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VOLUME II

ALASKA MIGRATORY BIRD CO-MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

FALL MEETING

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

OCTOBER 11, 2012

Members Present:

- Dale Rabe, Alaska Department of Fish and Game
- Doug Alcorn, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Robert Henrichs, Chugach Regional Resources Commission
- Frank Woods, Bristol Bay Native Association
- Taqulik Hepa, North Slope
- Joeneal Hicks, Copper River Native Association
- Randy Mayo, Tanana Chiefs Conference
- Myron Naneng, Association of Village Presidents
- Enoch Shiedt, Maniilaq Association
- Joel Saccheus, Kawerak
- Rick Rowland, Sun'aq Tribal

Executive Director, Patty Brown-Schwalenberg (Acting)

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2
3 (Anchorage, Alaska - 10/11/2012)

4
5 (On record)

6
7 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Good morning. I hope you've
8 all had a chance to get coffee and a doughnut. We're
9 going to pick up where we left off yesterday. We need
10 to complete Item 12(b)(ii), which is the review of the
11 2011 report. Liliana, would you like to come to the
12 table. Is it a PowerPoint or are you just going to
13 talk about the information?

14
15 MS. NAVES: It's a PowerPoint, but you
16 have the handout that has the same thing in the
17 PowerPoint, so you can just follow with the handout.

18
19 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: All right. We'll do
20 that. It's the table you handed out yesterday. Okay.

21
22 MS. NAVES: For the record, my name is
23 Liliana Naves. I think the next talk on the harvest
24 survey is the release of the draft 2011 survey and this
25 is included with your meeting materials and there are
26 copies at the table. This is how it looks like. So
27 it has the suit of tables for the draft 2011 estimates
28 and I have some basic information on the survey method,
29 so we have a bit of information there when looking at
30 those estimates.

31
32 As traditional at this point, following
33 our survey time table, which I'll pass around again,
34 the draft report is made available at the fall meeting
35 and then we have until the spring meeting for the
36 Native partners to bring their report to their bird
37 councils and discuss that and let me know directly if
38 they have comments, concerns, anything that needs to be
39 checked in the report, so I can address those before
40 the next spring meeting when we should be ready to
41 adopt the final report. So I will pass along the
42 survey timetable.

43
44 The timetable has different sections
45 there and the one is for analysis and review and
46 towards the bottom of the table there is also release
47 of information. The release of information is meeting
48 or occasions where you need the data available for
49 different purposes and it includes the two AMBCC
50 meetings there in the spring and fall, September and

1 April. The data analysis and review section just above
2 that one has the review process between September and
3 March, between the two meetings.

4
5 This is the timetable that we adopted
6 in 2009 as part of the revised survey materials. It
7 has other components on the table there that talks
8 about budget, but I think for what relates to the 2011
9 report it's more just sections there on the bottom.

10
11 So in 2011 the survey was conducted in
12 the Y-K Delta, Bristol Bay and St. Lawrence Island.
13 The St. Lawrence I will go in a little more detail
14 because we did the 2011 survey in St. Lawrence as a
15 Loon dedicated survey. This was discussed in the
16 previous year to address conservation concerns and
17 harvest questions regarding the harvest of Loons,
18 specifically Yellow-Billed Loons. We worked with the
19 Native villages of Gambell and Savoonga to locally
20 review the survey results and to discuss an approach to
21 release the data.

22
23 We had tribal council and village
24 meetings in May this year and the following does
25 discussions, the two villages produced a letter where
26 they communicated their decision that they are in favor
27 of releasing the data immediately without delay and
28 that they wanted the data to be released at the village
29 level. The reason for that is they want immediate
30 release of the 2011 data because the villages believed
31 the 2007 estimates are not correct and they wanted the
32 more accurate, more recent estimates to be available as
33 soon as possible for the process of this assessment of
34 the Yellow-Billed Loon listing.

35
36 The release at the village level is
37 necessary because an effective data review has to
38 include this level. The perspective of the villages is
39 that the 2007 data review at the region and subregion
40 levels only didn't allow clearly detecting problems
41 with the data and the data that was eventually adopted
42 was not correct.

43
44 So those points are explained in the
45 letters. Those letters are also part of the meeting
46 materials. They're in the handout.
47 So I think that the point here is mostly to inform the
48 AMBCC on those developments and the decisions by those
49 two tribal governments. Those letters were distributed
50 only recently. They were sent to Kawerak and to the

1 AMBCC representative by the State Fish and Wildlife
2 Service and the Executive Director. I'm not sure if
3 there's an action required here. This is more the
4 information level.

5
6 Our report at the village level for the
7 survey will be released sometime soon here.

8
9 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: So this information
10 is -- these letters are related to the information
11 that's provided on the back page of your tables,
12 correct?

13
14 MS. NAVES: No, not really. Not
15 exactly. Those letters to discuss the results with the
16 villages and the release of the data at the village
17 level to be a separate report. Because in this, the
18 regular AMBCC report, the data is presented at the
19 subregion level and then the data was expanded to
20 include Diomedes and this is something that you need to
21 discuss later on if you want this data on the AMBCC
22 report.

23
24 Maybe you just need one report that has
25 at the village level because otherwise you have one
26 estimate for the subregion you see. We need to discuss
27 later maybe at the Harvest Committee how to go about
28 that. But the report at the village level to be a
29 standalone report because the dedicated survey is a
30 separate survey you see.

31
32 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: All right. So these
33 letters then are specific to the dedicated survey in
34 the two villages on St. Lawrence Island. We have one
35 letter from each village and they are requesting an
36 immediate release and application of this information
37 to the analyses that are required for Yellow-Billed
38 Loon and other species that are harvested, correct?

39
40 MS. NAVES: Yes. I gave Patty a copy
41 of the draft report that we produced to discuss with
42 the villages, but as this data has not been widely
43 distributed yet, so I gave a copy to Patty, so there is
44 a copy of this in the AMBCC records and you take it
45 from here. We just got one of those letters recently,
46 so we're not distributing this data until then.

47
48 Is there any question about that?

49
50 MR. ROSENBERG: May I, Mr. Chair.

1 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Dan.

2

3 MR. ROSENBERG: Yeah, I just have a
4 question on the future plans for the survey. I mean I
5 know in the letter it says it's going to be continued
6 in 2012. At what point and what process are we going
7 to use to determine when we've got sufficient
8 information or is this supposed to be a long-term
9 survey with no definitive end?

10

11 MS. NAVES: We are working on that
12 year-by-year basis because we depend on the village
13 consent to the the survey. So they give consent for
14 2011, we did the survey, now they give consent to do
15 the 2012 and I'm working on the survey now. If there
16 is interest or if people feel that there is a need to
17 do yet another year of the survey, you have to
18 communicate with the villages and see if they are
19 agreeable with it.

20

21 Working directly on the surveys in
22 Savoonga a couple of weeks ago my feeling is that they
23 started to have enough of it.

24

25 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Taqulik, go ahead.

26

27 MS. HEPA: I was just going to say if
28 the question to the purpose of the survey is answered,
29 then there really isn't a need to do a focused survey
30 on the islands. Thank you.

31

32 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Rick, you have the
33 floor.

34

35 MR. ROWLAND: Yeah, I'm wondering what
36 document you're talking about.

37

38 MS. NAVES: The letters. I can give
39 you my copy here.

40

41 MR. ROWLAND: Oh, yeah, I have those.

42

43 MS. NAVES: So I wanted to make sure
44 that the Kawerak representatives, both Joel and Roy,
45 who I'm not seeing around here, that you understand the
46 process, Joel, and if you have any questions you could
47 contact the villages directly or you can ask me and I
48 can start helping on the communication there.

49

50 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Rick, go ahead.

1 MR. ROWLAND: Yeah, I've got a couple
2 questions. So you're saying that the two tribal
3 governments are Savoonga and Gambell?
4
5 MS. NAVES: Yeah, the two villages.
6
7 MR. ROWLAND: Okay. And then
8 previously you said the data that was adopted was not
9 correct, so you said a year following that. Which data
10 that was adopted was not correct?
11
12 MS. NAVES: 2007.
13
14 MR. ROWLAND: Then I want to make sure
15 I get this correct. You said we're going to have to
16 take the 2011 or 2012 data to the tribes or to our
17 region representative, village representative, and
18 communicate it to them, is that correct? What year was
19 that?
20
21 MS. NAVES: This process I read, Rick,
22 so this is only -- the surveys pertain to Savoonga and
23 Gambell.
24
25 MR. ROWLAND: No, no. I switched
26 because I'm backing up to where you're talking about
27 the data that you said.....
28
29 MS. NAVES: The regular survey.
30
31 MR. ROWLAND: Yeah. What year?
32
33 MS. NAVES: 2011.
34
35 MR. ROWLAND: 2011. Then I also heard
36 you say.....
37
38 MS. NAVES: So just to clarify, the
39 2007 data that the villages feel are not correct are
40 only for Gambell and Savoonga.
41
42 MR. ROWLAND: Yeah, I understand that.
43 Then I'm asking you about the previous statement you
44 made about the 2011 data needs to go back to the
45 villages for communication. I'm getting this clarified
46 here. I think you said then we should be approving the
47 information when it comes back. I thought that's what
48 you said.
49
50 MS. NAVES: I think that you're talking

1 about two different things.

2

3 MR. ROWLAND: I'm talking about the
4 2011 data.

5

6 MS. NAVES: But I think that you
7 switched a little bit to the Loon dedicated survey.
8 There is a 2011 AMBCC regular survey, which is entering
9 now in the regular process of review of the data that
10 all the partners are welcome to bring the data back to
11 their bird regional councils and discuss the report
12 with their councils. Then we started talking about the
13 Loon dedicated survey, which is like a different
14 process. So this letter from the villages pertains to
15 the Loon dedicated survey. We can come back to the
16 regular 2011, discuss it just a little bit, as you see
17 a little bit about this data.

18

19 MR. ROWLAND: Okay. So I'm asking
20 about the 2011 data. I'm getting it cleared here. You
21 said once we get it back from the villages about the
22 2011 data, then we should be approving the information.
23 So here's what I'm getting at is that yesterday it was
24 assumed that I was talking about this 2011 data, but in
25 fact I was talking about the 2010 data and it was
26 assumed that I was talking about something else. I
27 think it might make sense that I'm making a point that
28 there's a lot of assumptions going on here about a wide
29 variety of information and it's completely confusing
30 along with the data that is confusing. So I'm just
31 making that as my statement, not a question.

32

33 MS. NAVES: Okay.

34

35 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: So what we have here
36 is a letter, two letters, that have approved only the
37 dedicated Loon survey data.....

38

39 MS. NAVES: Yes.

40

41 CHAIRMAN ALCORN:or do they
42 collect additional.....

43

44 MS. NAVES: There is information for
45 all the species. The survey covered all species and
46 they are releasing the -- they read the review and are
47 okay, we're releasing the full survey. The survey also
48 included bird counts that Tamara Zeller from Fish and
49 Wildlife Service coordinated. So the idea is to have
50 data from the harvest survey and the bird counts during

1 fall to have a perimeter of which birds are available
2 in the area during that time of the year and how that
3 is being reflected or not in the harvest survey.

4

5 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Peter, go ahead.

6

7 MR. DEVINE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
8 It's not a question, it's just a concern of the
9 inclusion of the ptarmigan, which is not a migratory
10 bird being added into the survey. Since it is not a
11 migratory bird it is the most targeted species in
12 Alaska. I believe that is driving the numbers up 30-50
13 percent because it's being included. I don't know how
14 we would go about getting it removed from the last
15 again. Just don't include them numbers to where we
16 have overinflated numbers that are not being actually
17 harvested.

18

19 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: So are you making
20 that a request that these tables not include ptarmigan?

21

22 MR. DEVINE: Yes, because I believe,
23 you know it's increased our take by 30-50 percent. The
24 bottom line, I mean, that's a huge number. I mean
25 we're talking anywhere from 90,000 to 120,000 added
26 because the ptarmigan are included.

27

28 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: So I think this
29 question was asked yesterday but I'm going to ask it
30 against on the record because I'm not sure we were on
31 the record. Why were ptarmigan included in these
32 analyses?

33

34 MS. NAVES: Because since the time of
35 the older surveys in the Y-K Delta, in the Bering
36 Strait and Bristol Bay people felt it was important to
37 somewhat document the harvest of grouse and ptarmigan
38 because those are very important resources for
39 subsistence that were not being documented anywhere
40 else. So as you are doing a bird survey, the idea is
41 to have a complete, full portrait of the subsistence
42 harvest that this would be opportunity to also collect
43 information on the species.

44

45 Peter is right, they added to the
46 bottom line, but when we are dealing with management
47 it's usually species specific and then the agencies and
48 the AMBCC body should be looking at is to go to the
49 line for the species and pick the data for that
50 species. If there's a line for ptarmigan and grouse,

1 this is added information, but it's not affecting
2 decisions related to the other species. So I think
3 that is beneficial for people to have this important
4 subsistence resource being documented somewhat. For
5 instance, there is no other source of information for
6 ptarmigan in the state. So the harvest survey is one
7 of the few or the only source of data on this important
8 subsistence resource.

9

10 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Myron, you had your
11 hand raised and then Frank.

12

13 MR. NANENG: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
14 think the information on ptarmigan should be in some
15 way listed as one of the food sources that we have for
16 birds because I know in the past out in the Y-K Delta
17 there has been law enforcement people that have hounded
18 some of our people for having a ptarmigan or two,
19 asking them do you have a State hunting license for
20 ptarmigan or are they trying to protect them like the
21 Eagles because it's a state bird? As far as our people
22 are concerned, ptarmigan are food. So I think in one
23 form or another ptarmigan should be listed as something
24 that's being harvested to be recognized that it's part
25 of our food source. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

26

27 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Frank and then Peter.

28

29 MR. WOODS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. The
30 first point of order is I'd like Joel Saccheus to maybe
31 comment on if he understands what the letter of intent
32 are for the survey process to solidify the Yellow-
33 Billed Loon. Not to put you on the spot, Joel, but I
34 seen you trying to raise your hand and kind of get a
35 flux of what's going on.

36

37 The second point is, you know, you can
38 remove the ptarmigan data right out of here just for
39 this body, but, like Myron said, it is a viable food
40 source of people of Bristol Bay, but in the same sense
41 I don't want to support ptarmigan as an alternate food
42 source for migratory birds that aren't being harvested.
43 That said, I'll approve everything. I don't have any
44 say in what goes on up in Bering Straits or Bering Sea,
45 but I just wanted clarification on the representative
46 here and then also our input from the Bristol Bay
47 region. It's a viable resource that needs to be
48 tracked, but maybe on a separate page to separate that
49 whole statistic for other uses. But it's a good way of
50 tracking what is actually being harvested and used out

1 there. Thanks.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Peter and then I
4 think Enoch had his hand raised and then Joel.

5

6 MR. DEVINE: Yes, I'm in total
7 agreement with Myron and Frank. They should be
8 documented, but there is another word for them. I mean
9 it's not a migratory bird. It's an inland bird. Maybe
10 a footnote saying these inland birds are hunted or
11 something to that nature.

12

13 MS. NAVES: I have a suggestion how to
14 address that in the report. At this point we have one
15 bottom line for all birds. Maybe we can have two
16 bottom lines, one for total migratory birds and total
17 grouse and ptarmigan. So the total for migratory birds
18 is displayed there and we are going to have that
19 information clearly available there. That sounds like
20 a reasonable proposal?

21

22 MR. DEVINE: Yes, that sounds
23 reasonable. I lost my thought.

24

25 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Okay. Enoch.

26

27 MR. SHIEDT: Yeah. What I was going to
28 say is what Peter is saying. Ptarmigan is a non-
29 migratory bird and yet we harvest them, yet they should
30 be in a different graph and say they're a non-migratory
31 bird because I hate to see the western world when they
32 start comparing us to sport hunters. They could
33 include these numbers and it will make the numbers look
34 high. If they understand these are non-migratory
35 birds, they might look at it different, so just put it
36 in a different category. Different graph completely.
37 Yet we harvest them. They need to be counted in case
38 there's an issue that come out in the future. We need
39 to be able to still harvest them, but not put it under
40 the category with migratory birds.

41

42 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Thank you, Enoch.
43 Joel.

44

45 MR. SACCHEUS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
46 On this letters I got, I got them in August. They were
47 sent to me and I was working until September. In our
48 area, we haven't had a meeting since fall 2010.
49 Gambell and Savoonga, they always change their
50 representatives or their alternates. They keep

1 changing up there. I don't know about this letter
2 here. When I go back to my area I could ask these
3 villages. I see Roy is back. He might know. I don't
4 know if he knows more about these letters we got. Thank
5 you.

6
7 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: So you're saying
8 you've seen them, but you haven't had a chance to talk
9 to the village representatives on your committee?

10
11 MR. SACCHEUS: Yes. Yeah, I was
12 working until September. We had a staff change up
13 there in Kawerak and these ladies were new at
14 organizing these meetings. I didn't know when I was
15 coming down here until about a week before.

16
17 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: So I guess a direct
18 question to you. Based on what these letters say,
19 would you agree to the use and application of this data
20 as stated by the village currently or would you rather
21 wait and speak to your representatives for
22 clarification?

23
24 MR. SACCHEUS: I would agree. I'm not
25 too sure on this here. I don't know if Roy would have
26 a little more about it, Roy Ashenfelter. He's back
27 there.

