WHEREAS, presently pending before the board is proposal 105 which requests approval of the formation of a cooperative fishery for Chignik;

WHEREAS, the economic distress currently being experienced by Alaska’s salmon fisheries, including the Chignik fishery, is the driving force behind this proposal; and

WHEREAS, board recognizes a severe economic situation being experienced by Alaska’s salmon fisheries, including fisheries at Chignik; and

WHEREAS, numerous individuals and entities, both public and private, have appeared before the board and testified as to this proposal; and

WHEREAS, there are significant legal and factual issues before the board arising out of proposal 105; and

WHEREAS, the board recognizes that its regulatory action with regard to this proposal may have far reaching and significant consequences for Alaska’s fisheries; and

WHEREAS, because of the significance of this proposal, the board wishes to give the proposal the detailed attention which it deserves;

The Board of Fisheries hereby RESOLVES as follows:

1) Proposal 105 is hereby assigned to a special committee of the board, entitled the Chignik Co-op Committee.
2) This committee consists of board members White, Coffey and Dersham.
3) The committee shall meet at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, January 11.
4) The charge to this committee is to identify all of the issues, legal and factual, associated with this proposal so that the board’s chairman can develop a charge to a working group which shall address this proposal between this meeting and the board’s March 2002 meeting, at which time this proposal will be brought back before the full board for a vote on the merits of the proposal.
5) The working group will be appointed by the chairman of the board. The chairman will strive to achieve a representative balance of interests on the working group. The working group will work under the direction of the chair of the special committee. Each member of the working group will pay his/her own expenses for participation in the working group. The working group, through the special committee will make an interim report to the board at its February 2002 meeting.

DATED: January 9, 2002
Anchorage, Alaska

Ed Dersham, Chair