



Alaska Joint Board of Fisheries and Game

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ALASKA JOINT BOARD OF FISHERIES AND GAME Fish and Game Advisory Committee System, Board Process for Adopting Regulations, and Nonsubsistence Areas

March 25-26, 2024

Egan Civic and Convention Center Anchorage, Alaska

MEETING SUMMARY

The Joint Board of Fisheries and Game (Joint Board) convened on Monday, March 25, 2024, at the Egan Civic and Convention Center in Anchorage. Fourteen board members were present: Board of Game (BOG) members Jerry Burnett, Stosh Hoffman, Al Barrette, Jake Fletcher, James Cooney, Ruth Cusack and Dave Lorrington; and Board of Fisheries (BOF) members John Wood, Tom Carpenter, Mike Wood, Gerad Godfrey, Stan Zuray, Marit Carlson-Van Dort, and Greg Svendsen. Board of Game Chairman Jerry Burnett chaired the meeting.

The meeting opened with introductions and board member ethics disclosure statements, followed by an oral report by AF&G Boards Support Section, which provided overview of the advisory committee system which included regional reports. The Joint Board also received an oral report from the ADF&G Subsistence Section regarding the Fairbanks Nonsubsistence Area.

Public testimony began Monday afternoon and concluded the following morning, March 26. The joint board heard from 23 testifiers, 13 of whom were advisory committee representatives (see RC 16 for the testimony list).

The joint board began proposal deliberations upon conclusion of public testimony on March 26. The joint board considered 20 proposals, adopting 6. Joint board action on the following proposals is recorded for each as: C = carried; CA = carried as amended; F = Failed; and NA = no action.

The joint board meeting material and audio are available on the meeting website at:
www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=process.jbmeetinginfo&date=03-25-2024&meeting=anchorage.

Advisory Committees – Uniform Rules of Operations (14 proposals)

The audio for the board deliberations for this section begins Tuesday, 3/26/24 at 11:26:55 AM.

F PROPOSAL 1: Require one-month public notice for advisory committee election meetings and 14 days-notice for regular meetings.

F PROPOSAL 2: Require all advisory committee meetings be accessible via call-in option.

- F** **PROPOSAL 3:** Reduce the terms for advisory committee officers from two years to one.
- C** **PROPOSAL 4:** Clarify the responsibilities for advisory committee chairs.
- C/A** **PROPOSAL 5:** Clarify the responsibilities for the officer position of secretary/recorder. *The Joint Board amended to proposal to say “secretray or recorder”.*
- N/A** **PROPOSAL 6:** Allow advisory committees with community designated seats to appoint alternates for those communities. *The Joint Board took no action due to the actoin on Proposal 7.*
- C** **PROPOSAL 7:** Clarify the process for appointing advisory committee alternates, allow alternates for communities having more than one designated seat, and establish one year term limits for alternates.
- F** **PROPOSAL 8:** Allow advisory committees the discretion to set membership term dates.
- F** **PROPOSAL 9:** Limit the number of consecutive terms advisory committee members can serve.
- F** **PROPOSAL 10:** Designate one seat on each advisory committee for non-consumptive representation.
- F** **PROPOSAL 11:** Designate non-consumptive user seats for the Anchorage, Cooper Landing, Fairbanks, Homer, and Matanuska Valley advisory committees.
- C** **PROPOSAL 12:** Clarify the provision that advisory committees may not reject a nomination for an undesignated seat when membership is less than the number of members authorized.
- CA** **PROPOSAL 13:** Clarify the process for declaring vacancies and filling expired seats. *The Joint Board approved a housekeeping amendment to change 96.021(b), replacing the refernce of 96.060 (e)(3) with (g)(2).*
- F** **PROPOSAL 14:** Adopt an absence policy allowing advisory committees to remove members who miss more than 50% of meetings without reasonable justification.

Administration of Advisory Committees (2 proposals)

The audio for the board deliberations for this section begins Tuesday, 3/26/24 at 03:42:26 PM.

- F** **PROPOSAL 15:** Allow advisory committees to provide additional recommendations.
- F** **PROPOSAL 16:** Dissolve seven advisory committees in the Southeast Region due to inactive status.

Establishment of Advisory Committees (1 proposal)

The audio for the board deliberations for this section begins Tuesday, 3/26/24 at 04:05:33 PM.

- C PROPOSAL 20:** Assign seats on the East Prince of Wales Advisory Committee by community.

Board Process for Developing Regulations (2 proposals)

The audio for the board deliberations for this section begins Tuesday, 3/26/24 at 04:10:47 PM.

- F PROPOSAL 17:** Establish a process in regulation for developing board proposals.

- F PROPOSAL 18:** Adopt a regulation or a Joint Board policy to limit certain types of amendments.

Subsistence Uses – Nonsubsistence Areas (1 proposal)

The audio for the board deliberations for this section begins Tuesday, 3/26/24 at 04:28:17 PM.

- F PROPOSAL 19:** Redefine the boundaries for the Fairbanks Nonsubsistence Area

Miscellaneous Actions:

The audio for board deliberations on this section begins Saturday, 3/23/19 at 04:47:17 PM.

The Joint Board discussed the process for accepting late proposals, as was the case with Proposal 20 which was added to this meeting's agenda following the proposal deadline. No action was taken as members agreed the Joint Board Committee could discuss the need for a process when preparing for the next Joint Board meeting.

The Joint Board had some informal discussion about the timeline for the next regulatory Joint Board meeting, which is expected to occur approximately every five years. It was noted by staff that the 2028/2029 meeting cycle be avoided due to the Board of Fisheries topics of Bristol Bay, Aleutian Islands, Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim, and Statewide finfish.

The Joint Board unanimously approved a resolution to the legislature (RC 17) supporting increased funding to the advisory committee program including an increase to the state per diem rate, increased meeting activity, payment for recording meeting minutes, and additional teleconference equipment.

The meeting adjourned March 26 at approximately 5:50 p.m.