28
29 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: I'll ask Roy to come
30 to the microphone if he has insights to this.

31
32 MR. ASHENFELTER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
33 My name is Roy Ashenfelter with Kawerak in Nome. We
34 hadn't had a fall meeting. I look at this letter and it
35 says that the Native Village of Savoonga has met and
36 that's really important. They support the data or the
37 research and I would almost without -- we rely on the
38 village people to come to us with concerns and if they
39 take the time to meet, draft a letter, submit a
40 request, unless we have something different to offer,
41 this is probably going to be accepted as written. This
42 benefits the community. They met on the issue involved
43 in the survey and it's from the president of Savoonga.

44
45
46 Anyway, I'm just speaking. One, we
47 haven't met. Two, if letters like this that come from
48 the villages because we want the information from them
49 and they've had a chance to discuss the issue
50 themselves because they're the ones that's going to be

1 impacted by, in this case, the survey on the Yellow-
2 Billed Loons, of course they see the benefit from what
3 I could read here that more than likely we're probably
4 going to endorse what's currently written.

5
6 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Joel, go ahead.

7
8 MR. SACCHEUS: I guess I would agree
9 with these letters they sent me. I was reading in the
10 back of these papers here and they said they had a
11 meeting in October 2012 and I would agree with the
12 report they sent. Thank you.

13
14 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Okay. Let me see if
15 I can try to wrap this up so that we understand it and
16 I understand it. We have this table that has been
17 handed out and we're looking at it. I think this is
18 related to what Rick was trying to get clarification
19 on. This table is at the regional level and it needs
20 to go through the regular approval process that we have
21 established, which is each regional council has between
22 now and when the spring meeting convenes with the
23 expectation of having this report approved as final and
24 then distributed for use in application.

25
26 This request is a subset of -- the
27 letters are in reference to a subset of the data that
28 makes these tables up on the handout. So the request
29 from the villages is that the data that was collected
30 in those villages in that dedicated survey be used
31 immediately and released and used immediately. That's
32 the request. I hear from Joel that there's no
33 opposition for that. Is there any opposition from
34 anyone else for use and application of that
35 information. Myron.

36
37 MR. NANENG: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
38 don't have any opposition; however, like I suggested
39 previously, put the ptarmigan in a different category
40 and we will bring this back up to our Waterfowl
41 Conservation Committee for review. Thank you.

42
43 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Rick and then
44 Joeneal.

45
46 MR. ROWLAND: The thought that keeps
47 popping up in my mind about this ptarmigan is that this
48 is a Federally recognized group, Alaska Migratory Bird
49 Co-management Council. Ptarmigan are not migratory.
50 Now somebody from somewhere else might be able to see

1 it and say, hey, what are those people doing studying
2 non-migratory birds with migratory bird money. So it's
3 coming back to me to make a decision about something
4 that doesn't sound right. If I were outside looking
5 in, it would be that don't make sense. So it needs to
6 be set up correctly.

7

8 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Joeneal.

9

10 MR. HICKS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I do
11 agree with everybody on this table here, but I can also
12 say that I know the taking of ptarmigan and spruce
13 chickens is important. There is a lot of take. I know
14 in my particular region that happens year round. With
15 or without a hunting license it occurs throughout
16 spring and winter, fall. The same with spruce
17 chickens. They're pretty much dominant all over the
18 place, specifically in the spring and right now during
19 the late fall. I know there's a lot of take on it and
20 I would like to see some kind of data to that effect.

21

22 So I do hear you, but I do agree that
23 the data is very important and I think that's something
24 to -- maybe if it's not us, with AMBCC monies, with
25 some other monies be used to collect that data. That's
26 my opinion.

27

28 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Liliana, go ahead.
29 Do you want to respond to the comment Myron made about
30 separating the data out at least at this point.

31

32 MS. NAVES: So, Myron, in the report,
33 this graphs I put together for us to discuss here at
34 the meeting, but they are not here in the report. The
35 report are the tables and the tables has a block for
36 each kind of bird, so there are ducks, geese, swans,
37 crane, a block for ptarmigan and grouse, and then
38 seabirds, shorebirds, so you can easily pull apart from
39 here. This one here is not being distributed at this
40 time to the Regional Councils. It's something I put
41 together for us to discuss here at the meeting. I
42 think there is probably nothing different that needs to
43 be done to the report as it is.

44

45 Before going to the final version, I
46 think it's a good idea to have a line for total
47 migratory birds and total ptarmigan and grouse, total
48 no-migratory birds. I think this is a very interesting
49 suggestion and easy to implement, it's no problem. I
50 agree with everyone there that says ptarmigan and

1 grouse is important subsistence resources and if you
2 have the opportunity to collect data on it, it's not
3 costing us any more money or effort because already
4 asking about all the other species, so there's just a
5 few they are to write those birds to. It doesn't costs
6 anything else, neither money, neither effort. So I
7 think that's a good opportunity to document subsistence
8 harvest. So I think this is the intent of having it
9 there. It is not myself who came with that. This
10 precedes me by decades.

11
12 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: I was going to ask
13 the question if additional cost if any for actually
14 collecting and reporting that information and you say
15 it's nominal or none. Rick, I hear what you're saying
16 because we split hairs quite often on what's within our
17 purview, what's within our prerogative as an AMBCC and
18 we are designed for establishing regulations for
19 migratory species. As long as we're not getting into
20 the business of trying to set regulations for the State
21 for those species, then it seems to me at no cost and
22 reporting the information -- if the actual reporting of
23 the information is troublesome, then we probably ought
24 to discuss that.

25
26 What I'm hearing from Peter, maybe the
27 reporting of that is troublesome. If it's separated
28 out, then that might assuage some of the concern. I
29 don't know if that satisfies Peter's concern. Maybe
30 I'll ask him and maybe ask Rick if that, knowing that
31 it doesn't cost money, knowing that we're not going to
32 get in the business of making state regulations for
33 those non-migratory species and the data would be
34 separated, does that alleviate some of the concerns
35 that have been expressed by the two gentlemen on the
36 right?

37
38 MR. DEVINE: Yeah, I think somewhat.
39 Since I have my microphone on, can I touch on something
40 else because I have another meeting to run to.

41
42 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Well, I'd like to try
43 to wrap this one up and we can come to it. Is it
44 something that's on the agenda later?

45
46 MR. DEVINE: Actually it's dealing with
47 the aerial survey.

48
49 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Okay. If you'll hold
50 that thought.

1 MR. DEVINE: Okay.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: We'll take that up
4 later. For now I'd like to kind of wrap this up. I
5 think I understand it and then Myron had his hand
6 raised. Myron, do you want to speak.

7

8 MR. NANENG: Yeah, I agree as long as
9 you differentiate the listing of those, that's fine. I
10 would not necessarily say that the ptarmigans are not
11 migratory because during the springtime they show up in
12 large numbers migrating to the tundra and during the
13 fall time they start migrating away from the tundra to
14 the hills or the mountains or wherever they winter. In
15 our own little world out there we observe that, so I
16 just wanted to share that. I think we've discussed
17 this long enough and we can go on. We'll be bringing
18 this up to our Waterfowl, but we will invite you to
19 make that presentation.

20

21 MS. NAVES: Okay.

22

23 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Frank.

24

25 MR. WOODS: Point of order, Mr. Chair.
26 We've got a change in leadership for the State seat
27 here since yesterday. We should recognize that for the
28 record.

29

30 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Thank you. I do
31 appreciate that. I was remiss. We do have Dan sitting
32 at the table for Dale Rabe. I have an email, it's
33 actually in writing, it's on my Blackberry, an email
34 from Dale appointing Dan Rosenberg to sit at the table,
35 so he is official. Thank you for reminding me of that.

36

37

38 If I don't see any hands raised, since
39 there's no action required and this is a report for
40 information. The next four or five months will be used
41 to review these data, the draft report from 2011, which
42 is the full comprehensive survey, all the data, and
43 then the use and application of the dedicated survey
44 from both Savoonga and Gambell is approved for
45 application and use.

46

47 Liliana, one thing to wrap up.

48

49 MS. NAVES: Just to wrap up. I don't
50 want to make this a long discussion, but the devil is

1 in details all the time. For the Bering Strait data at
2 the subregional level, that is this report here. I
3 just want to bring up that what it means is that data
4 from Gambell and Savoonga was expanded to include
5 Diomedede, which was not surveyed, to calculate at the
6 subregional level. This would be just fine at the
7 regular process under regular circumstance, but we
8 don't know what happens in terms of harvest of Loons in
9 Diomedede. There was no dedicated survey there, so may
10 not be to the best interest of the subregion to have
11 the data presented expanded to include Diomedede.

12
13 This is something you can discuss later
14 and maybe just not have St. Lawrence/Diomedede subregion
15 in the regular AMBCC report, the final one. It's a
16 simple thing just to pull the table out of there, so
17 you would have one report with the data at the village
18 level. Otherwise you're going to have a number for the
19 region and this is just expansion of those two villages
20 that already approved their data.

21
22 So this is something that does not
23 require action now, but we may discuss again at the
24 spring meeting before going to the final report. I put
25 this there just because this is the regular process and
26 I didn't have the opportunity to talk to anyone before
27 putting together this for the meeting.

28
29 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Thank you for that.
30 I would recommend that the Harvest Survey Committee
31 discuss that issue and perhaps have a recommendation
32 for the full AMBCC in the spring meeting. That might
33 help move that discussion along. Thank you.

34
35 All right. Peter, with the indulgence
36 of the Board, is this something that we need to
37 actually suspend the rule of the day to address or is
38 it just very quick and informative?

39
40 MR. DEVINE: I don't know if we need to
41 suspend the rule, but I'll make a motion to do so so we
42 could take up the aerial survey of Emperor Geese and
43 other waterbirds.

44
45 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: All right. I have a
46 motion to suspend the rule of the day to take up this
47 issue. Do I have a second?

48
49 MR. WOODS: Second.
50

1 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: I have a second from
2 Frank. Anyone opposed.

3
4 (No opposing votes)

5
6 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: We don't have any
7 opposition. Go ahead, you have the floor.

8
9 MR. DEVINE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
10 wish Ed was here. I wish Eric was here because there
11 was some numbers given to us yesterday. Do you
12 remember what the numbers were on the Pacific Brant?

13
14 MR. ROSENBERG: The population?

15
16 MR. DEVINE: Yes, the population.

17
18 MR. ROSENBERG: I do have that here.
19 It was like 149,000 roughly was what the three-year
20 average was, I believe, 148-149,000. I could look up
21 the exact number.

22
23 MR. DEVINE: No, that's good. That's
24 plenty clarification. I have here the aerial survey
25 from 2010 for Emperor Geese and other waterbirds in
26 Southwestern Alaska by Christian Dau and Ed Mallek. It
27 was published in March of 2011, sent out to us. One of
28 the first things that jumped out at me was the Pacific
29 Brant numbers. We observed a total of 41,484 during
30 the 2010 survey of which 40,412 were in Izembek.

31
32 That was from me saying the previous
33 year before that that these birds are wintering there.
34 Then yesterday they give us numbers of -- I mean we're
35 like 3,000 birds away from being able to harvest, but
36 then I look at this 2010 survey that says there's only
37 41,000 and there's 110,000 birds missing. That's a
38 concern. I don't know if it's because it fell under
39 the goose survey as other birds.

40
41 I think both of these should be
42 addressed in different surveys and not just added into
43 one survey where they're flying one route and counting
44 four different species. I mean a couple years down the
45 line when we get a new statistician and they see, holy
46 cow, that's a 49.8 percent loss, we're going to be
47 restricted. I know Myron and them want to hunt these,
48 you know, and if numbers like these are going to get
49 tossed out, I mean we don't know the numbers. So that
50 is a concern of mine.

1 I think what's happening with the
2 Pacific Brant, as the Bristol Bay region freezes up,
3 these things are moving down the coast into Izembek and
4 the same thing that's happening out in St. Lawrence
5 Island with the Steller's Eiders is there's so many of
6 them that they're able to keep that water open. I
7 don't know. These numbers are always confusing, then
8 they show us a different way to count them and add them
9 up.

10
11 The bottom line is it's not working. I
12 mean 110,000 birds missing, where did they go? If this
13 says -- part of the confusion might be myself and not
14 knowing that there was two surveys completed because
15 this one says the spring survey and I believe there's
16 also a winter survey. I mean these all have to be
17 combined so that the number is tighter to where we
18 could actually start harvesting. That's all I have.

19
20 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Thanks. Go ahead,
21 Dan.

22
23 MR. ROSENBERG: Yeah, Peter. To try to
24 clear up some of the confusion I think you were looking
25 at the spring Emperor Goose Survey, which is a survey
26 that is used to obtain the Emperor Goose numbers for
27 management purposes. That's where the population
28 objective is about 80,000 for Emperor Geese and we're
29 going to open up harvest again and we're somewhere
30 around 70,000 for the three-year average below the
31 population objective. That's the primary purpose of
32 that survey, is to get Emperor Geese.

33
34 In that narrow window in late April,
35 maybe early May when they feel that the Emperor Geese
36 have left Kodiak, they've left the Western Aleutians
37 and they're all in that Bristol Bay region from
38 Bechevin Bay essentially up to Kuskokwim Bay, Jacksmith
39 Bay. So that's the purpose of that survey.

40
41 While they do that survey, if they see
42 a Brant or some other bird, they make a note of it and
43 they report what they're seeing for other species.
44 That survey is not the survey that's used to determine
45 how many Brant there are. That's a whole separate --
46 there's a separate way of trying to figure out how many
47 Brant there are because that's based on trying to get
48 Brant when they're all in one place at one time
49 essentially, which they aren't quite. It's a little
50 more complicated in terms of that because Brant winter

1 from Izembek all the way down to Mexico.

2

3 So there's a couple of surveys that are
4 ongoing that we're using to try to come up with a
5 number of Brant. So that survey that you're looking at
6 has nothing to do with how we obtain the population
7 estimates for Brant.

8

9 MR. DEVINE: Thank you, Dan. That does
10 clarify quite a bit. Being a participant in marine
11 mammal surveys, we were doing the sea lion study, but
12 we also took notes of when we saw sea otters, seals,
13 but it did not count as part of the survey. It was
14 just other information. So thanks for clarifying that.

15

16 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: All right. Are there
17 any other comments.

18

19 (No comments)

20

21 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Okay. I guess a
22 motion is in order to go back on the rule of the day.

23

24 MR. WOODS: So move.

25

26 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: I have one. Do I
27 have a second.

28

29 MR. SHIEDT: Second.

30

31 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Anyone opposed to
32 going back on the agenda.

33

34 (No opposing votes)

35

36 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Seeing none. We are
37 through with Item 12(b)(ii) and 12(b)(iii) progress of
38 St. Lawrence Island and Northwest Arctic Survey.

39

40 MS. NAVES: We did that already.

41

42 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: We've done that?
43 Okay. That works for me. And then we added Item (iv)
44 under that agendum, report on next year's surveys. I
45 guess I can report it. It's really at the discretion --
46 it does fall in the discretionary amount in the budget
47 of the AMBCC. The Harvest Survey Committee will need
48 to meet and determine what resources are available and
49 what work needs to be done next year.

50

1 The dedicated Loon survey on
2 St. Lawrence Island, I think there's an intention to do
3 one more year. That would be three years of a
4 dedicated survey. It's associated with the budget
5 table that I handed out on Monday. If you'll pull that
6 table out. It's the one with the columns across the
7 top, FY12 base, FY12 spent, FY12 balance, FY13 flat,
8 FY13 @-8.2% rate. We'll talk about that later in
9 another discussion.

10
11 For now, talking specifically about the
12 harvest survey. There's a commitment. The Budget
13 Committee committed to retaining the contract or the
14 grant agreement with Alaska Department of Fish and
15 Game, Liliana's work, to continue to coordinate and
16 collect information and do the analyses and write these
17 reports for us. That will require a commitment. We've
18 funded work through this fiscal year, expended down to
19 \$45,000 it looks like, but there's a commitment based
20 on what the Budget Committee committed to earlier on of
21 \$66,000 in this coming fiscal year in '13 to support
22 Liliana's work through the rest of the next fiscal year
23 '13. That would carry her work through September 30th
24 of 2013. Liliana.

25
26 MS. NAVES: That also includes the
27 second round on St. Lawrence, so there's contracting
28 money there and all that's bundled together.

29
30 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Right. That second
31 round, which will occur this fall or later this month
32 or November.

33
34 MS. NAVES: November.

35
36 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Okay. So we have
37 this fiscal year of funding her work and the work of
38 these surveys that falls right in the middle of
39 actually conducting the work, so it spans multiple
40 fiscal years. So there's that commitment that's made,
41 but that does leave money left over and again we'll
42 talk about it in detail when we talk about the fiscal
43 '13 budget projection.

44
45 The Budget Committee needs to
46 coordinate with the Harvest Survey Committee to
47 determine how much we're going to allocate for harvest
48 survey work, but the Yellow-Billed Loon survey work,
49 the dedicated survey work is important and the funding
50 is matched by the Fish and Wildlife Service's

1 Ecological Services Office out of Fairbanks, I think,
2 is where that money comes from to conduct portions of
3 that survey.

4

5 Taqulik.

6

7 MS. HEPA: Okay. That wasn't my
8 question. My question was -- I know that with the
9 statewide survey several meetings ago that there was
10 going to be a review and a discussion on how we were
11 going to move forward. So that's what I wanted to
12 hear, where we are with that. I know that there's
13 monies dedicated to that survey. I would like to know
14 what is going on.

