

**Joint Meeting of the Anchorage Assembly and the Native Village of Eklutna  
Anchorage Alaska**

*Chin'an gu ninyu "thank you, you came here."*

*Joint meetings are part of AO 2020-137(S) Establishing Government-to-Government relations between the Municipality of Anchorage and the Sovereign Native Village of Eklutna.*

**Meeting Details**

August 25, 2022

4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

City Hall, 632 W. 6th Ave., Room 155

**AGENDA**

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT  
land acknowledgement is a formal statement recognizing the Indigenous people of a place. It is a public gesture of appreciation for the past and present Indigenous stewardship of the lands that we now occupy. It is an actionable statement that marks our collective movement towards decolonization and equity.

At this joint meeting, the Anchorage Assembly and the Native Village of Eklutna, as sovereign governments, would like to acknowledge that we gather today on the traditional home lands of the Dena'ina Athabascans. For thousands of years the Dena'ina have been and continue to be the stewards of this land. It is with gratefulness and respect that we recognize the contributions, innovations, and contemporary perspectives of the upper Cook Inlet Dena'ina.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS JOINT MEETING

A. Approval of December 8, 2021 Meeting Minutes

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

A. Introduction and housekeeping

B. Items of Mutual Interest

- Briefing on Plan to Address Homelessness
- Boarding School Investigation
- Use of Alcohol Tax Funds for Culturally Relevant Programming for Youth Prevention Activities
- Other items

C. Ongoing Initiatives

- Placenames
- Eklutna River Restoration

- Other items

**5. SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING JOINT MEETING(S)**

- A.** Fall/Winter 2022, Date to Be Determined – NVE Hosts
- Content for next meeting

**6. MEMBER COMMENTS**

**7. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

**FOR AUXILIARY AIDS, SERVICES, OR SPECIAL MODIFICATIONS TO PARTICIPATE PLEASE CONTACT THE MUNICIPAL CLERK’S OFFICE 48 HOURS BEFORE THE MEETING TO REQUEST REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS AT (907) 343-4311 OR [wwmasmc@anchorageak.gov](mailto:wwmasmc@anchorageak.gov)**

**Minutes of the Joint Meeting of the Anchorage Assembly and the Native Village of Eklutna  
Anchorage Alaska**

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*Joint meetings are part of AO 2020-137(S) Establishing Government-to-Government relations between the Municipality of Anchorage and the Sovereign Native Village of Eklutna.*

**Meeting Details**

December 8, 2021

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**Athabascan Ceremonial House**

at the Alaska Native Heritage Center

8800 Heritage Center Drive

Anchorage, AK 99504

**1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

The Joint Meeting of the Anchorage Assembly and the Native Village of Eklutna was convened by Assembly Chair LaFrance at 3:20 p.m.

**B. Roll Call**

**Anchorage Assembly Present:**

PRESENT: Assembly Chair Suzanne LaFrance, Assembly Vice-Chair Christopher Constant, Assembly Members Forrest Dunbar, Pete Petersen, Felix Rivera, John Weddleton, and Kameron Perez-Verdia.

ABSENT: Assembly Member Jamie Allard, Crystal Kennedy, Austin Quinn-Davidson, and Meg Zaletel.

Clerk's Note: Assembly Member Perez-Verdia was excused from the meeting at 4:20 p.m.

**Native Village of Eklutna Tribal Council Present:**

PRESENT: Aaron Leggett, President and Chair; Maria Coleman, Vice President; Dorothy Cook, Secretary; Angeleen Waskey, Trustee; Trésia Coleman, Trustee; Dustin Lorah, Trustee

ABSENT: Shirley Craig, Treasurer

**C. Pledge of Allegiance and Land Acknowledgement**

Aaron Leggett led the Pledge.

Aaron Leggett read the Land Acknowledgement.

**2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS JOINT MEETING**

Maria Coleman moved, to Approve the minutes of the Joint meeting of  
Pete Peterson seconded, May 27, 2021  
**and the motion passed without objection.**

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Christopher Constant moved, to Approve the Agenda, As Amended  
Suzanne LaFrance seconded,  
**and the motion passed without objection.**

Christopher Constant moved, to add the topic of the Infrastructure Bill as the  
Suzanne LaFrance seconded, last item under 4.C. to the agenda  
**and the motion passed without objection.**

Aaron Leggett, Native Village of Eklutna, President and Chair, spoke.

