

**Alaska Clean Harbors**  
**Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes - FINAL**  
**June 17, 2013 from 1:00 - 2:30 PM**

**Present:**

Shane Serrano (ADEC), Brett Farrell (Marine Exchange), Terry Johnson (AK Sea Grant Marine Advisory Program), Alan Sorum (member-at-large), Erika Amman (NOAA), Steve Russell (ADEC, joined the call late), Bryan Hawkins (AAHPA/Homer Port Director, joined the call late), Rachel Lord (Cook Inletkeeper/ACH Coordinator)

**Absent:**

Joe McCullough (ADNR) & Kim Kovol (Green Star)

1. Harbor participation update

- a. Haines – making a lot of progress with their signage, recycling, sewage pumpout, and fish barge among other things. Rachel gave a quick MSGP overview, outlining our current understanding of the regulations. Phil in Haines talked with ADEC's William Ashton and was told they only need to file a certificate of No Exposure, which they have done.
- b. Sitka. Rachel reported staff changes at the city/borough level, but that they are still working on certification efforts.
- c. Valdez – Rachel visited in May and met with the new harbormaster, staff and Port Director Diane. They are moving forward, but slowly with a new guy at the helm. It seems like a great time to be working with them, as they are going through all policies and procedures.
- d. Juneau - any movement? Shane visited – board seemed receptive to it, but it would take them to pass a resolution to give Carl the go-ahead. Something to consider pursuing in the fall/winter.
- e. Cordova – Rachel visited in March and met with the community Clean Harbors group, the harbormaster (Tony), and the Port & Harbor Commission. Supportive and interested in the program. Tony is new and started in November. We went through the checklist and he is going to work through a summer season before doing too much. Looks to be good cooperation or at least interest in cooperation between the harbor department and the community group.
- f. Bethel – Rachel received a signed ACH pledge and two BMP Checklists from Bethel – one for the harbor and one for the general waterfront. Brett has been through, not in SBH. Steve – they have a short season. Get in late-spring and then by Oct most of the boats are pulled out. Lots of skiffs. No live aboards, although some comfish may live aboard. Not very high use – around 30 slips. They just dredged the harbor & are doing some other improvements. Steve has a guy working for ADEC that lives out there. After discussion it was agreed that we will continue to focus on the small boat harbor aspects of operation. Rachel will send information back to Peter on how they can proceed on their certification efforts.

- g. Kodiak – Thanks, Shane! Started work. Lon took him around. New president of PCC. Initial checklist submitted. Much of what's outlined are things that have documented doing. Rachel is reviewing the submitted checklist and will send back to them information on how to proceed with their certification efforts.
- h. Dutch Harbor – Marine Exchange updates? Not really much happening very fast. They came to MXCH to update BMPs pre-ACH. Shifting priorities to other port activities & BMPs taking a back-seat. They're going to reach back out to them and hope to get them moving forward. Rachel offered to use ACH certification as some incentive if it's helpful. Not a traditional marina-looking place. Oil collection is a big one that they could really improve. No port-wide process. Alan – he's working with Akutan Harbor with some natural connections to Dutch; could definitely help out. It's all brand new – currently just a hole in the ground. Goal is to get them established through ACH. Probably another year until they get floats.
- i. Others? No other facilities were discussed.

- i. QUESTION: In a facility like Valdez where the 'boatyard' is right there and adjacent to/part of the small boat harbor, do we look at that operation? Seems like we should, as opposed to Cordova or Seward where the Marine Industrial Centers are removed from the harbor itself. Seems a bit like a funny distinction.

Alan – in Valdez it should be part of the harbor. Terry – who owns and manages? Steve – who manages the boatyard is a very good point. In Valdez, the City manages the boatyard which is directly adjacent vs. Homer which doesn't have a boatyard. Risks are much more different in boatyard than in a harbor. Erika – do any of the questions pertain? Steve – Valdez is diff than Kodiak with their boatyards. Erika – could there be additional comments that could provide suggestions for those areas. Encourage BMPs being employed in the boatyard area, but keep the focus on the marinas. Shane – the boatyards seem to be more sophisticated than in the marinas/harbors (Kodiak/Seward). More industrial, more money pushing through puts more emphasis on them. Rachel – trying to be consistent. It was agreed that ACH would continue to focus on the small boat harbor, but not ignore the boatyards completely. There would be some discussion about the boatyard areas, and suggestions for improvements or encouragement to continue good efforts. Green Star is another organization which may be helpful in working with boatyards.

**Other Notes:** Next year make revisions to the BMP Checklist/Guidebook  
Homer recertification 2014; Seward recertification 2015

## 2. Newsletter/Website Feedback from Committee?

Steve – good job. Easy on the eye and good informative messaging.

Rachel gave an update on the advertisement for Clean Harbors/Clean Marina programs in the 2013 National Fisherman Pilothouse Guide. All certified ports on the west coast were given a color logo next to their listing in the guide.