15

16 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Since we're talking
17 about this budget table, if you'll look at the
18 nondiscretionary fixed cost portion of the table, the
19 upper section, the very last line, the harvest survey
20 revision, this is where we are right now. We obligated
21 \$100,000 of the fiscal '12 budget to develop a contract
22 for a review of our harvest survey, the model that we
23 use, the statistical model, the calculations, the
24 design, the actual conduct of the survey and the cost
25 associated with it. We have put that out. It's not
26 out on the streets yet for a request for bids, but it's
27 referred to as an RFP that will go out and we'll get
28 bids on that.

29

30 It's our expectation that's probably a
31 two or perhaps a three-year project and it will work
32 with the villages or regional representatives to figure
33 out what model will work best in those regions. So
34 that's where that money is going to be applied over the
35 course of the next -- this fiscal year, which is fiscal
36 '13 and perhaps '14 if the project is not completed.
37 So that leaves then money left over in this table.

38

39 What I didn't do in '13 is I didn't
40 allocate by line, if it's flat, a \$477,000 amount of
41 discretionary funding that the Budget Committee in
42 consultation with the Harvest Survey Committee and
43 other committees needs to decide how to allocate that
44 money. So portions of that can be made available to
45 conduct regional surveys if that's the will of the
46 Council.

47

48 Did that answer your question, Taqulik?

49

50 MS. HEPA: It's taking a lot longer

1 than anticipated in our original discussions. I didn't
2 think that it was going to be a two to three-year
3 process to get an overview of this consultant work that
4 you're talking about. I think that we need to bring it
5 back to the table. Why is it taking so long? It's
6 been a while since we've had these discussions. An RFP
7 should have been out there. Things should have been
8 rolling already. Again, we're stalling the process of
9 collecting this very important harvest information
10 throughout the state. What does that do to the overall
11 numbers that we're anticipating to help us make good
12 decisions?

13

14 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Well, that's a good
15 question. Recall last year at this fall meeting we
16 said that we were going to suspend funding the survey.
17 We were going to apply it toward a revision. We were
18 going to try to wrap that up quickly. We were going to
19 try to develop whatever new survey model that would
20 result from that process. Based on the winter meeting
21 that was held at the Dimond Center and the following
22 Spring Gathering the decision was made to go ahead and
23 fund portions of the survey to retain the survey. So
24 that stopped the discussion of the revision until we
25 figured out what we were going to be spending on
26 conduct of the survey, which we hadn't budgeted for,
27 hadn't planned for. We decided based on the input from
28 a letter from the State and a request from the AMBCC at
29 that winter meeting to go ahead and fund portions of
30 the survey.

31

32 So what ended up being funded was
33 Bering Strait Region and St. Lawrence Island was
34 funded. So that stopped the development of the RFP.
35 The RFP, which is based -- the RFP is request for
36 proposals, is based on a scope of work that is still
37 just recently finalized or still in process to finalize
38 it so that we can actually go out through our
39 contracting and general services office and request or
40 solicit bids on the work. So all that takes time.

41

42 What also complicated that is the
43 advent of the transition -- the advent of the system
44 that's called the Federal Budget Management System,
45 FBMS is the acronym. The Fish and Wildlife Service
46 transitioned to that budget system in fiscal '12, so
47 that stopped our ability to make contracts for a number
48 of months early in the beginning of the fiscal year and
49 then it ended our ability early in the fiscal year --
50 excuse me. It ended our ability to make contracts

1 earlier toward the end of the fiscal year than is
2 normal.

3

4 We have a blackout period it's called
5 when the system goes down and all the accounting is
6 happening. Because of that transition we only had a
7 very narrow window to get a contract actually out for
8 bid and we didn't get it done by that time. So there
9 were a number of complicating factors. Decisions based
10 on the will of the Council and the mechanics of
11 actually getting money obligated. So we are currently
12 in a blackout phase, period, and that blackout period
13 will end I'm thinking probably middle of November or
14 early part of December and then at that point we'll be
15 ready to go out with request for proposals.

16

17 MS. HEPA: Okay. You've answered my
18 question. I didn't know all of that information.
19 Thank you.

20

21 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Liliana, would you
22 like to come to the microphone.

23

24 MS. NAVES: A compliment to what Doug
25 was explaining. A couple of years ago when we first
26 started discussing the second revision of the survey
27 there was an agreement proposed by the BBNA and the
28 part of that agreement that had three parts was that
29 some sort of reduced survey would keep going until the
30 second revision of the survey is conducted and
31 completed.

32

33 So as part of that doing it reduced
34 survey effort, so this year we did St. Lawrence and
35 also we're trying to do Northwest Arctic. We are
36 expecting that under that same agreement. We have some
37 sort of plan for 2013 to do one region, but we didn't
38 start talking about that yet.

39

40 When you first discuss that agreement,
41 there are some candidate regions for three years. So
42 for last year was Northwest Arctic and I think for
43 '12/'13 was Y-K Delta.

44

45 MS. HEPA: Thank you. He answered my
46 question.

47

48 MS. NAVES: All right. So we expect to
49 do some sort of survey in 2013 I think that was.

50

1 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Okay. So let's go
2 back to the agenda. Did I cover that adequately then?
3 Are there any other questions about report on next
4 year's survey?

5
6 (No comments)

7
8 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Okay. Seeing no
9 other questions. We'll finally put a check by Item 12,
10 we're done with that one after two days. Excuse me, we
11 didn't complete Item 12. We just completed (a), (b),
12 and . We're down to Item (d), the proposed process to
13 address Executive Director duties and responsibilities
14 and that is under Tab 5 of your binder.

15
16 Enoch, did you have a question?

17
18 MR. SHIEDT: Yeah. I thought that was
19 covered yesterday.

20
21 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: We talked about it in
22 the work session, but we haven't been on the record to
23 talk about this item. What you're looking at is a
24 breakout of responsibilities that I referred to as the
25 body of work that is required by the Office of the
26 Executive Director of the AMBCC. Our fundamental role
27 is to make regulation and processing all of the
28 documents that must be processed in order to get that
29 done. It is very complex and time consuming. A number
30 of processes have to be done simultaneously and then in
31 sequence in order to get a regulation actually
32 published in the Federal Register by April 2nd of every
33 year. It's very time consuming, very labor intensive
34 and much of that work is inherently Federal.

35
36 We had this discussion of the Executive
37 Director and the responsibilities of the Executive
38 Director at the Spring Gathering. We also talked about
39 it I think earlier than that. What we ended up doing
40 last year in fiscal '12 was Fred Armstrong transferred
41 into our External Affairs Office and Patty
42 Brown-Schwalenberg under a modification to her grant
43 agreement picked up some of those duties. In the
44 interim, we had Crystal Leonetti, who you all remember
45 was at our spring meeting trying to keep the momentum
46 going, keep the process going.

47
48 One of the questions that came up was
49 could we compact out the role of the AMBCC or contract
50 out the entire body of work to the AMBCC to a non-

1 Federal entity. We looked into that. What I will do
2 is hand out a list of things that I was able to pick up
3 from my discussions with two people that are experts in
4 the business of compacting and contracting within the
5 Fish and Wildlife Service asking that question; did it
6 make sense, was it practicable, was it efficient to do
7 it that way. Basically what were the pros and cons of
8 contracting or compacting the work.

9

10 So here's what I have found and you all
11 will get a copy of that. I spoke to Patrick Durham.
12 He's our Native liaison specialist in the Washington
13 office, in our headquarters office, and I also spoke to
14 our financial assistants administrator Rich Primmer,
15 who does our cooperative agreements and our Brant
16 agreement. He processes those through our contracting
17 and general services office.

18

19 So reading down, under a contract or a
20 grant agreement, which is the way we did it toward the
21 end of the fiscal year '12 with Patty, the Fish and
22 Wildlife Service specifies the deliverables in a grant
23 agreement or a cooperative agreement much like we do
24 with your grant agreements that you have to conduct
25 your annual council meetings. We identify the
26 deliverables and then we basically leave you to your
27 work. We don't have a lot of direct involvement in
28 your work. At the end of the period you submit a
29 report, you're able to draw down those funds as you see
30 fit through the online systems that we have
31 established. The Service then just waits for that
32 final report.

33

34 The Service allocates money annually
35 and that depends on our annual budget and that's a
36 function of the annual appropriation by the Congress
37 and then the allocation from our headquarters office in
38 Washington, D.C., which comes to my office. Sometimes
39 that allocation doesn't occur until as late as May in
40 any given year when the fiscal year ends September
41 30th. I don't actually have an absolute funding budget
42 until sometimes in spring. Anyway, that's under a
43 grant or a contract. We can make those contracts and
44 allocate that money based on what we get allocated to
45 us. We can do it through our own internal system.

46

47 Then on Item C, Service processes
48 approves and modifies our contracts locally through our
49 Contracting and General Services Office. Then Item D,
50 the Service can modify contracts for up to five years

1 under the same scope of work. If, for example, we
2 wanted a contracted suite of duties for the Executive
3 Director's Office, we can write a scope of work, a
4 contract, and then do a contract modification or a
5 grant agreement modification for five years running and
6 the paperwork is minimized. So that's under a contract
7 or a grant agreement. It would ultimately be a grant
8 agreement. Donna and I have discussed it and that
9 would be probably the most efficient way to do it.

10

11 Under a compact, which is the .638
12 Self-Determination Act Compact Agreement, the Service
13 would specify deliverable, but then what I understand
14 from our Native liaison is that oversight
15 responsibilities are somewhat burdensome. I don't know
16 the level of accounting or the level of oversight that
17 are required in that, but I did hear from both Patrick
18 and from Rich Primmer that it is fairly labor
19 intensive. There's a lot of hand holding, a lot of
20 regular communications that's required.

21

22 Go ahead, Frank.

23

24 MR. WOODS: Doug, we're already doing
25 that on our health consortium. We're already doing
26 that at certain levels. All the ANOs around the state
27 understand exactly what we're dealing with, so I'd like
28 to remove that oversight. We already know what we're
29 dealing with.

30

31 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Okay. All I'm doing
32 is telling you what I was told in my conferencing with
33 them. I'm certainly not an expert in it. Myron, you
34 had your hand raised.

35

36 MR. NANENG: Yes. When you're doing
37 compacting, the only thing that you have to report is
38 your audit reports and also report of the services that
39 you've delivered. That's the only oversight that we
40 currently get from our compacts with IHS and with BIA.
41 At least one per year. Maybe they want to keep busy
42 and build up their retirement fund by saying that they
43 want to keep this away from us as being compactors of
44 this program. Just trying to justify their existence
45 is what I can think about because that's what we went
46 through when we went through contracting for under
47 Public Law 93.638.

48

49 The first time I took over realty
50 department for AVCP I asked for a filing cabinet and

1 they said, no, you can't have them. I need them for
2 some other program. Some other program that they never
3 even implemented. So we have experience in .638
4 contracting and also compacting. Compacting saves a
5 lot of headaches in terms of our ability to do the
6 deliverables.

7

8 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Rick, go ahead.

9

10 MR. HENRICHS: Well, our tribe is a
11 compactor, co-signer with Indian Health Service. We
12 compact with the BIA and I represent our region on the
13 Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium Board, which is
14 the big compact. That stuff is old hat to us. We've
15 been doing it for years. Maybe it was burdensome when
16 we started, but it's not now. That expertise is for
17 higher accountants, you know. Just keep on top of it.
18 It's not that big a deal.

19

20 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Rick, you had your
21 hand raised.

22

23 MR. ROWLAND: Yes. Thanks, Doug. Rick
24 from Sun'aq Tribe, Kodiak Archipelago. I just heard
25 you say, maybe I'll quote you wrong, but I thought you
26 said the main role is to make recommendations for
27 regulations.

28

29 So that referred me back to, you know,
30 what is the main role. I flipped over to domestic
31 implications under the letter of submittal under X and
32 there's a portion in here that says as noted in Article
33 242(b) (ii) of the protocol, management bodies will be
34 created to ensure an effective and meaningful role for
35 indigenous inhabitants in the conservation of migratory
36 birds. These management bodies will include Native,
37 Federal and State of Alaska representative as equals
38 and will develop recommendations for, among other
39 things, seasons and bag limits, law enforcement and
40 policies, population and harvest monitoring, education
41 programs, research and use of traditional ecological
42 knowledge and habitat protection and so on.

43

44 I appreciate this note for discussion
45 from discussion, but are we doing more than we should
46 be? Are we including everything that we're supposed to
47 and how does the traditional knowledge fit in? That's
48 my question.

49

50 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Are you asking me to

1 address that?

2

3 MR. ROWLAND: I'm asking that as a
4 rhetorical question for discussion because in this
5 document I don't see traditional ecological knowledge
6 in there. I hear ecological matching. So I don't
7 hear traditional ecological knowledge being mentioned,
8 but I hear it in the statements of matching funds for
9 surveys. I don't understand where we're focusing.
10 Then my question is are we focusing in an area which is
11 a little too detailed and we should be focusing
12 somewhere else.

13

14 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: I don't know how to
15 address your question. It's a lot of detail in the
16 question. I think I can tell you that my 10 or 12
17 years involvement with AMBCC we have taken on policy
18 recommendations, we've talked about law enforcement to
19 some degree, we've met with our regional special agent
20 in charge, Stan Pruszenski on a number of occasions.
21 We've talked with the Regional Director. Really, it
22 boils down to what we do annually.

23

24 The real product is a recommendation
25 for regulations. Once that recommendation is finalized
26 in the spring meeting typically, and sometimes we have
27 followup spring meetings to get to a resolution on
28 issues. That's when the responsibility of the Staff in
29 the Fish and Wildlife Service takes on this
30 responsibility of processing all of this stuff.

31

32 That's what this board really doesn't
33 see. That's where the Staff were applied originally 12
34 or 14 years ago, whenever the Fish and Wildlife Service
35 began to staff this to ramp up into this process of
36 making regulations. We applied a biologist to it, we
37 applied a socio-economist to it and a manager. So
38 Donna came in to the program eight or nine years ago
39 and her job has been primarily to help process the
40 paperwork associated with getting these documents filed
41 through the Federal Register.

42

43 Just so you know, in order for us to
44 get our recommendation from the AMBCC to the
45 Secretary's Office or the Assistant Secretary's Office
46 before it's finalized to be approved to be published in
47 the Federal Register it takes 12 different layers of
48 government responsibility to surname the package. So
49 that's just an example of the amount of work that's
50 associated with it. So at any one of those layers if a

1 question comes back to us and we have to resolve those
2 questions and change, edit, do whatever is required to
3 go back to those layers of surname approval.

4

5 So it's very complicated and, again,
6 it's what we around the board don't see, but that's
7 what I refer to as the body of work that comes out of
8 the Executive Director's office. You're right though.
9 There are other charges given to the AMBCC. Go ahead.

10

11 MR. ROWLAND: I appreciate all that and
12 I realize it. There might be a possibility that we may
13 be doing too much or over-analyzing it about what we're
14 doing. I heard something recently when I went back to
15 Washington, D.C. One of the senators said don't get
16 stuck in analysis paralysis, so that might be fitting
17 in this case. We might not have to be doing as much as
18 we're typing out and we can make it more efficient.
19 That's just my suggestion of moving forward. I'm not
20 asking that as a question. I'm just thinking that it
21 could be a lot smoother.

22

23 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Thanks. I appreciate
24 that, Rick. Believe me, I've been working for the
25 government since 1979 and I've seen the complexities of
26 getting work done multiply over the course of my career
27 and it just seems to be more and more convoluted and
28 complex. It's a system that sort of has just evolved
29 that way and we are trying to work within the system.
30 There may be ways to make it more efficient, but right
31 now I don't know what the answer is.

32

33 What I do know is that the one
34 deliverable that I have from my responsibility is to
35 get the regulations published in the spring. That's
36 the one deliverable that I have that I have to get
37 done. So I have to, as an administrator with resources
38 to apply to that, I have to apply those resources to
39 getting that work done. That's why it's down to Donna
40 and I doing this work now and then Patty on a contract
41 or a grant agreement to get that work done. It takes
42 time getting all these meetings together and somebody's
43 got to do that.

44

45 What we have done in this list of tasks
46 for the Executive Director functions, I've tried to
47 separate the things that are inherently Federal and
48 things that are not inherently Federal. We talked
49 about that at the winter meeting. Some of the ideas
50 that the Executive Director could be doing that perhaps

1 wasn't being done.

2

3 Building consensus. That's a huge role
4 for the Executive Director. Trying to get every
5 understanding the same level of understanding and
6 understanding issues from everyone's perspective.
7 That's a huge role that perhaps wasn't being satisfied
8 at the time. When you break it out, there are certain
9 things that we can contract or compact for and certain
10 things that we can't because they are not -- we can't
11 contract out the role of the Federal government. Those
12 are referred to as inherently Federal.

13

14 Also in our policy associated with
15 compact and contracting, it's a draft policy right now,
16 it makes the statement that we cannot compact
17 inherently Federal work. So that will survive when
18 it's finalized and it's not a policy that I'm involved
19 in writing. Patrick Durham is actually the one that's
20 involved in writing that policy.

