses in-season reporting of subsistence and personal use salmon harvest within 5 days of harvest. Wes expressed that this proposal would cause an extra burden and that a much better proposal can be crafted specifically for the region.

Wes made a motion to oppose proposal 167, seconded by Morris Nassuk. The question was called. There were no opposition.

Lastly, a short discussion was held on Board of Game proposal 188 regarding brown bear tag fee exemptions.

Morris Nassuk made a motion to support proposal 188, seconded by Matilda Hardy. The question was called. There was no opposition.

i. Spring 2023 Yearling capture - Sarah Germaine, Alicia Carson

Sarah Germaine gave an overview of one of two possible surveys that will take place in the spring of 2023, a browse survey and/or a yearling capture study. She detailed the methodology of both surveys noting that the browse survey would be the preferred survey over the yearling capture study as it is less invasive. Fred Jay Ivanoff asked a question relating to the invasiveness of the study and Sarah Germaine explained that the calves would be under for 10 minutes where a reversal drug would be administered and within 1-2 minutes, the calves would be back to normal. A consensus was established that the browse survey would be the preferred method.

ii. **Moose survey 2021- Sarah Germaine, Alicia Carson**

Sarah Germaine gave an update on the 2021 spring moose composition survey stating that the moose population was stable, noting 765 moose were observed and the ratio of bulls to cows were 122:100. This in turn increased the quota in unit 22A. Plans for future surveys near the Shaktoolik and Koyuk area will take place fall of 2023 and fall of 2024 for the Unalakleet area. Wes shared his concern with the high harvest rate continuously over the next several years comparing it to the 1980's when the moose population crashed. Morris Nassuk asked about the density map referring to the provided packet where Sarah Germaine explained that a neonatal project (in units 22C&D) was conducted where calves were collared and monitored. Results showed an 85% mortality rate within the first 5 months. In addition, Jacob Ivanoff and Morris Nassuk had general questions regarding the musk ox hunt. Sarah Germaine noted that a musk ox survey is scheduled for spring of 2024.

c. **Others**

There were no other reports.

10. **Public Comment**

Hunter and fishermen, Fred Jay Ivanoff, made two comments regarding subsistence hunts for musk ox and moose. First, for the destruction of musk ox horn: his suggestion was to allow subsistence users to keep the cut tip part of the horn for subsistence purposes instead of submitting entirety to the State. The second suggestion he made was having a minimum caliber restriction for moose hunting. A following discussion proceeded with a consensus in support of the two comments made. Topics within the discussion brought up concern regarding hunters in general using low caliber rifles, evidence of nonfatal wounds amongst moose harvested, often non-harvestable meat near and around the wound area and finding other solutions to minimize trophy hunts without the destruction of entire musk ox horn.

Alicia Carson asked if there was any way that ADF&G can help in relation to providing hunter education to the communities. Jacob Ivanoff and Wes Jones suggested that this course could be administered through the school that gears towards young hunters with the help of the committee members in Unalakleet, Shaktoolik, and Koyuk.

Steve Ivanoff gave a comment regarding the pink salmon commercial fishery, particularly opportunities for Stebbins and St. Michael community members to participate. Issues about past management were discussed and if this were to be proposed, who would be taking lead on such a proposal. In addition, he was also in support of having a minimum caliber restriction for moose hunting.

11. **Old Business**

There was no old business.

12. **New Business**

a. **Board of Game and Fisheries meeting Cycle/Schedule**

- i. November 29, 2022, Board of Fish - Bristol Bay Finfish, comment deadline November 14, 2022
- ii. January 14-18, 2023 **B o a r d** of Fish -Arctic/Yukon/Kuskokwim Finfish, comment deadline December 30, 2022
- iii. February 20-25, 2023, Board of Fish -Alaska Peninsula/Aleutian Island/Chignik Finfish, comment deadline February 3, 2023

- iv. March 10-13, 2023, Board of Fish - Statewide finfish & supplemental issues, comment deadline February 23, 2023

Sarah Germaine gave insight to a potential commercial, non-resident moose hunt in unit 22. Jacob Ivanoff and Wes shared concern that this should be addressed as a community, resident discussion. In addition, Morris Nassuk shared that this would be a good economic resource for locals to obtain their commercial guide license but noted the difficulty in obtaining such license. It was recommended by Jacob Ivanoff to work with tribal entities to have such possibility. Sarah also recommended to come up with a backup or counter proposal in case that there is opportunity for a non-resident moose hunt. Jacob Ivanoff also brought up a point of extending the winter hunt dates in RM841 for additional moose harvest. Kelsi commented on potential tribal members to allow hunting during the federal hunt.

Lastly, Board of Game submission proposals dates were addressed for upcoming potential proposals discussed throughout the meeting.

13. Set the next meeting date

No set date, however, the next meeting is anticipated to take place spring 2023.

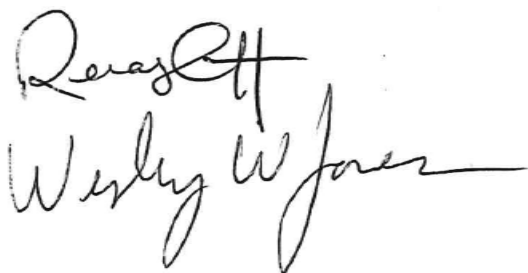
14. Other

Morris Nassuk requested to Board Support, Georgianna Phillips to advocate for in-person meetings for the future. Alicia Carson asked if there were any interest in the Department of Conservation being present in Unalakleet during the moose hunting season; there was a consensus amongst committee members agreeing that this was an appropriate time:

15. Adjournment

Wes Jones moved, seconded by Matilda Hardy to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 1:34 pm.

Approved minutes by Secretary, Renae Ivanoff and Advisory Member Wesley Jones.



The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The first signature, 'Renae Ivanoff', is written in a cursive style. Below it, the second signature, 'Wesley Jones', is also written in a cursive style and is longer, extending further to the right.