



## **Municipality of Anchorage**

### **Watershed & Natural Resources Advisory Commission**

Room 155 - City Hall  
632 West 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Anchorage, Alaska

#### ***ACTION SUMMARY***

12:00 Noon  
Wednesday, July 1, 2015

#### ***Regular Meeting***

### **I. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**

*Present:* Dan Billman  
Dan Bosch  
Tamás Deák, Chair  
Brett Jokela  
Holly Kent  
Cherie Northon  
Bob Pawlowski  
Rick Sinnott, Vice Chair

*Excused:* David Nyman

*Staff:* Thede Tobish, Senior Planner, MOA Community Development Department,  
Planning Division, Long-Range Planning Section

### **II. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at approximately 12:05 p.m.

### **III. ACTION SUMMARY**

#### **A. Regular Meeting of May 27, 2015**

*Commissioner Billman* moved to approve the May 27, 2015 minutes.

*Commissioner Sinnott* seconded.

**The minutes for the May 27, 2015 meeting were approved with one correction, the word “manor” changed to “manner.”**

#### **IV. NEW BUSINESS**

##### **A. Overview/Discussion of Bear-Trash Management Issues & Actions**

The Commission opened up a discussion that included review of the presentations by Alaska Waste and Solid Waste Services on the issue of bear-garbage conflicts in Anchorage. The Commission discussed and decided it was appropriate to make a policy recommendation to the Administration and the Assembly, but what is the appropriate level of engagement by the Commission. Alaska Waste is a private company that manages the bulk of garbage pick-ups in Anchorage.

One outstanding issue is the fact that there is yet to be invented a bear-resistant container that works with the automated garbage trucks. Both companies know and understand the time, staffing, and cost requirements of garbage pick-up and costs associated with bear-proof containers.

The Commission decided that a resolution to the Mayor and the Assembly on this issue would continue to keep this policy issue alive and on course to be addressed. The Municipality, in conjunction with the two companies, should focus on areawide education and reevaluation of business practices that reduce conflicts, especially in the Government Hill neighborhood and Hillside interface. With a resolution, the Commission hopes to remind the new administration that the Municipality of Anchorage is a signatory of the *Living with Wildlife* document. The resolution also recommends that Solid Waste Services participate in the Anchorage Bear Committee process. Solid Waste Services' funding should include administration money to support adjusted business practices and related costs on Government Hill. A draft resolution is to be provided at the July regular meeting, if possible.

##### **B. Election of Officers (Chair/Vice Chair) for 2015**

*Commissioner Billman* moved to nominate Tamás Deák as the next Commission Chair and Rick Sinnott as Vice-Chair.

*Commissioner Jokela* seconded.

**Nominations were closed.**

**The nomination of Tamás Deák as Chair and Rick Sinnott as Vice-Chair passed unanimously.**

**V. OLD BUSINESS** (none)

**VI. OTHER BUSINESS/STAFF REPORT**

Staff gave a status report on the *Chugach Access Plan*, which had been in the municipal adoption process as a Comprehensive Plan element. Staff said that, given the public concerns about property rights and easement dedications, the Assembly instead adopted an amendment to Title 21. The Trails Dedication section of the code was modified to require the consideration of easement dedications for access to Chugach State Park in future subdivision reviews adjacent to the park boundary. This essentially accomplishes the same thing as having the Plan adopted in the Code, but the new language offered more leeway and individual determinations based on all factors. The Assembly supported this approach.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

*Commissioner Billman moved to adjourn. Commissioner Bosch seconded.*

**The motion passed without objection.**

The meeting adjourned at 12:58 p.m.