21

22 The point is, this list that's behind
23 Tab 5 lists the things that are not inherently Federal
24 and lists the things that are inherently Federal. The
25 things that we are willing to contract out or compact
26 if it's more efficient to compact, we're willing to
27 contract the deliverable of those tasks and services at
28 the amount that we have available for it. It's my
29 estimation that it's a 50/50 split. That work that
30 Donna is going to need assistance with is about half of
31 the time that Fred was dedicated for from his position
32 and then the other half, which is half the salary and
33 portions of travel, amounts to \$70,000 is what is
34 available for contracting or through a grant for the
35 services for the Office of Executive Director. Those
36 are not inherently Federal, the things that we would
37 contract.

38

39 Myron, go ahead.

40

41 MR. NANENG: Yeah, thank you, Mr.
42 Chair. I don't see the role of Alaska Migratory Bird
43 Co-management Council as always pursuing regulations.
44 That's not the purpose of why we're here. One of the
45 purposes might be to review a regulation that's being
46 too restrictive on our Native hunters out in rural
47 Alaska. It goes back to the days when wildlife refuges
48 were established. The attitude back then was these
49 people shouldn't be living out here. It should be left
50 for the birds and the beasts or whatever is out there

1 and trying to find ways to restrict them from being
2 able to hunt migratory birds. I've seen that over the
3 years. But I don't see the role of Alaska Migratory
4 Bird Co-management Council in always establishing
5 regulations when there are some issues that can be
6 dealt with without establishing regulations for
7 conservation purposes or something like that.

8
9 We did not establish regulations for
10 conservation of some of the species that were low in
11 numbers and I don't know if we really necessarily need
12 to establish regulations for other species that are
13 currently low in numbers. All we have to do is find a
14 common ground and have everybody understand that. This
15 is a concern and let's all work on it together. I
16 don't think it needs to go to the level of regulations.

17
18 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Fred -- Frank, go
19 ahead. Sorry. That's twice now.

20
21 MR. WOODS: Frankly speaking, in
22 regards to your explanation of what we can be doing
23 with this Native liaison -- or I guess it would be the
24 Director's position or basically the whole program.
25 AMBCC has a charge just like Rick had pointed out. The
26 basic charge is to provide subsistence opportunity and
27 to review upcoming regulatory changes that might
28 happen. Every year we get the same book. I haven't
29 seen any changes other than I think the Yellow-Billed
30 Loon exclusion. Am I correct? That's the only change
31 that we've had in the seven years I've been coming to
32 meetings.

33
34 The other changes that I've seen happen
35 are the survey processes that the Federal government
36 accepts. That said, I understand the bureaucracy in
37 the Federal system. I don't think that's our charge.
38 Our charge is to -- what I read, everything it says in
39 this book, every species is open until closed. So the
40 only changes that would be happening is any regulatory
41 change to come before the board would actually be
42 concerned with threatened, endangered, species of
43 concern or if there's nothing every year that's a big
44 task, I don't see that as a function other than
45 printing and submitting the regulations that are in
46 there every year. The same until it changes.

47
48 The Board of Game has the same issue
49 that we have. They have a regulatory cycle and until
50 that changes are we on an every year regulatory cycle.

1 So maybe there's something there that maybe you'd
2 change and how to make it better. Instead of reviewing
3 every year, let's review five years. Adopt them until
4 there's changes. Pretty straightforward and pretty
5 simple.

6
7 The other thing is, you know, the
8 contracting services, there's enough 8(a) Native
9 corporation technical support services that would
10 gladly take on this project or AMBCC itself. I see a
11 bunch of people missing. The Native community sitting
12 in this room has a treaty agreement that says we're
13 going to be doing the things that Rick pointed out, but
14 the other thing too is we've been compacting for years
15 and years and years now. I remember when they -- and
16 I'll shut up because, number one, it's almost a slap in
17 the face saying that compacting would be too much work.
18 It's not even close. I mean we're doing it valiantly.

19
20 With that said, there's a whole bunch
21 of issues here. Number one, we don't have any.
22 There's no equal authority. There's no regulatory --
23 as a regional representative, I don't have a full
24 picture and I can't bring back to my region saying that
25 I'm sitting here at the table with an equal footing for
26 the survey process to the regulatory body that controls
27 the highs and the lows, but I think it could all be
28 ironed out in basically one statement. We're all
29 growing to the point where we actually need to go
30 forward. We've already been going backwards. We
31 noticed in the last three meetings that we're actually
32 going forward now, which is a great thing.

33
34 So where do we go from here? There's
35 all these options. Thank you for laying them out.
36 There's 8(a) contracting through Native corporations to
37 get all the work done that we need to do, separate the
38 Federal duties. I don't see anything other than
39 printing these Federal regulations in the book and
40 justifying them. The surveys justify there's no
41 increased harvest. That's the only thing that was
42 required in that treaty.

43
44 With that said, I mean there's a lot of
45 work to be done and thank God there's Self-
46 Determination Act, there's 8(a) contracting the
47 services we might provide. There's a whole list of
48 chances of actually us being more involved in the whole
49 process. I'll shut up there.

50

1 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Thanks, Frank. I
2 would like to comment on one statement you made early
3 on and that is you made the statement that they're open
4 until closed?

5
6 MR. WOODS: Yes.

7
8 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: The fact is, under
9 the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and under the amended
10 portion that we're operating under, the fact is they
11 are annually closed until they are opened. So they're
12 closed by treaty. The problem that was trying to be
13 fixed when the amendment occurred in 1996 and ratified
14 in 1997 was to address the problem of the closure
15 period being statutorily described from March 11th
16 through August 31st. The treaty said that no harvest
17 will occur in the U.S. or Canada from that period,
18 March 11th through August 31st.

19
20 So that was the problem. They said in
21 order to fix this problem we want a management body
22 that will advise the Secretary to establish regulations
23 to open the season, but under that treaty they are
24 closed. They sunset. The regulations that we
25 established sunset at midnight August 31st. So we have
26 to do that every year. We have to work through this
27 process every year and then we internally have to
28 process all the paperwork and go before the Service
29 Regulations Committee and work with the Flyway Councils
30 in order to make that regulation to allow harvest, to
31 make it legal, to open them up. So that's a really
32 complicated process.

33
34 We have people in the audience that
35 have been in that process for a long time and they can
36 attest to the complexity of it. I think it's important
37 to note -- I mean I appreciate your statements and
38 there may be functions that can be contracted or
39 compacted, but the Federal government cannot contract
40 out work that is inherently government. We just cannot
41 do that.

42
43 MR. WOODS: I understand that and I
44 understand the process on how we are today, but
45 according to regulations -- and that's what we
46 establish through this treaty agreement that these
47 regulations -- it says in there it's open until closed.
48 Then it shows the closures and lists them in the back
49 is what I'm saying, Doug. I understand that treaty
50 agreement, but the regulations posted every year are

1 almost the same. Nothing is changed until we change
2 it, right, or requesting?

3
4 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Well, through what we
5 agreed to as a consent agenda, we agreed to a principal
6 of practice about a decade ago when we established our
7 first regulation in 2003. We had a series of meetings
8 prior to that that basically said if a region doesn't
9 take action or doesn't make a recommendation, we will
10 defer to the prior year's regulations as the default
11 and everyone agreed to it at that time. So if no
12 action is taken it would roll over the next year, but
13 it still requires the administrative processes that
14 both Donna and I and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
15 are engaged in every year and it's very time consuming,
16 labor intensive.

17
18 Bob, go ahead.

19
20 MR. HENRICHS: Are we going to break
21 for lunch today or what?

22
23 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Yes, we can. Is
24 there any desire to continue this discussion?

25
26 (No comments)

27
28 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Would you like to
29 pick it up afterwards or would you like to conclude it
30 and move on to the next agenda item? Myron.

31
32 MR. NANENG: Mr. Chairman. I think
33 that we need a work session and invite these two
34 characters -- I mean these two people that made the
35 list for you to review some of the experiences that we
36 have in compacting and contracting because it sounds
37 like they're only looking at it from their viewpoint
38 without outside consultation. I think that's what we
39 should do at some point in the near future. Thank you,
40 Mr. Chair.

41
42 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Okay. I will take
43 that and what I'm willing to do is I'm willing to get
44 Patrick on the phone and have Rich Primmer, who works
45 in Anchorage, meet with someone on the Budget Committee
46 or the Budget Committee in its entirety. Patty is
47 Executive Director. We can have that discussion and
48 talk about the pros and cons and what would need to
49 occur if we want to continue to pursue that.
50

1 All right. So let's break for lunch.
2 Let's come back at 1:30. Thanks, Bob, for reminding us
3 of that. We'll get back at 1:30. So we'll consider
4 this agenda completed.

5
6 (Off record)

7
8 (On record)

9
10 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Okay. We'll call the
11 meeting back to order. It looks like we still have a
12 quorum looking around the table. We did lose a few
13 members that had to attend to other business. The next
14 agenda item is 12(e), the 2013 budget forecast. If you
15 would pick up that same table that we were talking
16 about before we broke for lunch. It's the table of
17 expenditures for 2012 and anticipated budget for 2013.
18 I'll help explain those and then you can ask questions
19 and I'll help clarify. Let's start with 2012.

20
21 The actual budget -- the agenda says
22 projected reductions, projected 2013 budget and then
23 next is the 2012 expenditures. If there's no
24 objection, we'll take them out of order because the way
25 the table is written it's the 2012 and then 2013.
26 Anybody object to that?

27
28 (No objections)

29
30 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Okay. So we'll talk
31 about 2012. Recall in the spring Gathering or the
32 winter meeting, I don't remember which, we had a table
33 for the fiscal year '12 base amount and that's shown in
34 the left-hand column here. The only strange symbol
35 that you'll see there is the tilde around the Federal
36 Register in parentheses proposing final rules for
37 \$11,110. We don't know exactly what the Federal
38 Register is going to charge because they charge by
39 line, essentially by word. Depending on how long the
40 proposed and final rules are, that changes. And then
41 we don't get an accounting of that until sometime in
42 the subsequent fiscal year because it's actually paid
43 for with a cost code from our headquarters office. So
44 it's an approximate amount, 11,000. We still don't
45 know exactly what the charge was because we haven't had
46 that charge sent to us. When they send us the charge,
47 they basically tell us to fund target money back to
48 them, so that's what we're waiting to occur. Most
49 likely that will be around zero.

50

1 The second column is fiscal year '12
2 spent and this is the amount -- I'll start by line. I
3 know Rick raised this during the work session Monday
4 asking for more detail. This is the detail that we
5 have in this budget table. The salary -- the \$277,200
6 was salary to cover portions of Fred Armstrong's
7 position for the year, all of Donna's position for the
8 year, a portion of Crystal Leonetti's salary for the
9 year and then down in the discretionary amount the
10 AMBCC support staff position.

11
12 Before the winter meeting, it was last
13 fall at this time, we had brought on a beginning level
14 employee to help with staff needs and that woman's name
15 was Kay Larson-Blair and she was what we called a SCEP
16 employee. SCEP is an acronym for Student Career
17 Employment Program. What the program was designed to
18 do was identify people that wanted to work with the
19 Fish and Wildlife Service that were still in college
20 and we would help them, place them if they were taking
21 science and engineering kinds of work associated with
22 work that we do.

23
24 So Kay Larson-Blair was a SCEP
25 employee. We brought her on into the AMBCC program.
26 We felt like her skill set would meet our -- she's a
27 wildlife biologist with a specialty in fisheries. She
28 worked for us for a number of pay periods and then
29 transferred to the Office of Subsistence Management.
30 So her salary cost and benefits during that time was
31 \$7,657, so that's why you see that down in the line
32 under support staff position.

33
34 So going back up to the top of the
35 table, the next line down, travel, we budgeted \$7,171.
36 We actually spent \$10,364. The reason that went over
37 -- one reason was because Crystal was acting as interim
38 and she tried to attend a number of meetings to try to
39 get to know the issues and for the regions to get to
40 know her and she was over at AFN's office.

41
42 Rick, go ahead.

43
44 MR. ROWLAND: At what point do you want
45 us to question?

46
47 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: You can interrupt me
48 or we can go through and then you can ask. It's up to
49 you. However you'd like to do it.
50

1 MR. ROWLAND: Okay. I have a question.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Okay.

4

5 MR. ROWLAND: It's about travel. Do
6 you guys use the Federal form, Attachment G?

7

8 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: We don't use what's
9 called Attachment G. It's all online now and it's a
10 system called gov trip, but all the travel is based on
11 accepted per diem rates and travel rates for areas
12 within the state and even outside the state.

13

14 MR. ROWLAND: The reason why I'm asking
15 is prior to approval I understood that you have to
16 designate what trips you're going to take prior to the
17 annual. That way you have the -- like you have five
18 trips budgeted. You explain what it is you're going to
19 go to these trips and do and then if you have a an
20 excess of funding, then you put an excess aside for
21 TBD, to be determined.

22

23 Like we've got 7/3. Is there like an
24 explanation? Like 71, 71, they made one trip to Vegas
25 and lost and then they had two more trips to go to?
26 Just kidding. You know what I'm saying about the
27 explanation of what the trips were and what the plan is
28 for the future trips?

29

30 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Yeah. The way we do
31 it in the Federal government is we have what's called a
32 limited open travel authorization. We can't travel
33 unless we have travel authorization signed off by the
34 supervisor and then the person with the authority to
35 approval the travel, which is usually the supervisor.
36 In my case, it's the program manager, which is me, that
37 would sign Fred or Crystal's approval. Rather than do
38 it by a trip by trip authorization in order to
39 administratively try to cut down on paperwork, we do a
40 limited open, which means it's open for the year.
41 They're authorized to travel for the year as long as
42 they travel within budget.

43

44 The reason this is over budget, two
45 reasons. Two trips. One is that when Crystal came in
46 and she went to Fairbanks for a meeting that AFN had
47 and she was meeting with the Regional Council. I don't
48 know if it was with Randy's group or I don't remember
49 which group it was. The other, Patty was out of money
50 to travel as Executive Director to the RAC meeting that

1 occurred, the one that you were telephonically patched
2 into. She traveled on that and I cut the travel orders
3 to cover her airline ticket and she covered her per
4 diem to her program. So that's the \$3,000.

5
6 But your question is is there an
7 accounting of each trip by trip. We have that. We
8 would have to run what's called a gov trip report for
9 that position and it would cover all of Fred's travel,
10 all of Crystal's travel while she was on board for the
11 two months or three months, and then Patty's one trip.

12
13 MR. ROWLAND: Right. So that's good to
14 hear. So in the planning it's seven P's, my proper
15 prior planning prevents beep performance. If we needed
16 to have 10,000 because of fuel costs going up for
17 expenses and so on, I think that it might make sense to
18 increase that.

19
20 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Okay. Thank you. So
21 regulations handbook printing, the next line item down.
22 Again, these are all in the nondiscretionary/fixed cost
23 budget line items because are the costs of doing
24 business. It just costs us to do this work. \$25,000
25 and some change budgeted for the printing cost. This
26 is for this handbook that's in our binder. The
27 printing and distribution of these was based on an
28 estimate of last year's bid. It's put out for bid and
29 we get a bid and this year it was \$23,103, so that left
30 us a surplus of savings of \$2,394.

31
32 Court reporter. Because we had the
33 spring meeting and the -- go ahead.

34
35 MR. ROWLAND: About the handbook
36 printing, in the sense of paper reduction, a lot of
37 times those books -- people don't pick them up. I
38 don't know if maybe we're being overprinted or if
39 there's a possibility of looking at a PDF online that
40 could be printed at the library to save the cost. Is
41 there other ways that we could save money to address
42 this by not printing as much but saving more. I'm just
43 suggesting that.

44
45 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Donna, would you like
46 to comment on that.

47
48 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah, just to let you
49 know how that works, Rick. Part of it is printing cost
50 and then the way we've had it designed and if you guys

1 want to change this, that would be something that would
2 be the prerogative of the council, but these are then
3 bulk mailed out to every box holder in the villages
4 that are considered villages or cities that are part of
5 our hunt area.

6

7 We have a company that gets with the
8 post office and the post office can tell them there's X
9 number of registered P.O. boxes in this village and
10 then they have to -- let's say it's 35. Then they have
11 to do 35 of these booklets with the name of the village
12 and it just says box holder. Those 35 get bundled
13 together and off they go to that village.

14

15 So they go to every box holder within
16 our hunt area, which is -- I can't remember. It's like
17 -- boy, I hate to quote. I think it's over 40 -- yeah,
18 I can't remember what the exact number is. I used to
19 know it. But it changes a little bit from year to year
20 but not that much obviously. The box holders will
21 change by 1,000 or a couple thousand. It's not always
22 down. Sometimes it's down, sometimes it's up.

23

24 So the contract is expensive because
25 it's printing and then labeling and then we're also
26 paying the postage, so that cost also includes the
27 postage. It's all three things. That's based on
28 trying to get these into every P.O. box out there in
29 our hunt area. If it's felt that we don't need to do
30 that anymore, then we can reconsider, but that's what
31 the cost is based on right now.

32

33 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Taqulik, Joeneal and
34 then Frank.

35

36 MS. HEPA: In addition to the box
37 holder mailout, our department receives a box about
38 this big. Maybe to help save costs we don't need that
39 many. Maybe a third of what you send us. Because we
40 end up having quite a bit at the end of the year and we
41 collect them for kids to look at.

42

43 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah, that's good to
44 know. You get more than others and that was because of
45 when the Eider issue was hot, it was felt that you guys
46 needed extras, but if you don't need them anymore, we
47 won't send them anymore. Most everybody else gets 25
48 to 50.