3. Map project progress (attached draft for Homer; Sitka was not available prior to the meeting)
  - a. Brett liked it. Didn't see anything to change. Dog poop got a double-take. Terry liked it – started a long time ago and good to see it move forward. Standardized format will be helpful. Brett- is it a benefit of working with ACH? Rachel said yes – this is something that we will provide for all facilities we work with. Terry – need more info for trailered boaters. Fee station symbol? Parking isn't addressed. Steve – maybe just add a section in the "Arriving in the harbor" that says check at fee station/HM office for parking information. Rachel agreed to work with the graphic designer on including a sentence or two regarding parking. It had been decided earlier on to not include parking details in the uplands as they change frequently. Steve suggested adding the ADEC number for spill response in addition to the NRC and the Harbormasters office. Rachel hopes to get this map finalized ASAP so it can be distributed during this summer, and start on Seward and other facilities soon. The template for multi-basin harbors (Sitka) should be completed in the next month.
4. Abandoned & Derelict Vessels
  - a. HB 131! Rachel gave a brief overview of the passage of HB 131 during this past legislative session. Jakolof Bay incident helped to catalyze. Steve – not a huge amount of change, but gives a little more chance that the state can work some of the ADV issues with the spread authority. No money attached, unfortunately. They are trying to do some cataloging of ADV – have a couple dozen in W AK rivers and some others elsewhere to catalog and get into a presentation to get a couple million from legislature next season to start addressing them. Reasonably hopeful they can get some money to address the issues. Rachel asked if he had talked with DNR as Wynn had mentioned a database they've started on ADV. Steve said he hasn't talked with Wynn, dealing with other DNR folks. They currently have the jurisdiction. The added language gives Steve a little more authority before the fact in a situation like Jakolof Bay to deal with something BEFORE it happens.
  - b. ADV Task Force (attached Memo). Steve – speed reading right now. Big difference between cutting something up at the SMIC and going to the middle of coastline and cutting up tenders. Have to start somewhere. He's looking to gather locations in more remote areas vs. in the harbors/boatyards. Focusing on W AK rivers and Aleutians, plus villages. Anything to do to coordinate is a good effort. Bryan – the AAHPA board has given their support for a task force. Would be a good use of time to come up with a list of stakeholders. Steve- the list proposed in the memo is pretty close for agencies – ADF&G Habitat would be a good one to add. He'll send me the main folks. EPA would also be there for jurisdiction on rivers. Rachel will solicit contact information for various agencies from committee members and start making contacts with them this summer in preparation for the AAHPA meeting. She also asked Bryan to send along articles and information that he finds on ADV elsewhere. Rachel will work on establishing a good

ADV webpage on the ACH website that can be a repository for useful information/background/articles/etc.

c. Valdez AAHPA & ACH in-person meeting, Oct 21-25

- i. Travel funds available
- ii. Date for Advisory Committee meeting?

Erika – up in the air, Shane – hopeful, Alan could give ACH presentation if needed. Terry planning to go tentatively. Steve will be in Valdez in Oct for another major drill scheduled sometime during that time.

Rachel will send out a request for folks to let her know if they need funding, as well as a poll to try and nail down a date and time for an in-person ACH meeting.

5. Clean Boating

- a. Dockwalkers in Seward and Homer. Rachel did a training in Seward for clean boating outreach (“Dockwalkers”) in late-April and brought them 30 clean boating kits to distribute. A good opportunity for positive cooperation between RBCA & the City Harbor Dept. They have started sending back surveys, and Rachel will summarize and provide information on the website. In Homer Rachel is looking for a few volunteers to go out to the launch ramp and do similar outreach.
- b. Charter boat outreach in Homer – Rachel has distributed some clean boating kits and surveys to 8 charter operations in Homer. Mostly providing information and starting to let folks know about our activities.
- c. Fuel dock activities – postponement. Shane bought another 120 fuel vent overflow devices and will be approaching boat selling vendors to start keeping them in-stock at their stores around southcentral. They could also talk to some of the fuel docks as well. Rachel let the committee know that she agrees that a lot of great work could be/should be done with fuel docks, and please keep suggestions coming! But with limited capacity there have to be some things that are dropped this summer.
- d. Outreach shows for 2014 – Anc Sportsman Show (March) & Seattle Fish Expo (Nov) possibly if we can join forces with POSPET and/or other Clean Marina groups on the west coast. No Anchor’s Aweigh Boat Show in 2014.
- e. Spill response signs – possibly provided through POSPET. Up until this point the Spills Aren’t Slick Signs have used only a 1-800 number for spill reporting that isn’t useable in Alaska. They are looking at creating a sign that could be used up here.

Shane – will we be at AK Forum on the Environment (AFE)? DEC has a good presence there. Shane might have an opportunity to distribute some ACH information if that would be okay. Rachel said she probably won’t be attending AFE, but could consider it, and would be happy to pass along anything to Shane for distribution.

6. Calendar/Scheduling

- a. Maternity leave. Rachel will be starting maternity leave on August 5, lasting mostly until the Valdez meeting at the end of October. She will be available during that time (mostly

Sept-Oct) via email for planning the AAHPA/ACH in-person meeting. There is a possibility that she won't be able to attend the meeting, in which case she'll ask a committee member (likely Shane) to give the ACH update talk during the AAHPA meeting.

- b. ACH was granted a one-year no cost extension of our CIAP funding which now will run through Aug. 15, 2016. This allows for the maternity leave and reduced hours to not crunch funded ACH activities. We still do need to consider long-term funding sources and Rachel encourages everyone to keep this in mind.

#### 7. Comments from Committee?

Shane – outboard outreach to vendors, that's all they're working on right now. No harbor visits planned right now except Valdez in Oct. Fairly confident.

Terry – nothing else. Appreciate being kept up to date

Alan – left the meeting early.

Brett - nothing to add. 4 seasons boat yard in Seward sold to Petro and putting in a tank farm. They've been working with them to clean up the spills. Small boats go into that yard and they'll have to go elsewhere now.

Erika – left the meeting early.

Bryan – published in paper that they passed some new legislation on ADV in WA. Interested in knowing more

Steve – nothing else to add.

Meeting ended just before 2:30pm.

#### **Attachments:**

- ADV Task Force Memo
- Homer Harbor Brochure/Map
- Minutes from Jan 30 ACH Advisory Committee meeting