Forrest Dunbar, Assembly Member, spoke.

**4. ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

**4.A. Introductions and housekeeping**

Aaron Leggett, Native Village of Eklutna, President and Chair, spoke.

Trésia Coleman, Native Village of Eklutna, Trustee, spoke.

John Weddleton, Assembly Member, spoke.

Dorothy Cook, Native Village of Eklutna, Secretary, spoke.

Maria Coleman, Native Village of Eklutna, Vice President, spoke.

Angeleen Waskey, Native Village of Eklutna, Trustee, spoke.

Pete Petersen, Assembly Member, spoke.

Forrest Dunbar, Assembly Member, spoke.

Kameron Perez-Verdia, Assembly Member, spoke.

Felix Rivera, Assembly Member, spoke.

Suzanne LaFrance, Assembly Chair, spoke.

**4.B. Items of Mutual Interest**

• **Relationship between Native Village of Eklutna and Eklutna Inc.**

Aaron Leggett, Native Village of Eklutna, President and Chair, spoke.

Felix Rivera, Assembly Member, spoke.

Christopher Constant, Assembly Vice-Chair, spoke.

Dustin Lorah, Native Village of Eklutna, Trustee, spoke.

Maria Coleman, Native Village of Eklutna, Vice President, spoke.

Clerk's Note: Chair Leggett called for a 5 minute at-ease.

- **Other Items**

Aaron Leggett, Native Village of Eklutna, President and Chair, spoke.

Maria Coleman, Native Village of Eklutna, Vice President, spoke.

Felix Rivera, Assembly Member, spoke.

Trésia Coleman, Native Village of Eklutna, Trustee, spoke.

Kameron Perez-Verdia, Assembly Member, spoke.

Forrest Dunbar, Assembly Member, spoke.

Dustin Lorah, Native Village of Eklutna, Trustee, spoke.

Christopher Constant, Assembly Vice-Chair, spoke.

Pete Petersen, Assembly Member, spoke.

#### **4.C. Ongoing Initiatives**

Forrest Dunbar, Assembly Member, spoke.

Aaron Leggett, Native Village of Eklutna, President and Chair, spoke.

Maria Coleman, Native Village of Eklutna, Vice President, spoke.

Christopher Constant, Assembly Vice-Chair, spoke.

Felix Rivera, Assembly Member, spoke.

John Weddleton, Assembly Member, spoke.

Ben Bowman, Assistant Municipal attorney, spoke

- **Placenames**

Aaron Leggett, Native Village of Eklutna, President and Chair, spoke.

- **Eklutna River Restoration**

Aaron Leggett, Native Village of Eklutna, President and Chair, spoke.

Forrest Dunbar, Assembly Member, spoke.

John Weddleton, Assembly Member, spoke.

Christopher Constant, Assembly Vice-Chair, spoke.

Maria Coleman, Native Village of Eklutna, Vice President, spoke.

- **Infrastructure Bill (Addendum)**

John Weddleton, Assembly Member, spoke.

Aaron Leggett, Native Village of Eklutna, President and Chair, spoke.

Maria Coleman, Native Village of Eklutna, Vice President, spoke.

**4.D. Invited Subject Matter Expert – Indian Affairs**

**5. SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING JOINT MEETING(S)**

**5.A. Spring 2022, Date to Be Determined – MOA Hosts**

Aaron Leggett, Native Village of Eklutna, President and Chair, spoke.

Maria Coleman, Native Village of Eklutna, Vice President, spoke.

Suzanne LaFrance, Assembly Chair, spoke.

**6. MEMBER COMMENTS**

Maria Coleman, Native Village of Eklutna, Vice President, spoke.

Trésia Coleman, Native Village of Eklutna, Trustee, spoke.

Felix Rivera, Assembly Member, spoke.

Suzanne LaFrance, Assembly Chair, spoke.

Aaron Leggett, Native Village of Eklutna, President and Chair, spoke.

**7. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

The Joint Meeting of the Anchorage Assembly and the Native Village of Eklutna was adjourned by President Leggett at 5:02 p.m.

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Suzanne LaFrance,  
Anchorage Assembly Chair

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Aaron Leggett,  
Native Village of Eklutna President and Chair

ATTEST:

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Barbara A. Jones, Municipal Clerk  
Date Minutes Approved: \_\_\_\_\_.