49

50 MS. HEPA: That's good.

1 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: And there's an
2 economies of scale just based on ordering so many. The
3 cost goes down when you order like in bulks of --
4 groups of 5,000 or once you drop below a certain level
5 your cost doesn't really go down commensurate with the
6 numbers that you're reducing because all of your fixed
7 cost of setting up the printing press or the
8 photocopier, whatever they do, arranging it and then
9 doing all that labor. So it's not a direct reduction
10 in cost by reducing the number.

11
12 Joeneal, you had a comment.

13
14 MR. HICKS: Yes, I just wanted to
15 reiterate what Rick had said. I've seen a lot of this
16 regulation handbook just go to waste and just sit there
17 on the shelf right there in the council office that's
18 not used and just looked at and just put back on the
19 shelf. It's a waste of money.

20
21 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Enoch.

22
23 MR. SHIEDT: Yeah, I feel the same way.
24 If you send me 25, I'll be happy. No more than 25.
25 Like them, it's just being trash again and get laid
26 around. That will save you a few dollars. And they're
27 all sent to the box and who's in the box number. All
28 the Maniilaq employees are in the box numbers.

29
30 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Frank.

31
32 MR. WOODS: Timing is everything
33 because I think these were a little bit late in the
34 spring. No? Okay. Maybe the year before. I remember
35 the year before. Yeah, we get too many and I think
36 maybe on a region by region would help you. Like we
37 need at least 31 plus maybe a dozen for the office, so
38 a maximum of 50. It would be good -- do the villages
39 already get these in their box if they're already -- so
40 basically I wouldn't need more than 25. Yeah, if we
41 could reduce the Paper Reduction Act it would be
42 perfect implementation in this process. Thanks, Doug.

43
44 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Enoch.

45
46 MR. SHIEDT: Yeah, Donna, for your
47 information we at Maniilaq -- they gave me directions
48 to get all the box numbers in the village because we
49 have box mailing from Maniilaq, the boxes went down
50 instead of went up. We got the latest.

1 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Okay. So perhaps one
2 way to manage this is if you all in the regions are
3 getting what you consider too many, notify Donna and
4 let her know what you would think would satisfy your
5 need and then she can make that reduction in the
6 request to the contract for numbers of copies.

7
8 Frank and then Taqulik.

9
10 MR. WOODS: Talking about Paper
11 Reduction Act, can we merge the two? Is there a way to
12 -- and I understand the process. I know exactly what
13 we're faced with. I'm overtaken by the responsibility
14 to be the expert on this stuff, but I'm not the expert.
15 People ask me about the Duck Stamps and I continually
16 -- in Bristol Bay we've taken it on as compliance, non-
17 compliance. Just in the line of conversation, keep in
18 mind that people, when they're dually managed, it
19 becomes more of a burden than -- it's harder to
20 celebrate the spring hunt when you have to buy a State
21 and a Federal Duck Stamp. Put it that way. In that
22 regard, at some point in time I think this could almost
23 go away. Open until closed according to the treaty
24 would be great and then maybe have the State agree to
25 the same. With that said.....

26
27 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Dan, did you want to
28 address that.

29
30 MR. ROSENBERG: Yeah, I think Frank
31 probably understands some of the difficulties in
32 merging them in terms of the timing of when they're
33 done and everything else. I just didn't want you to
34 think I was ignoring you, although I'm probably better
35 off if I do sometimes.

36
37 (Laughter)

38
39 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Okay. Thank you for
40 your comments. Is this helpful going down through this
41 budget table?

42
43 (Council nods affirmatively)

44
45 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Okay. I know that
46 this was requested by you all in past meetings. The
47 next line is the court reporter. We had an additional
48 meeting this year and that was the May 7 meeting, so
49 that ran that over budget some. Meeting room rental.
50 Budgeted 3,500. We spent 3,000. There was a surplus

1 of \$530. Patty, go ahead.

2

3 MS. BROWN-SCHWALENBERG: I just wanted
4 to comment that Chugachmiut has donated the meeting
5 room rental for us these past three days, so that
6 helped the budget. Even donated the tables, which they
7 rented from Party World or wherever they get them.

8

9 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Very nice of them.

10

11 MS. BROWN-SCHWALENBERG: Yeah, I'll be
12 sending them a letter and a mug or something.

13

14 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Thank you. Enoch,
15 you had your hand raised.

16

17 MR. SHIEDT: Yeah, I was going to
18 advise Patty to write something in thanks on behalf of
19 this council.

20

21 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Thanks. Frank and
22 then Rick.

23

24 MR. WOODS: Now just a point of order.
25 This is a consensus meeting. Do we have a Native
26 representative at the head of the chair or do we have
27 to appoint or reappoint or how do we -- are we the
28 Native -- should we stop and hold elections right now?

29

30 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Well, you could. I
31 was looking at the agenda over lunch and the only
32 decisions that we have to make it looks to me like is
33 committee appointments and assignments. So if you want
34 to have a Native Caucus to identify someone to actually
35 make the appointments, but we're not really going to be
36 doing a roll call vote as I can tell. There's no more
37 action items on the agenda. Unless you all feel
38 compelled to do that. I'll leave it to your
39 discretion.

40

41 MR. WOODS: I'm just trying to think of
42 the process here, Mr. Chair and how it would be more --
43 what are the wishes of the.....

44

45 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Okay. Joeneal and
46 then Patty.

47

48 MR. HICKS: We did discuss the
49 committee this morning, however in the spring meeting
50 we made changes to it. However, it doesn't reflect the

1 changes in the packet. So, in other words, we don't
2 know who or what the changes were because it wasn't
3 made, like I said, from the previous last fall's
4 meeting. It's still the same, but again changes were
5 made in the spring, but it doesn't reflect that in
6 here.

7
8 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Donna was mentioning
9 that to me at lunch as well. Apparently somebody
10 pencil changes in or was taking notes on a sheet and
11 the sheet was then transferred to either Crystal or
12 Fred or Patty. I'm not sure what happened to it. No
13 one seems to know what happened to that sheet. Donna
14 said that she got this list from the discussion in the
15 transcripts from -- is that the May meeting that.....

16
17 MS. BROWN-SCHWALENBERG: April and May.

18
19 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: The April and May
20 meeting. If there were things written on a sheet of
21 paper, then that must have gotten lost in the shuffle.
22 Shuffling the position around, the Executive Director
23 responsibilities around. We'll need to revisit that
24 when we get to Item 14.

25
26 What I was referring to though was
27 Frank's suggestion that there's no one here at the head
28 of the table for the regional representatives. If
29 there is a decision made by the group, then you might
30 want to consider. Patty.

31
32 MS. BROWN-SCHWALENBERG: Just before
33 Myron left I asked him about that and he requested that
34 I ask -- if it comes to a roll call vote where we need
35 a Native rep, if Taqulik would sit in that place and if
36 everyone is agreeable, we could just do that.

37
38 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Okay, if it comes to
39 it. All right. Continuing down.....

40 MR. ROWLAND: I just had one
41 question.....

42
43 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Okay. Rick, go
44 ahead.

45
46 MR. ROWLAND:or one comment about
47 the room rental. We had a meeting at APIA and I think
48 that was free too, wasn't it? No?

49
50 MS. BROWN-SCHWALENBERG: It wasn't

1 much, but it wasn't free. I think it was like \$90 a
2 day.

3
4 MR. ROWLAND: Okay. And then they made
5 duck soup.

6
7 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Okay. So room
8 rental. Let's go to office supplies. \$500 budgeted,
9 \$2,900 actually spent. When Kay Larson-Blair began to
10 work for us I believe we had to buy a computer that she
11 could work on. She moved on. Left the computer I'm
12 thinking. I'm looking at Donna. Still have the
13 computer? Okay. I'm hoping. So anyway, that's why
14 that cost is what it is.

15
16 Federal Register, I've talked about
17 that already. We'll get a final accounting of that at
18 some point and we'll know what that expenditure was.

19
20 Shared cost common services. These are
21 costs associated with administrative overhead costs.
22 They're the costs associated with -- every time I get a
23 budget allocated to me there is a certain amount and
24 it's based on the numbers of people that work in my
25 program. That goes to the regional office to cover
26 expenses like rent. We pay a square footage rental
27 fee. It pays for utilities, the phones, also shared
28 cost programs like contracting and general services,
29 external affairs, building security.

30
31 Those kinds of programs that don't have
32 a special budget allocation from the headquarters
33 office. The regional offices are expected to share in
34 those, so it's prorated by the number of people that
35 work in the program. So this prorated amount is based
36 on the numbers of pay periods that were paid for people
37 that were billing against this account. So it paid for
38 26 pay periods for Donna's services, 20-some-odd pay
39 periods for Fred's services, a few for Crystal's
40 services and a few for Kay Larson-Blair's.

41
42 So when you add all those up and then
43 divide by the number of people that work in the region,
44 it comes out to a certain percent. In this case,
45 probably, I'm guessing, around 4 percent, 3 percent or
46 something like that. So that's just a surcharge that
47 I'm charged. It's a fixed amount in any given year,
48 but you can see -- and when we start talking about
49 fiscal '13 it jumps considerably and I can explain that
50 also.

1 Continuing down in the FY '12 budget.
2 100,000 we've talked about. That's the harvest survey
3 revision. I've been instructed to do that by my
4 regional director to work on that project. This is the
5 only place that the money exists, so that's where the
6 money had to be allocated. So there's the subtotal
7 \$473,481. Go ahead, Patty.
8

9 MS. BROWN-SCHWALENBERG: Thanks, Doug.
10 Before you move down to the discretionary part. I am
11 assuming and you can correct me if I'm wrong that the
12 overage in the salaries line was due to the overlapping
13 of salaries between Crystal and Fred. We were paying
14 both of them at the same time because he was on sick
15 leave, is that correct?
16

17 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Yes. Fred, as you
18 know, was out a pretty significant period of time under
19 sick leave. He had a hip replacement and then there
20 were complications associated with that, so he had a
21 second hip replacement. Because of that he was on --
22 because he was on my organizational chart they call it,
23 the sick leave -- even though he wasn't providing a
24 service, the sick leave was still charged to my budget.
25 Then Crystal was doing work for us at the same time, so
26 she was also billing.
27

28 Okay. Down now to the discretionary
29 amount. This is the amount that the council can
30 consider by Budget Committee on how to apportion this
31 every year. It's important to note that that's not
32 necessarily a fixed amount either because my
33 non-discretionary expenses change as well as my budget
34 changes every year, so we'll talk about that when we
35 talk about the '13 budget. \$266,000 was actually
36 spent. \$213,000 was budgeted. The reason for the
37 difference was because we did enter into a contractual
38 agreement with CRRC to provide the interim Executive
39 Director work, so we amended the grant agreement with
40 CRRC.
41

42 The harvest survey \$354,000 was spent.
43 That includes -- it's actually 254,000. The 100 spent
44 up in the other section for the harvest survey revision
45 was double counted, so that should only be 254.
46 254,000 included a contract with the Alaska Department
47 of Fish and Game. It included the work under contract
48 to survey the Northwest Region and it included work to
49 survey in St. Lawrence Island. So those three added up
50 to \$254,087.

1 The AFN conference was budgeted at
2 \$2,200. We spent \$3,500 for booth rental and supplies
3 and materials that were handed out during the
4 conference or the convention. Then AMBCC staff support
5 position. There was \$31,445 budgeted. The reason that
6 has changed over time is because as costs have gone up,
7 my budget for the AMBCC has not changed, so every time
8 there was an added cost we had to take it out of some
9 other place and we took it out of that staff position
10 which used to be a GS-12 position that supported Bill
11 Ostrand, if you recall Bill. A GS-12 position costs
12 the government with salaries and benefits in the
13 neighborhood of \$120-130,000. That's the salary plus
14 the benefits.

15
16 So all of the added costs that have
17 gone up over the four or five years since Bill has been
18 gone have been taken out of that just to keep us
19 solvent in all the other expenses in the budget.
20 Rick, go ahead.

21
22 MR. ROWLAND: Yeah, my question is
23 about the double allocation on the harvest survey. So
24 I could get this clear in my mind here, it was
25 subtracted on the upper non-discretionary fixed costs
26 and it was also subtracted on the discretionary, but
27 now your statement is saying it should not be
28 subtracted in one area, so that hypothetically removes
29 \$100,000.

30
31 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Right.

32
33 MR. ROWLAND: So would that \$100,000 be
34 removed from the total in discretionary on the bottom
35 to make it pretty close to budget?

36
37 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Yes.

38
39 MR. ROWLAND: Okay.

40
41 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: So really what it is
42 is the 473 -- the subtotal for the non-discretionary,
43 it stays at 473,481 and then
44 the subtotal for the discretionary should be 531,244.

45
46 MR. ROWLAND: So does it make it void
47 that 98,000?

48
49 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Yes.

50

1 MR. ROWLAND: So you're at 100,000?
2
3 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Correct. You're
4 actually at a surplus of about \$2,700 because it was
5 double counted. When Amber Wagner was putting this
6 table together for me, we didn't finalize it until
7 Monday morning, so we didn't take that line out.
8
9 MR. ROWLAND: Okay.
10
11 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Okay. So really we
12 came in just right at budget and that's the way we have
13 been trying to manage this program over the decades.
14 Since the winter meeting and your request to look more
15 in detail at the budget, that's the way it was managed.
16
17
18 So we'll shift over now to the FY'13
19 and what the projections are for fiscal '13. Go ahead,
20 Rick.
21
22 MR. ROWLAND: Just a quick question.
23 So in that harvest survey under discretionary where it
24 says 400,000, that's the amount that was used and it
25 spent the 354, right?
26
27 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Yes.
28
29 MR. ROWLAND: So there's 100,000
30 difference there, so is that the error or is that an
31 additional -- I guess that isn't 100,000, it's only 45.
32 Now I guess what I'm trying to get my head around, is
33 this harvest survey different from this harvest survey?
34
35 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: No, it's -- think of
36 it in these terms. I have a million dollars roughly
37 budgeted for the program and when the Regional Director
38 said you need to go let a contract to revise the
39 surveys so that we get numbers that we can have
40 confidence in and that is going to be within budget,
41 you need to fix that. So the harvest survey, \$400,000
42 we set aside for the harvest survey, 100 had to come
43 off the top. That's why it got shifted into the non-
44 discretionary. It had to go to support that project.
45 So that leaves then 300 to actually allocate, right.
46 So 254,000 was allocated, leaving a balance of 45,913.
47 Well, 145, but the 100 was put in the non-
48 discretionary. So really there is a balance of 45,913.
49
50 MR. ROWLAND: Okay. That is good

1 information and that makes me also wonder about -- you
2 said something about an ecological services match to
3 the harvest. Now is that a different set of funding or
4 is this this funding?

5
6 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: No, it's separate.

7
8 MR. ROWLAND: Okay. That's not in this
9 million dollar budget?

10
11 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: No. It's because
12 that's information that they need for their analyses
13 for the Endangered Species Section VII Analysis that we
14 have to do. So they're willing to help provide money
15 for that conduct of that survey as long as they get
16 useful information and timely information.

17
18 MR. ROWLAND: Is that Section VII of
19 ANILCA?

20
21 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Section VII of
22 Endangered Species Act.

23
24 MR. ROWLAND: Okay.

25
26 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Joeneal.

27
28 MR. HICKS: Just a quick question.
29 Under grants to regions it was budgeted at 213, however
30 we spent 266, leaving an over balance of 52. How did
31 that happen?

32
33 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: That was at the
34 winter meeting when we decided to contract out the
35 services for the Executive Director at some point, so
36 we had to amend the grant agreement with Chugach.

37
38 So what's happening in fiscal '13. I'm
39 sure you've all been watching the news and hearing how
40 the Congress -- when it passed the Omnibus Spending
41 Bill for fiscal 2012 last year at this time, the
42 Congress said we are going to try to balance this
43 budget in the out years and one way we're going to do
44 that is sequester 7.8 percent of every Federal bureau
45 and agency's budget in January of 2013 if we have not
46 met any kind of -- developed any kind of budget
47 strategy or bill to do so in the subsequent
48 appropriations bills.

49
50 So they signed that into law and what

1 they did was they allowed the Federal government the
2 amount that was set to spend, my fiscal '12 budget was
3 given to me and in my Migratory Bird Program, which
4 supports a portion, about a third of the AMBCC budget,
5 I lost 6.7 percent. But that was unrelated to the
6 sequestration that is going to take effect on January
7 1st, 2013. The Federal government is going to take an
8 across the board reduction of 7.8 percent and it
9 translates into an 8.2 percent reduction in the Fish
10 and Wildlife Service.

11
12 The reason for that is -- I don't know
13 if it's truly across the board. The ways money is
14 appropriated, there are some things that apparently are
15 sacrosanct and not going to be touched and that means
16 those that aren't going to be touched, to reach a
17 7.8 percent reduction other programs have to be cut
18 more. So the Fish and Wildlife Service's budget, the
19 best that our budget people can estimate, would be
20 reduced by potentially 8.2 percent. If Congress does
21 not act to do anything different than what they did
22 last year, that law will take effect January 1st, 2013.
23 Automatically my budget goes to an 8.2 percent
24 reduction.

25
26 MR. HICKS: Mr. Chair. Will that be
27 year to year or is that just.....

