

Alaska Clean Harbors Advisory Committee Meeting  
June 20, 2012 via teleconference \* Meeting Minutes DRAFT  
9:00am – 10:00am

**Present:**

Rachel Lord, Cook Inletkeeper; Erika Amman, NOAA Restoration Center; Bryan Hawkins, AAHPA/Port of Homer; Joe McCullough, Alaska DNR Office of Boating Safety; Shane Serrano, Alaska DEC Division of Water; Steve Russell, Alaska DEC Spill Response; Kim Kovol, Green Star

**Not in attendance:** *Alan Sorum, member-at-large; Brett Farrell, Marine Exchange of Alaska; Terry Johnson, Sea Grant Marine Advisory Program*

**Task Summary:**

EVERYONE –

- Please send Rachel a brief biography if you haven't done so already
- Resources for the ACH website ([www.alaskacleanharbors.org](http://www.alaskacleanharbors.org))
- Schedule a trip to Sitka for our October in-person meeting!

RACHEL

- Will send information on the in-person meeting, along with travel assistance details
- Will send MOU addendum to Steve for a signature
- Begin looking into ACH involvement in derelict vessel issue around Alaska

ERIKA

- Share draft RFP with Rachel and Shane when ready
- Share with Rachel graphic designer contact

KIM

- Share with Rachel graphic designer contact

STEVE

- Share with Rachel derelict vessel DNR contact

Prior to the official start of the meeting, Rachel and Steve discussed the recent grounding and diesel spill on the Homer Spit by the landing craft Daniel D. Takak. Rachel asked Steve's opinion about prioritizing fuel removal from the vessel as soon as it was safely landed on the beach. Steve said the vacuum truck that was used came from Nikiski, and it wasn't clear if there was capacity closer to Homer. During the conversation he emailed Jeff Erikson from Home Run Oil in Homer, who responded that he thought there could possibly be local capacity for fuel removal.

Rachel congratulated Joe on receiving the Western States Boating Administrators Association boating safety educator of the year award. Joe said he now is in the running for a national award.

## **Overview & Update**

### *Homer Chip Pad – EVOS; info from Erika on solicited projects*

Rachel asked Erika for an update on the Clean Harbors component of the EVOS funding through NOAA. Erika went to several communities to get some general project ideas. They've received a couple of descriptions of ideas that pertain to improving marine habitat – water quality, harbor improvements that would lead to that overall objective. NOAA staff are writing the RFP right now. Planning to run it by the Trustees in their February meeting. Erika offered that we could take a look at it; Shane and Rachel would both like to review the draft RFP. Erika noted that they are not calling out specific projects, but she thinks the RFP will cover the Homer Harbor project. Put out the RFP after review in February. Rachel is working with the Homer Harbor to identify project specifics on wastewater treatment at the chip pad in the Homer Harbor uplands.

### *Haines Harbor*

Rachel informed the committee that participation in ACH was coming before assembly next meeting. Rachel plans to Haines in early-September (maybe also visits to Cordova & Valdez?)

### *Valdez & Kodiak*

Rachel gave a quick update on the ACH table at ComFish. Nearly 200 clean boating packets were distributed and surveys returned. Rachel will enter data in the next few weeks and distribute to the committee and on the website. Talked to Kodiak Harbormaster Marty Owens, who was really interested in the harbor map idea. Great carrot to entice participation! Valdez has signed a resolution supporting ACH participation, but there are possibly some staff changes underway and we are waiting to see how that shakes out. Hope to start working with them soon.

### *Newsletter*

Erika thought it looked good. Thought it would bring about more interest in the program. Maybe more invitations for presenting to communities and at conferences/events, etc. Bryan thought it would be good to maybe include in the Port Commission packet. Rachel reminded everyone that it is a bi-annual newsletter, and that committee members are encouraged to submit content!

### *Harbor Map project*

Rachel is working on contracting the design work out with CIAP funding. Marty had suggested a guy from out of state who has done the Kodiak Boatyard work. Rachel has contacted him, but is wanting to find someone in-state. Suggestions from the committee on the map:

Steve: Consider including spill response equipment in the harbor as a reference point. Anything else that would be a help in an emergency situation. Fire extinguishers.

Bryan – Homer has fire extinguishers at every float. Steve – anything that would be helpful in an emergency. Spill response numbers and harbormaster numbers. Bryan – Spill response equipment at the base of every ramp in the drums. Steve – connex & USGC equipment. Not publically available, but would maybe still be good to show. Rachel – how can we figure out how to show without indicating that it's open to the public.

On possible graphic designers, Erika and Kim will forward Rachel their contacts. Steve, consider the schools/colleges; talk with their graphic departments. Lots of kids out there that are very good at this stuff. Rachel noted that we need develop more relationships in communities where we're working with the harbors. Steve agreed that it was important to keep the graphic design in-state.

### *Website updates*

The website has undergone a great cosmetic overhaul, and Rachel will be working on content update for the website during July and August. Any resources from Committee members would be greatly appreciated. Steve can feed information & photos for it. Sound Developer picture, he has 50 pictures of responses a week. Links – will all harbor links be on there? Rachel said we'd post the links to the harbors we're working with on Clean Harbors certification.

### **Needs from the Committee**

Rachel would like to remind the committee to please send along any relevant funding opportunities they hear of, send their brief biographies in to her, and always to provide feedback and suggestions on moving this program forward. This is a fantastic platform to make change and improve services, waste management, pollution prevention, etc. in our harbors around the state. The more feedback & suggestions received from the committee the better!

Steve – One huge problem that he sees around the state is derelict vessels. Can we deal with derelicts? Steve possibly has one that was sunk in Kodiak. Problem around the state, we need a way to address it. Rachel – talk with WA folks? Steve has talked with salvage & removal at AK DNR. They are taking a much firmer stance on abandoned vessels in tidelands. They don't really have authority in harbors, but they are cracking down on tideland abandonment. DNR contact – Steve will send Rachel her email contact. They may have new mid-management, but they are actually enforcing trespass orders. They recently made a vessel owner remove their boat from 180' of water. Rachel said that derelicts did fall under the purview of the ACH program, and that she would prioritize some research into where we could improve things for Alaska.

### **October meeting in Sitka & Final Comments**

Rachel reminded everyone that we will aim to have an in-person meeting in Sitka during the October AAHPA annual meeting (third week of October). The AAHPA website ([www.alaskaharbors.org](http://www.alaskaharbors.org)) has more information on the conference itself. Rachel will get back to the committee on the exact date and time of the ACH meeting. There is travel assistance funds available for committee members to attend. Rachel will send out information soon on this.

Joe M- wants to present, Rachel will send him the contact information for the harbor office. She'll also send everyone the information for the AAHPA meeting, and request for travel assistance.

Bryan – thanks for work on this. Good comments from Steve on derelicts. Very important. As harbors get organized, it's going to need to end up in state's backyard – dnr has to be involved and be in the conversation.

Shane – DEC is incredibly appreciative of everyone's participation. Very worthwhile. Thanks again, appreciate the efforts.

Steve – Appreciates the efforts. He should be able to make the in-person October meeting in Sitka.

Adjourned at 9:55AM.

**Attachments:**

Newsletter

Homer Harbor insert for the newsletter

Harbor map draft

Design Needs