28
29 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: That basically is a
30 readjustment of the base, so that's forever. That's
31 the way the law reads. It's just going to readjust
32 everyone's base, including the Department of Defense.
33 Every Federal agency. So we in the Fish and Wildlife
34 Service have had many discussions at the national level
35 and at this regional level how we're going to manage
36 that kind of a reduction. As you all might expect,
37 it's pretty significant because costs continue to
38 increase. An 8.2 percent reduction is significant
39 within itself, but when you add the increased cost of
40 doing business you actually lose capacity to do work at
41 a higher than 8.2 percent. So that's the thing that
42 we're having to do as managers.

43
44 So how does it affect the AMBCC. If
45 the Congress puts us in a continuing resolution, which
46 they very likely will do, they basically will say we
47 haven't figured out a budget for you yet, so we're
48 going to put you on a continuing resolution and they
49 typically do it for like a quarter or half the fiscal
50 year. Right now we're operating under a continuing

1 resolution. But they have not rescinded the
2 Appropriations Act of 2012, so that sequestration
3 language still exists in Federal law and that will take
4 effect unless they rescind it.

5
6 So that's why I've got two columns
7 here. One is the budget at the continuing resolution
8 level and that would be flat funded. That makes some
9 assumptions. One assumption is that my Migratory Bird
10 Program budget and the Refuge Operations budget, which
11 is where about two-thirds of the money for the AMBCC
12 comes from, that assumes that those would also be
13 funded at a flat level. If those are selectively
14 reduced by management decisions by the Agency or the
15 Department or the Congress, then that means our budget
16 allocation would be reduced and I don't know what that
17 will be until I actually get it. Like I said, that
18 could actually be as late as March or April of this
19 year.

20
21 For now, we're expecting somewhere
22 between a flat budget and a reduction of 8.2 percent.
23 Somewhere between there is likely what we'll end up
24 with. So this is sort of the range, I think, of the
25 budgets that we'll have as an AMBCC. Again, my costs
26 are somewhat fixed.

27
28 Given the contract agreement now until
29 we have settled on a full arrangement of a compact or a
30 contract for the Executive Director functions for now
31 at that 50 percent cost sharing or 50 percent contract,
32 50 percent paying for the Federal functions of the
33 Executive Director's office plus Donna's salary, that's
34 a \$200,000 expense. Travel is back to last year's
35 level assuming no changes. The regulations handbook
36 printing is the same 25,497. We might see some savings
37 there depending on what kind of breaks we might get in
38 a bid. Court reporter budget stays the same. The
39 meeting room rental estimate stays the same. Office
40 supplies stays the same. Federal Register printing
41 stays the same.

42
43 Shared costs, common service is going
44 up. The reason for that is beyond my control. These
45 are based on decisions that are made at the Regional
46 Director's level and that depends on how we staff
47 commonly or shared cost programs. External Affairs,
48 like I mentioned, is a shared cost program. Any time
49 we add staff to that program all the other budgeted
50 programs like mine pay a portion of that cost. My

1 total proportion is about 8-9 percent of the regional
2 cost. Fred Armstrong is one of the positions that is
3 now in External Affairs, so my shared costs have gone
4 up. We also have a number of other positions that have
5 been added that have caused that to go up. Rent is
6 going up as much as 40 percent. That's the estimate,
7 25-40 percent.

8

9 MR. WOODS: So basically you're
10 charging yourself?

11

12 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: I'm not charging
13 myself. The Regional Director is charging my program.
14 So the rent and the added personnel costs are the two
15 reasons that are driving this up primarily. The rent,
16 we sign about a 20-year lease for the building that we
17 have, so our lease rates are based on 20-year-old
18 rates. When the GSA, Government Services
19 Administration, renegotiates that every 20 years, it's
20 based on the prevailing rate in town for that class of
21 office space. So I have no say in how that's
22 renegotiated. It potentially could go up 40 percent
23 and that is significant, so that's the reason that cost
24 is going up.

25

26 So we have, as an AMBCC some fixed
27 costs. We also have this discretionary amount that
28 could range from \$477,000 to \$394,000, sort of the two
29 extremes of the range. Our Budget Committee is going
30 to need to convene soon and discuss how those will be
31 allocated. There's already a commitment to fund of
32 that amount \$66,387 for the Harvest Survey Grant
33 Agreement with the State to do the work for next year.
34 That was based on the agreement that the Budget
35 Committee made last summer to contract the work with
36 Fish and Game. There was not enough fiscal '12 money
37 to cover the full contract, so the fiscal '13 has to be
38 added to it to make up for the span of work that's
39 being contracted.

40

41 MR. HICKS: Mr. Chair. Also under
42 grants to regions we can also assume there's \$283,600
43 budgeted for that according to what the.....

44

45 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: 283? I don't know
46 where you got that, Joeneal.

47

48 MR. HICKS: That's in our 2013 budget,
49 grants to regions.

50

1 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Donna, would you like
2 to come up. Maybe that's a good segue into Item
3 (e)(iii), grants for 2013. Donna is slated to speak to
4 that, so I'll ask her to come to the mic.

5
6 MS. DEWHURST: That adds in the 70,000
7 for Patty's Executive Director duties. If you notice
8 on her grant on CRRC it goes from 14,400 to 84,400 on
9 this sheet, which was in your back folder. So that
10 accounts for the difference between the normal 213,000
11 jumped to 283,000. It's 70,000 for the Executive
12 Director position because we're putting that on the
13 grant instead of doing a separate contract, which would
14 actually cost us a lot more. We're saving 8 percent or
15 more to do it on the grant.

16
17 Otherwise, everybody's flat-funded. As
18 we mentioned earlier in the workshop, if you can get
19 your close-out done -- and only one person, one
20 organization, has already submitted their close-out
21 paperwork and I will applaud him and that's Attamuk.
22 If we can get the close-out done and you have any
23 carryover money, if we can get access to that and get
24 you closed out by the end of December or so, we should
25 be able to carry that over into next year's grant. So
26 this will be the first time we've been able to do that.

27
28
29 We're hoping to go to multiple year
30 grants starting this coming year and it would make it
31 even easier to carry money over, but we can only carry
32 money over from one year to the next. We can't carry
33 it over multiple years.

34
35 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Right. So any money
36 that is in your grant for this year we're going to
37 carry it over into next year. What Donna and I both
38 need is for you to get that report in soon. Under the
39 terms of your grant agreement you have until December
40 31st to get that report in, but it would be much to
41 your benefit if you get that done as soon as possible.
42 That leaves us time to process it. I lose the ability
43 to obligate that money by the end of February. I can't
44 obligate that money any later than that and it's going
45 to take time to process those grant agreements. So
46 earlier is better would be my advice.

47
48 Taqulik.

49
50 MS. HEPA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. So

1 for next year's grant 2013 we have to apply again
2 online?

3

4 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah, that's correct. It
5 may be slightly different because you'll actually be --
6 I'm hoping you'll be applying for a five-year grant
7 versus a one-year grant. Otherwise, the proposal and
8 everything you can probably use pretty close to what
9 you used last year.

10

11 MS. HEPA: Do you anticipate when that
12 process can start?

13

14 MS. DEWHURST: I've been trying to get
15 it started for two months. I have to work with a woman
16 in Washington, D.C. and I'm trying to light a fire
17 under her to get it going, but she has to actually do
18 the advertisement. I'm kind of powerless there. I've
19 given her everything she needs to do it. I just have
20 to figure out how to light a fire under her to actually
21 get it done.

22

23 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Donna, is that
24 because of the black-out period with the Federal Budget
25 Management System, FBMS?

26

27 MS. DEWHURST: Correct. I've just been
28 told we're low priority, so we just need to figure out
29 how to light the fire.

30

31 MS. HEPA: I just want to make a
32 comment that it's getting so difficult to spend
33 government money, to receive it on time to get the work
34 done. In some cases, people can't front the money if
35 it's going to take 9-12 months to actually receive it.
36 In looking at the cuts that we're seeing in the
37 foreseeable future, I think that going back to the
38 broader picture of co-management and what can actually
39 be done because I don't think it's fair to ask for do
40 more with less. So we need to kind of re-evaluate.
41 What can we actually do with the problems that we're
42 having with funding and the timing of funding. The
43 ability for everyone to participate in meetings that
44 pop up at the last minute.

45

46 MS. DEWHURST: Also be aware that under
47 the new program when we started this FBMS that some of
48 the rules changed too. Contracting and General
49 Services, who actually administers the grants, has
50 informed me that they will be looking at what we say

1 are not necessarily deliverables, but in the grant
2 agreement it says, for example, North Slope Borough
3 will do these things and they will be looking at the
4 annual report and seeing if those things were done.
5 And we minimize this.

6
7 Years ago when I first started in this
8 program there were quarterly reports and all sorts of
9 other extra stuff. Fred and I tried to take a lot of
10 that out and I believe what it will say is a minimum of
11 one meeting per year and this could be telephonically.
12 It doesn't have to be in person, but one meeting per
13 year. Preferably two meetings per year of your region,
14 but a minimum of one and the annual report. So those
15 are going to be the two things that have to be met
16 before they'll give you the next year's grant. Even on
17 the five-year grant they still have to initiate the
18 next year. So be aware of that.

19
20 If nothing else is in your end of the
21 year report, you just need to say you had meetings on
22 these days. That's the main thing because that's what
23 they're going to be reading them for. I'm powerless to
24 say, well, extenuating circumstances, they didn't have
25 a meeting this year. From what I've been told I don't
26 have that discretion.

27
28 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Rick, you had your
29 hand up and then Taqulik.

30
31 MR. ROWLAND: Yeah. There's a few
32 things spinning around in my head about where that
33 Executive Director's salary is getting lumped into the
34 annual grant funding. The first one is, it's a line
35 item change. Then I understand when a line item change
36 is made it's okay to make a line item change, but it
37 gets real technical when you start making line item
38 changes from salaries or fringe amounts. I think I
39 need more of an explanation of how that's being
40 balanced. No offense to Patty, but making that switch,
41 that's a big switch. I think I'd appreciate a better
42 explanation.

43
44 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: I can just go back
45 and describe the decision-making history. Will that be
46 enough of an explanation?

47
48 MR. ROWLAND: Well, I don't know if
49 it's legal or not. Because when I have to make grant
50 changes, I have to get Office of Grants Management and

1 get authorization from them and I can't switch from
2 objectives into personnel. There's certain standards
3 that are set for grants and I know that in my grant, if
4 I get a grant, there are executive decisions to be used
5 in that grant.

6

7 MS. DEWHURST: I can answer that.

8

9 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: So that's a change in
10 scope of work. Go ahead, Donna.

11

12 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah, that's the thing.
13 We had to rewrite the scope of work. Patty had to
14 submit a new 424 or 425, whatever the new budget thing,
15 adjusting relative to the new scope of work, which
16 included her new duties and we had to do that. So
17 that's how we justified the difference in the money.
18 For this past year we had to modify her grant and add
19 that money. This coming year we're hoping we can just
20 do it all in one fell swoop at the beginning of the
21 year.

22

23 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Go ahead, Rick.

24

25 MR. ROWLAND: Okay. That's an
26 explanation of how it happened. Now can I do that?
27 Because now if one granting recipient can do it, then
28 is it okay for another granting recipient to do it.
29 Then the second one is that under legal accounting is
30 it legal to do that.

31

32 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Well, I think you
33 need to understand this whole budget is not a grant
34 agreement. The portion that's up in the non-
35 discretionary stuff is mine to manage. Basically
36 that's my job to manage money and to manage programs
37 and allocate the monies that I have to these outcomes.
38 So it's not a question of is it legal for me to grant
39 money to an organization to do work that we've
40 identified, but by changing the scope of work -- we
41 identified a body of work that -- going back under Tab
42 5. That non-inherently Federal body of work that the
43 Executive Director's office produces, we agreed to
44 contract the last quarter of 2012 and then this year
45 roughly 50 percent of the amount that we have available
46 to do the work we agreed to contract to Patty if she
47 and CRRC was willing to take that on.

48

49 So it's within my legal authority to
50 establish a scope of work and grant money to her to do

1 that work and that was at the request of the council to
2 bring that on and to get that work done under contract.
3 So we had an ad hoc committee established to discuss
4 how to get work done and how to proceed and that's the
5 way that committee and we decided to move forward and
6 continue the work that still needed to be done in the
7 interim of actually settling out and finalizing how
8 we're going to organize the Executive Director office
9 and getting the work done. So that decision was made.

10

11

12 You asked can you do that. You have
13 the prerogative to ask the contracting agency, the U.S.
14 Fish and Wildlife Service, to change the way that that
15 money is spent in your grant. Under grant law or
16 regulations I think you can change up to 10 percent of
17 it just by notifying, but you'd have to talk to Donna
18 and our contracting people to know exactly what the
19 break is. Anything more than, I think, 10 percent,
20 then you have to notify us and we negotiate. Do we, as
21 the contracting agency, want to buy that product and do
22 we agree to ship the money in the grant to pay for a
23 different product than what was originally agreed to.
24 That's the kind of discussions that have to occur
25 before we would sign that document. It's certainly
26 your prerogative to ask and then it's our prerogative
27 to work with the grantee to reach agreement on a
28 product that's being bought by the Federal government.

29

30

Joeneal.

31

32 MR. HICKS: Mr. Chair. I have several
33 questions here. So, in other words, under the flat
34 rate in FY '13, instead of 1,000 or 1.6 million, is
35 there a different number?

36

37 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: If we are flat funded
38 and I don't get a budget reduction, we still have
39 \$1,006,398. What changes though is the amount that's
40 in the non-discretionary and the discretionary. The
41 amount of money that we have to actually manage is
42 what's left over from the fixed cost increases that are
43 occurring regardless of whether we get more or less
44 money, right? We still have people that are on salary,
45 we still have rent, utilities, all that kind of stuff.
46 We still have to pay that.

47

48 If we are flat funded, the AMBCC from
49 my budget is going to have \$1,006,398.

50

1 MR. HICKS: Okay. My next question
2 would be under the non-discretionary funding we can
3 make or this body can make changes to that as we see
4 fit, is that correct?

5
6 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: No. It's non-
7 discretionary from the AMBCC's management board
8 perspective. It's money that the Federal government
9 has.....

10
11 MR. HICKS: Okay.

12
13 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Well, it's money that
14 is appropriated by the Congress to the Federal agency,
15 the Department of Interior, the Bureau is the U.S. Fish
16 and Wildlife Service. We're given that money by the
17 Secretary to do a body of work that the Secretary is
18 calling upon us to do and that's to do the work that
19 we've described in that list of tasks and duties and
20 deliverables under Tab 5 for the Office of the
21 Executive Director.

22
23 So it's not discretionary for this
24 board to say how the Federal government is going to
25 accomplish that. What's discretionary is once we've
26 identified the minimum amount necessary to get that
27 done, then we have these other things that need to be
28 done and the Deputy Regional Director has said we'll
29 give the board the opportunity to say how that money is
30 going to be allocated.

31
32 MR. HICKS: Okay. I would follow up
33 with that question is that I guess we can or maybe we
34 cannot then, I guess. Can we designate additional
35 monies on contractual under this non-discretionary
36 funding?

37
38 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Not under the non-
39 discretionary, but the discretionary account. Look at
40 this table on the FY '13 for flat. The number
41 \$477,286. That's what the Budget Committee of the
42 AMBCC needs to look at and apportion to these line
43 items that are identified here. You can decide whether
44 or not you want to be involved in the AFN conference,
45 which is next week, so it's kind of late for that.
46 Right now we've scratched that as a function.

47
48 The Budget Committee needs to work with
49 other committees, like the Harvest Survey Committee and
50 what other committees that would have a budgetary need

1 to figure out the best way to address the issues that
2 they're faced with.

3

4 MR. HICKS: Okay. Then my next question
5 and comment would go to Donna. I do know that you are
6 asking us to close out our particular grant by the end
7 of December, blah, blah, blah, but again I have to
8 remind you that I have trouble dealing with them. I
9 mean it's like talking to a stump. How can I talk to
10 them effectively to get this done like you are
11 requesting?

12

13 MS. DEWHURST: I'm fighting hard for
14 you, Joeneal. I probably call that office -- oh, I've
15 sent them two emails in the past couple weeks. I'm
16 trying to communicate with them as much as I can. It's
17 tough. What seems to work with CRNA's office is to
18 play the squeaky wheel. If I keep badgering them,
19 eventually they'll shut me up by doing it. I hate to
20 say it, but that's what seems to work. So I am doing
21 my darnedest to squeak at them and get them to move.

22

23 It probably wouldn't hurt for you to
24 squeak at them too and then they'd shut us all up. It
25 worked last year. I mean they were the last
26 organization to get their grant in place, but we did
27 it. It took I think it was a month or a month and a
28 half. You got yours like a month or a month and a half
29 later than everybody else just because we were trying
30 to push the organization. So I'm working with you.
31 I'm on your side, but it's just a challenge.

32

33 MR. HICKS: Okay. My last question
34 would be how much say so do I have in the
35 administration of that particular grant? In other
36 words, can I utilize some of that money for doing a
37 mini duck harvest survey? I know we're allowed for the
38 camp. How much discretion do I have utilizing that
39 money for other types of activities?

40

41 MS. DEWHURST: When you read your grant
42 agreement, the money is really supposed to be used for
43 two things primarily and that's outreach and travel.
44 Outreach is anything educational or anything -- you
45 know, if you're traveling to a village to attend a
46 meeting there and you want to talk about ducks too,
47 that's outreach. Surveys, they draw the line there and
48 surveys have to be contracts because we have
49 deliverables in surveys. So you don't have the
50 discretion to do surveys, but you would have the

1 discretion of doing anything you can think of under the
2 sun that you could call outreach.

3

4 If you're out in a village and you're
5 talking about traditional knowledge, that can still be
6 outreach. I mean you're out there to talk to them
7 about the hunt or whatever, but at the same time you're
8 getting traditional knowledge information while you're
9 there, that's fine. But the primary purpose of your
10 visit should be outreach.

11

12 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Frank, you had a
13 question.

14

15 MR. WOODS: Mr. Chair. This is a
16 budget question. I understand the discretionary and
17 non-discretionary. What I'm getting at is I would love
18 to see a full picture of how the money -- you've
19 outlined it -- the first time I've actually seen a
20 budget and to be a co-manager, I would like to see the
21 impacts of this budget plus whatever fixed costs you
22 have to operate connected to this program how we are
23 affected by that budget fluctuation. Does that make
24 sense?

25

26 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Yeah, I think I
27 understand your question. I can show you the amount of
28 money that I am apportioned. It comes to me by what
29 they call sub activity. Each sub activity is a pot of
30 money that I have based on work activity guidance that
31 says you will accomplish certain work with this money.
32 There's a pot of money for migratory bird management
33 and that funds Russ's program, funds Ed Mallek, funds
34 Eric Taylor's office and so on and so forth. Another
35 sub activity that I get to the Regional Director goes
36 to the Refuge Program to operate Refuges.

37

38 Back in the day, 15 years ago or
39 thereabouts, the Division of Migratory Bird Management
40 was in the Refuge Program, so the monies came to the
41 Refuge Program but with different sub activity numbers
42 that associated those dollars. In 2000, they separated
43 those programs. So Migratory Bird Management became a
44 standalone managed program with a mid level manager,
45 which is me, with the responsibility of managing the
46 programs and the outcomes associated with that program.

47

48

49 The Refuge Program used to fund some of
50 the work that AMBCC is involved in, the harvest survey

1 for example, and that was funded with sub activity
2 associated with refuge management. So that's why I
3 said about two-thirds of the budget comes from refuges.
4 Of the million dollars, this year \$607,000 came from
5 refuges. The difference would have been 399 came from
6 migratory birds.

7
8 MR. WOODS: Okay, that process I
9 understand now. Who allocates them refuge dollars?

10
11 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: A colleague at my
12 level in the organization. His name is Mitch Ellis.
13 He's the Assistant Regional Director for Refuge
14 Management.

15
16 MR. WOODS: Maybe in the next month
17 could you pass all that information on to me and Patty
18 so I can review.....

19
20 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Sure.

21
22 MR. WOODS:just to get a good
23 picture of how we're at and where we're standing.

24
25 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Rick, go ahead.

26
27 MR. ROWLAND: You mentioned Fred
28 Armstrong there for shared cost common services. I
29 know Fred has moved on to some other capacity and it's
30 good to see him back walking again. What capacity will
31 he be providing to the Alaska Migratory Bird group?

32
33 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: He's not providing a
34 direct service. He is managing -- part of his
35 responsibilities is to manage the Tribal Wildlife Grant
36 Program. It's a totally different subactivity, totally
37 different pot of money that he manages. What you
38 probably need to understand is that when we have an
39 overhead cost to positions that are funded by the
40 region, the way we support those positions, because
41 there is no subactivity that funds those positions,
42 each of the subactivities that actually is sent our way
43 from the headquarters office is surcharged an amount
44 that is prorated on the numbers of people that are in
45 our program.

46
47 So even though Fred doesn't work in my
48 program now, doesn't work for AMBCC, he still costs the
49 region what he was costing when he was working for us.
50 So as a percent of support for those common service

1 positions, my program, those subactivities that I get
2 from refuges and the subactivity that I get from
3 migratory bird management purposes, those are
4 surcharged based on the total cost of doing business
5 for those shared positions. So even though Fred is not
6 doing a service directly for the AMBCC, it is a cost
7 that has gone up because of that personnel move. I'm
8 paying about 8-9 percent. The Refuge Program pays 50
9 percent of every common service cost.

10

11 The reason they do that is because they
12 have that many more people on the payroll in that
13 program. Refuges employees about 1 out of every 2 Fish
14 and Wildlife Service people in this region. There are
15 more than 600 people, 300 of those are employed by
16 Refuges. So, when those costs are prorated by the
17 numbers of people that are on the payroll, each program
18 that has a subactivity that comes to us from the
19 Washington office is surcharged based on the number of
20 people. So that's how those costs go up and I pay a
21 percentage of those costs.

22

23 MR. ROWLAND: Okay. Then you just said
24 like Fred Armstrong. So it's not specifically Fred
25 Armstrong, it's just that specific line item of a
26 shared cost.

27

28 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Correct. That's
29 exactly right.

30

31 MR. ROWLAND: Okay. So that's a
32 percentage of an overall budget. Is that considered
33 when they make those allocations to our region from the
34 headquarters?

35

36 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: No. There are two
37 definitions that we use for expenses, those shared cost
38 kinds of expenses. One is general operations. We do
39 get a subactivity apportionment to cover general
40 operations. That covers things like the Regional
41 Director's salary, the Deputy Regional Director's
42 salary and the administrative staff for that office.

43

44 The shared costs are over and above
45 what we get for general operations. We operate at a
46 deficit and the deficit is made up from those other
47 subactivities that we get sent to us. The Washington
48 office does not give us additional general operations
49 money. I do know the number. That's 1662 money. We
50 do not get additional -- 1662 is the number associated

1 with it. We don't get more money for that.

2

3 For example, if the Regional Director
4 decides to add a shared cost position or general
5 operations position and that makes our costs go up
6 \$150,000, the Washington office doesn't say, oh, now
7 that you have that new cost we're going to send you
8 more 1662 money. That does not occur.

9

10 That's probably way more details than
11 all you need to know.

12

13 MR. ROWLAND: No, because I'm going to
14 call somebody about it.

15

16 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Okay. Good, good.
17 All right. I think we've covered the budget, the
18 projections for '13 and the grant amounts for '13 and
19 the needs for the grants, right? Go ahead.

20

21 MS. DEWHURST: With the changes in Fred
22 Armstrong's position, I just wanted to mention that
23 it's kind of an experiment. I mean we've been doing it
24 for a couple of months, but Patty and I took Fred, cut
25 him in half. Patty is now half of Fred and I'm the
26 other half of Fred. So I got the other half of Fred's
27 duties on top of my normal duties, on top of Bill
28 Ostrand's old duties and others, so we're dividing this
29 up.

30

31 It would help us, I think, if you can
32 keep in mind that if you're dealing with a grant or a
33 contract or a money issue, email or call me or have
34 your folks email or call me because I'm handling all
35 that stuff. If it's something like a committee meeting
36 or prep for this meeting or something like that,
37 contact Patty. So if you can kind of keep that list in
38 mind as to what Patty is going to be trying to do, it
39 would help us.

40

41 Patty is doing most of her job from her
42 existing office, but we did set her up some office
43 space in our office to work when she wants to. We're
44 going to try this as an experiment and see how it goes
45 the next year and see if you guys like it, if we're
46 providing you with enough of a service or not.

47

48 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Rick, go ahead.

49

50 MR. ROWLAND: Yeah, I'm still kind of

1 wondering. Is Patty the interim or is she the
2 Director?

3

4 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Patty, go ahead.

5

6 MS. BROWN-SCHWALENBERG: I'm still the
7 interim. At the direction of the Native Caucus, who
8 then took it to the AMBCC and they voted, you know,
9 CRRC took on those responsibilities until the group can
10 figure out what's the best avenue; 638 compact,
11 contract, continue with the granting or just a Federal
12 employee, the things that we were talking about
13 earlier. So until we can come up with that process or
14 that method of fulfilling this position, then I will
15 remain as the interim.

16

17 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Let me comment on
18 that. I will tell you that I've talked at length with
19 my bosses and we have looked at this list of work and
20 I've stated it twice, we cannot contract or compact for
21 inherently Federal work. So there is work that the
22 Executive Director's office had to do, still must do
23 and still produce that cannot be contracted. So the
24 way that we will move forward on that as a Federal
25 bureaucracy, Federal agency, is to get Federal help for
26 Donna.

27

28 Donna cannot do one and a half jobs.
29 We're going to have to figure out a way to bring
30 someone on to work in that capacity to provide that
31 service that she's now providing her work plus Fred's
32 work. That's where we are and that's where the
33 Regional Director has already made that decision. The
34 decision that the AMBCC needs to make is that
35 inherently not Federal work that can be contracted or
36 compacted, do you want to take that on. That's really
37 the decision that needs to be made and considered.
38 Patty is willing to do that until we, as a body, have
39 made that collective decision.

40

41 Enoch.

42

43 MR. SHIEDT: Yeah. Here's an idea.
44 Can't Patty do both Fred's work under Federal position
45 and do her other 50 percent?

46

47 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: You mean can she be a
48 Federal employee?

49

50 MR. SHIEDT: Yes, for the interim. Can

1 Patty do both in the contract? Just an idea.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Well, I can't say
4 that I can give Patty a job because all Federal jobs
5 are competed and we have to hire the best qualified
6 individual. I can talk for hours about the constraints
7 associated with giving a Federal job. No one has the
8 prerogative just to do that just by picking a person
9 and saying I want you. That sounds like a simple
10 solution, but it can't be done as simply as that.

11

12 Frank.

13

14 MR. WOODS: Being a participant in all
15 the discussions of how to get to this point and then
16 Geoff Haskett's point of getting to yes, I think we're
17 on the right track. Again, we're going to need
18 everyone to work together.

19

20 Without Donna we're not going to
21 continue. We're not trying to take anybody's job away
22 from them. That would be the last thing I think this
23 board would want to do. Without your help we're not
24 going to be able to draft any Federal language that's
25 going to incorporate the Federally inherent positions
26 that you're in. In all of this, at some point, the
27 compacting and contracting have to be addressed because
28 right now we don't have time. We're not going to make
29 that decision today.

30

31 I'd like all the information passed on
32 to the other board members that information that
33 pertains to this program. That's what I'm asking, for
34 us to make adequate and active co-manager, I guess you
35 would call it, I would need that information to help
36 the whole process. Number one, we're still continuing
37 to go round and round, Doug. Here's the discretionary
38 and non-discretionary. Here's what it takes to
39 incorporate the whole picture and includes a whole list
40 of stuff that doesn't really pertinent to decisions
41 that need to be made.

42

43 This is a good start, but let's
44 continue working on it. If you're just looking for
45 board approval, we've already approved this because we
46 -- by consensus, we're still agreeing. Am I not
47 correct?

48

49 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Well, this is a
50 report. It's at the request of the board, who you all

1 said a year ago and subsequent meetings said that we've
2 been given a budget but we've not had a say in how that
3 budget is managed. So this is the way the Regional
4 Director is willing to say we're trying to do what we
5 can do. We still have responsibilities as Federal
6 agencies and bureaucrats to do what we have to do and
7 we have money to do that. The board can then assist us
8 in helping decide the best way to spend that money.
9 That's where we are right now.

10

11 MR. WOODS: In that regard, yeah, we
12 are. Like I said, let's just continue to move forward.
13 I think that this is a good start. We're looking at
14 contracting versus compacting. We're looking at the
15 budget versus discretionary versus non-discretionary.
16 We're looking at the options all in front of us. All
17 the information we've acquired I think we're going to
18 be where we need to be. That said, I think it's almost
19 time to move on, Mr. Chair.

20

21 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Thank you for
22 summarizing that. I appreciate that. Any other
23 questions before we do move on.

24

25 (No comments)

26

27 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Okay. Thank you all
28 for bearing with us. That was a lot of detail. We
29 completed Item 12(e). We're at Item 12(f) approval of
30 research priorities list, Interim Executive Director
31 Schwalenberg under Tab 6. Patty, did you want to take
32 the lead in that discussion.

33

34 MS. BROWN-SCHWALENBERG: Thank you, Mr.
35 Chairman. When Crystal Leonetti was the Interim
36 Executive Director, she was working out of the AFN
37 office. When we had the meeting in January, Julie
38 Kitka from AFN suggested we develop a research
39 priorities list. Crystal did, but it did not go to the
40 AMBCC for consideration, so I would like to have this
41 at some point approved by the AMBCC and I understand
42 that nobody's really had a chance to look at this.

43

44 She contacted the regional management
45 bodies and the migratory bird people at the Fish and
46 Wildlife Service. I don't know if she contacted Fish
47 and Game or not. That's how she came up with this list
48 of priorities. So I would like to get the input from
49 the regional management bodies as well as the State and
50 the Feds if they have additional things to put on here.

1 At our spring meeting perhaps we could have an approved
2 list. Thank you.

3

4 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Michael. Let the
5 record show that Michael Pederson is sitting at the
6 table for Taqulik Hepa for the North Slope Borough. Go
7 ahead.

8

9 MR. PEDERSON: Mike Pederson of the
10 North Slope Borough. One thing that I'd like the board
11 to consider adding is the consequences of human impacts
12 when they're doing the research on birds. Like in our
13 region the last few summers the Fish and Wildlife
14 Service have been handling birds and nests and in our
15 traditional knowledge we've always stated that when
16 humans handle eggs or whatnot sometimes the mothers
17 don't go back to the nest and there's issues relating
18 to that. So if we could add the human impacts of
19 researchers handling birds or something to that effect.

20

21 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Thanks, Mike. I have
22 a question, Patty, regarding your request for the AMBCC
23 to come back and approve a list for next year. This
24 list is non-prioritized. Are you suggesting that it
25 become a prioritized list and, if so, how would we get
26 that priority?

27

28 MS. BROWN-SCHWALENBERG: It probably
29 would be a good idea to prioritize the list. Once we
30 develop the list maybe one of the committees can take
31 that up or we could do it during the Technical
32 Committee. I think it would be a lengthy process to
33 try to do it within the council meeting, but I don't
34 think it would be outside of the scope of trying to do
35 it during a workshop.

36

37 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Rick, you have the
38 mic.

39

40 MR. ROWLAND: My thought is that what
41 Mike just mentioned is very important. The whole list
42 is very important. I've seen studies that say that if
43 there's a priority put on one, then something else
44 that's important to somebody else will be left off. So
45 before we say, yeah, let's prioritize it and limit
46 ourselves, let's have a discussion about it first
47 before we say we're going to prioritize one or the
48 other.

49

50 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Okay. Any other

1 comments.

2

3

MR. ROSENBERG: May I?

4

5

CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Yeah, go ahead.

6

7

MR. ROSENBERG: I just wanted it to be clear to everyone and I'm not the one to make it clear, but I just thought maybe for a little bit of discussion about how this list will be used because I think that might affect what goes on. I think initially when Julie Kitka brought up the idea it was to -- at one time she even talked about going back to I think even the National Science Council or whomever in trying to get funding for projects up here that would be important to the AMBCC.

17

18

Another way this list could be used is to try to guide research of the Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department of Fish and Game or whoever else is doing research up here. So, I mean that might make a difference as to what's on here and how it's prioritized.

24

25

My understanding when this came around and Crystal sent a request around for ideas, it emanated from Julie Kitka's statements about going back to Washington or wherever she was going, meeting with Brendan Kelly and all this stuff and trying to get funding out of the White House or National Science Foundation or whomever. At the same time, other people may see it as a mechanism to guide what the Fish and Wildlife Service is doing up here. So I just wanted to bring that up because a lot of these that are on here I know are things that came from the agencies, so you guys may have different ideas about what you think needs to be done.

38

39

CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Rick, go ahead.

40

41

MR. ROWLAND: Yeah, I recall sitting in on a teleconference as well, so we sat in. I appreciate that, but I just wanted to clarify that we did have conversations about it prior to her going back. I'm not sure about whether or not we talked about adding stuff, but if it's important to the North Slope Borough to add stuff, then -- I mean some of this stuff might be duplicated as well because we're different regions talking and we created a list. There's one step prior to getting to the prioritization

1 step that should occur.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Mike, go ahead.

4

5 MR. PEDERSON: I agree and I think
6 maybe we should go ahead and put this as an agenda item
7 at the next work session.

8

9 MR. WOODS: So moved.

10

11 MR. ROSENBERG: Second.

12

13 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Okay. I have a
14 motion and second to add this list to the agenda for
15 the next work session. Would you also want to include
16 it on the spring meeting agenda?

17

18 MR. PEDERSON: Yes.

19

20 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: The maker of the
21 motion and the second agree to that?

22

23 MR. ROSENBERG: Yes.

24

25 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: So the intent is to
26 put this as an agendum on both the work session and the
27 spring meeting agenda in order to seek approval of the
28 list, but is it also to set priorities for the list.

29

30 MS. BROWN-SCHWALENBERG: That would be
31 discussed.

32

33 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: That will be
34 discussed at the spring meeting. Okay. I'll open it
35 for discussion. Any discussion.

36

37 (No comments)

38

39 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Anyone opposed.

40

41 (No opposing votes)

42

43 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Seeing none, the
44 motion carries. That would be added to the
45 spring/winter agenda.

46

47 How are we doing? Do we need a quick
48 break? All right. Let's keep moving. Tribal
49 consultation Item 12(g). Donna, would you like to come
50 to the microphone. Your name is listed for this item.

1 MS. DEWHURST: Just think of the
2 bargain you're getting with me. Gee, you know, you
3 should be treating me nicer. I'm a great financial
4 bargain.

5
6 (Laughter)

7
8 MS. DEWHURST: I will be sending out
9 about 430 letters that are going to go to all the IRAs
10 and the Native corporations giving them the opportunity
11 for consultation on the regulations. So we have to do
12 this during the open period, the open comment period of
13 the proposed rule. The dates we're proposing available
14 if anybody wants to actually meet in person would be I
15 think is November 14, 15. So that's the plan.

16
17 Last year we had I think it was four
18 groups that said they wanted to consult in person.
19 Nobody really had strong comments last year. It was
20 very quiet really. A lot of it was just clarifying or
21 trying to get better understanding. Some of the
22 meetings -- like there was one with Point Lay and it
23 was very pleasant. He wanted some clarification and
24 other than that he didn't really have any complaints.

25
26 But that's the plan. We provide the
27 opportunity, which we legally now have to do any time
28 we do a major regulatory thing, like the proposed rule.

29
30 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Any questions. So
31 organizations that you are affiliated with will be
32 given notice and invited to participate. It's November
33 13 and 14, two days?

34
35 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah, I think it might
36 be 14 and 15.

37
38 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: 14 and 15, okay. So
39 those are the two days that have been set aside.
40 Frank.

41
42 MR. WOODS: In light of that, you just
43 mentioned that that's your duty and before lunch you
44 said that your main charge is to provide regulatory
45 language for that process. In writing, in the next
46 meeting, can you have an outline of how that looks for
47 us?

48
49 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: We have the policy, we
50 have the Presidential Executive Order and the policy

1 associated with consultation with Federally recognized
2 tribes and Alaska ANCSA corporations, profit and
3 nonprofit. So we have that policy statement and we can
4 bring that to the meeting.

5
6 MR. WOODS: That would be good in
7 writing, but Donna's Federal rule process you were
8 talking specifically before lunch and this just a few
9 minutes ago. That process is cumbersome and that
10 process is expensive for you. It looks like close to
11 \$50-75,000 just to process the regulation book, the
12 Federal rule. That process I'm interested in and I
13 thought the board might be. Do you understand what I'm
14 asking?

15
16 MS. BROWN-SCHWALENBERG: Everything
17 Donna has to do?

18
19 MR. WOODS: Yeah, everything Donna has
20 to do. Does that make sense for me? As a board
21 member, I want to be fully up to speed.

22
23 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Donna and I will sort
24 of debrief and I think I get what you're asking for and
25 that is you'd like an explanation of why those layers
26 occur, what those layers are, what the processes are,
27 what administrative functions we have to get done.

28
29 MR. WOODS: Yeah.

30
31 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Yeah, we can write
32 that up.

33
34 MR. WOODS: As a board member, it's
35 really good for me to understand what I'm -- because
36 you guys live and breathe it. I hear it maybe once a
37 year and maybe look at it in the Register and when you
38 guys send me that Register it's just a formal document
39 that you guys file. I don't know what all goes on
40 behind that.

41
42 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Yeah, I think we can
43 do that. She and I can sit down with Patty and we can
44 just write bullets and things that have to occur
45 through the year to make the job go.

46
47 MR. WOODS: There's a timeline like you
48 said. I'm finished there, Mr. Chair.

49
50 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Rick, go ahead.

1 MR. ROWLAND: And I concur with Frank.

2

3

4 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Okay. That's fair.
5 I allude to it in lots of different ways, so I don't
6 mind providing you that detail. Any other questions of
7 Donna on tribal consultation.

8

9 (No comments)

10

11 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: All right. Thank
12 you, Donna. We're down to 12(h), review and discussion
13 of council member and staff training, how did it go and
14 how often do we want to provide it. Donna came Monday
15 morning prepared, thinking she was going to speak to a
16 few folks and there quite a few. There were eight or
17 nine people here. It seemed to be a pretty good
18 discussion, open and frank. Nothing on the record, so
19 anyone have any comment on that? Would you like to see
20 it continue? It would be scheduled for the morning of
21 the days that we normally schedule the work session.

22

23 Michael, go ahead.

24

25 MR. PEDERSON: In talking with Taqulik
26 and briefly mentioned by Todd, our technical person, I
27 would think that if there are new issues that come
28 about that maybe that would be the appropriate time to
29 do it, only if there were new issues coming about. I
30 mean in the agenda that I looked at, that was great,
31 but if there's any new issues related to those
32 particular things coming from your guy's side, I think
33 that would be appropriate to have the next training.

34

35 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Rick and then Frank.

36

37 MR. ROWLAND: Two things. One, I don't
38 know if we're going to be here after 12/12/12, but --
39 that's just a joke.

40

41 (Laughter)

42

43 MR. ROWLAND: But as far as having that
44 session, I think it's important that we have this stuff
45 recorded instead of having to sit down and discuss
46 issues prior to having it recorded. Like, for example,
47 Mike is talking about if something comes up to where we
48 need to have a lengthy discussion, then possibly.

49

50 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: All right. Thanks. Frank.

1 MR. WOODS: As a new board member
2 designated as an alternate, we have new board members
3 present, we have new staff. I would suggest annual
4 training just for the outline of AMBCC so that they get
5 familiar with the process. Our process is the most
6 important thing that we have. If we don't fully
7 understand the process, then I think we're doing
8 ourselves a disservice. So I would advocate an annual.
9 Maybe a short blurb, not to put any more pressure on
10 Donna, but just the procedural aspects of the AMBCC,
11 including this meeting, to our regional meetings, to
12 our grant processes. Just an outline and that would be
13 my spiel.

14
15 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Rick, go ahead.

16
17 MR. ROWLAND: Yeah. The one thing that
18 just popped into my mind recalling that first day, it
19 was supposed to be a training and then we started
20 talking about something that's going to be put into
21 additional documents and added line item. I don't
22 recall what it was. But that was the thing that got me
23 thinking about I don't want to have to start discussing
24 something in what's supposed to be a training that
25 turns out, oh, yeah, it was presented to you guys in
26 the council meeting and it has to be figured out
27 whether it was decided in discussing the training or
28 actually in the meeting, but those kind of things
29 should be talked about in the meeting. That way we
30 have the formal format.

31
32 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Absolutely. I was
33 going to comment on your comment. I think your comment
34 is good to have it recorded exactly for the reasons
35 that you just cited. The workshop was originally
36 decided to have that workshop in advance of the meeting
37 so that there could be an off-the-record discussion
38 between staff and amongst the board so that there
39 wasn't a need to go through any formalities. It was
40 more of a free exchange of information and it was
41 specifically structured so that no decisions would be
42 made at the workshop and that also would apply to the
43 training.

44
45 The training really was set up because
46 of what Frank mentioned. We have a lot of new board
47 members and people have changed over the last decade.
48 While I'm looking around the table here and I've been
49 sitting at the table longer than anybody, but Patty, I
50 think, has been involved with this just about as long,

1 but we're not going to be around forever and there will
2 be a new group of people, so I think there's value in
3 that kind of training and that was the reason for that.

4
5 Your point is well taken and that is
6 any information that's provided or any discussion of
7 decision-making nature, decisions should not be made
8 and they're not made at those meetings. The only
9 exception is like, for example, Monday when I handed
10 out the budget table. The only reason I handed it out
11 Monday is because I didn't have it done to put it in
12 the binder, but I intended to have it in the binder so
13 I wouldn't have had to hand it out in the work session.
14 So we try to avoid that as much as we can to help that
15 situation.

16
17 Bob, did you have a comment.

18
19 MR. HENRICHS: Yeah. The other thing
20 that would be good to have because there will be new
21 people here would be kind of a summary of the history
22 of the group and have the minutes of past meetings
23 available like on a disk or something so people could
24 just go back and look and see how things happened.
25 That would be good to have.

26
27 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Okay. Thanks. Are
28 there any other comments about the training session,
29 work session?

30
31 (No comments)

32
33 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: We'll take that into
34 advisement and I guess in a debrief Patty, I and Donna
35 can talk about how to implement some of these
36 suggestions on how to make things better. All right.
37 That takes us to Item 13, the invitation for public
38 comment. Is there anyone in the audience that would
39 like to address the board.

40
41 (No comments)

42
43 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Thank you all for
44 being patient. We're down to 14, committee
45 appointments and assignments. Patty, do you want to
46 lead this discussion.

47
48 MS. BROWN-SCHWALENBERG: Thank you, Mr.
49 Chair. When we went into the Native Caucus, it was
50 indicated that the committee members were assigned at

1 the last fall meeting. What happened was we wrote the
2 list down and handed it to one of the staff. I don't
3 recall who we handed it to. It was never written into
4 the record, so when Donna prepared the committees list
5 since it wasn't in the minutes because nobody read the
6 names, all she had was the transcripts to go by. As a
7 result, we're operating on basically last fall's
8 committee assignment list. Since some of the people
9 aren't here, we can work with you to recreate those
10 changes, but the only current change at this point
11 besides what we did last fall is Molly Chythlook, who
12 has retired and Frank Woods is her alternate, so he's
13 in that spot until such time as BBNA makes you
14 permanent or chooses someone else.

15

16 So I guess at the wish of the council I
17 can either work with you to find out what your changes
18 are and get them to Doug or we can sit here and go
19 through committee by committee.

20

21 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Rick.

22

23 MR. ROWLAND: One thought that I was
24 wondering too is that we have more activity related to
25 committees, which is a higher cost, so I'm wondering if
26 that has been factored into the budget or the grants to
27 the agencies or the regional reps.

28

29 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: The answer is it is
30 not. It's something that is at the discretion of the
31 Budget Committee and the Budget Committee needs to meet
32 soon and to make that call and to recognize that there
33 will be additional needs to accommodate those
34 activities. Joeneal.

35

36 MR. HICKS: I just had a response to
37 Patty. There were several other committees that were
38 created that needs to be included on that list.

39

40 MR. PEDERSON: Mr. Chair.

41

42 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Mike, go ahead.

43

44 MR. PEDERSON: I think me and Taqulik
45 were writing down the names at the last meeting and I
46 can send you when I get back to Barrow that list. I
47 mentioned it to her before she left, but she didn't say
48 anything. I remember both me and her were writing the
49 names down when we met at the last -- in the API
50 building in the lobby and we were talking about the

1 committee assignments.

2

3 MR. HICKS: I believe I do have that
4 list too now that I remember.

5

6 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Enoch, go ahead.

7

8 MR. SHIEDT: Yeah, I wrote the majority
9 of them down too, but they're in my office, so you'll
10 have to wait until I get back.

11

12 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Rick.

13

14 MR. ROWLAND: And then we did also
15 write more down at the summit as well, so there was a
16 list created there too.

17

18 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: So it seems to me
19 what we ought to do is everybody go back and look in
20 your binders from the last couple of meetings, from the
21 spring Gathering and the spring meeting and then
22 provide Patty that. Patty's got her hand raised.

23

24 MS. BROWN-SCHWALENBERG: Yeah, that
25 sounds like a good process. Just forward to me
26 whatever lists you have. As I'm sitting here, I recall
27 Crystal developed a list also that included the new
28 committees that were created at the Gathering. So I
29 will consolidate all the information and update the
30 committee list.

31

32 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Okay. So that's how
33 we're going to comprise the committees, make
34 appointments, but what about the assignments and
35 convening the committee? Do you have any comments on
36 that or what your thinking process was?

37

38 MS. BROWN-SCHWALENBERG: Yes, Mr.
39 Chairman. As we discussed during the work session, we
40 have discussed the inability or the inactivity of the
41 committees, they've been unable to meet or they haven't
42 had the leadership to get the committees to meet, so
43 when we do the committee reports, nobody has met.

44

45 One way I was hoping that we could
46 resolve that issue is when we develop our date and
47 place of the next meeting is to also develop a
48 committee schedule. We talked at the work session
49 either the day before or the day after the actual AMBCC
50 meeting and I was hoping that we could do that today,

1 but I think we're running out of time. That would be
2 my request to the council.

3

4 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Is there an action
5 needed then? Is anybody prepared to make a motion to
6 that effect?

7

8 MR. HICKS: I so move.

9

10 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Would you state the
11 motion.

12

13 MR. HICKS: I move to have a meeting
14 one day before or one day after the AMBCC meeting. Is
15 that what you're requesting?

16

17 MS. BROWN-SCHWALENBERG: Is there a
18 preference? The day before, the training and work
19 session.

20

21 MR. HICKS: I would say the day before.
22 I mean after day three I think we get kind of burnt
23 out.

24

25 MS. BROWN-SCHWALENBERG: Thank you.

26

27 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: I have a motion. I
28 don't know that I've heard a second. Do we have a
29 second.

30

31 MR. SHIEDT: I'll second.

32

33 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: All right. I have a
34 motion and second. Discussion.

35

36 (No comments)

37

38 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: All right. I'm going
39 to call the question. Anyone opposed that.....

40

41 MR. ROWLAND: Oh, wait I have
42 something.

43

44 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Okay. Go ahead,
45 Rick.

46

47 MR. ROWLAND: So does that cover
48 everything related to committees in relation to when
49 we're going to have it, how we're going to find out
50 who's on it, what we're going to do for the budget

1 related to it?

2

3 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Patty, go ahead.

4

5 MS. BROWN-SCHWALENBERG: At the very
6 least, that's what I would like, the committees to meet
7 the day before the spring meeting. As Doug mentioned,
8 the Budget Committee has to meet immediately, so I will
9 make sure that that happens. Some of the other
10 committees as well. The Emperor Goose Committee and
11 the Technical Committee need to meet. So there are
12 some immediate needs.

13

14 In the event that some of those
15 committees, like the Goals and Objectives Committee and
16 some of those that are pretty much inactive, that would
17 at least give them a goal that they will meet at least
18 once a year anyway. But some of the other ones are
19 more active and it will be my responsibility to make
20 sure those meetings are convened.

21

22 MR. ROWLAND: And then one follow up to
23 that, instead of having it just one day before, there
24 is also a potential of having a committee meeting
25 sometime prior to the spring or fall meeting as well.

26

27 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Time to call the
28 question.

29

30 MR. WOODS: One more.

31

32 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Frank, do you have a
33 comment. All right. It's getting late.

34

35 MR. WOODS: I know. For the body here
36 and you guys, we don't want all this stuff to be dying
37 committee. Past legislative bodies have taught us
38 well. Let's keep it going.

39

40 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: All right. I'm going
41 to call the question. Anyone oppose the motion as
42 stated and then discussed.

43

44 (No opposing votes)

45

46 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Seeing no opposition,
47 motion carries. There will be a day set aside for
48 committees to meet a day prior to the workshop and
49 training session so scheduled. That would make it two
50 days before regularly scheduled meetings in the fall or

1 spring at least once per year as I understand it. All
2 right. Thank you.

3

4 Dan.

5

6 MR. ROSENBERG: I just wanted to point
7 out that as it stands right now, I mean I think that
8 would necessitate Sunday travel. Just so people are
9 aware of that.

10

11 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: It would if a Monday
12 meeting were called for.

13

14 MR. ROSENBERG: Well, normally Tuesday,
15 Wednesday, Thursday, so if we had a Monday meeting, I
16 assume that for some people that would necessitate.....

17

18 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Or Saturday.

19

20 MR. ROSENBERG: Or Saturday, yeah. I
21 mean there are options. I just wanted to make sure
22 that.....

23

24 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: All right. We might
25 touch on that in the next couple of agenda items. We'll
26 be identifying a date for the next meeting, so that
27 might bear on that discussion.

28

29 MS. NAVES: I have a question.

30

31 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Come to the mic,
32 Liliana.

33

34 MS. NAVES: Lili Naves. I noticed that
35 the Harvest Survey Committee was lumped together with
36 the Harvest Limitations Committee at a certain point in
37 time. I went back to the previous binders to look at
38 the duties of the different committees and they seemed
39 very distinct. I would like to ask if the group would
40 like to reconsider separating those committees again
41 based on their duties.

42

43 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Thank you for
44 pointing that out. I do think that that's a good idea.
45 I don't know how these were put together. I guess I
46 would assume in the transition someone assumed because
47 the word harvest was in the titles of both committees
48 that they were related. They have distinct assignments
49 and distinct objectives associated with those
50 committees. So I think it does warrant separating

1 those committees and perhaps identifying individuals
2 with certain skill sets that are needed for those
3 committees. Do we need to do that today?

4
5 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (Indiscernible -
6 away from microphone)

7
8 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Okay. For the sake
9 of brevity, we'll move on. Thank you, Liliana, for
10 that reminder.

11
12 All right. We are at Item 15, Council
13 comments or Staff comments. I'm going to invite the
14 Council to say anything that they have on their chest
15 at this moment. Mike.

16
17 MR. PEDERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
18 Having served here as an alternate since 2006 and
19 dealing with some of the heavy issues that we've
20 discussed over the last year, year and a half or so, I
21 just want to thank the Service for being open. I don't
22 know really how to say it, but just want to thank you
23 guys for listening to our concerns and acting on some
24 of them and letting us know about how you guys view co-
25 management and stuff like that.

26
27 So I think with all the discussions
28 we've had the last few meetings, I think Molly had said
29 it at one meeting, I can't remember her exact words,
30 but anyway I just wanted to thank you guys at the
31 Service level for opening up and having some of the
32 heavy discussions that we've had even though we may
33 have not agreed on some of the issues or how things are
34 working.

35
36 In this time of transition for the last
37 year I just want to thank Donna and Patty for doing
38 some extra work on behalf of the Council and also to
39 you, Doug, for being open about the process and stuff
40 like that and listening to us and moving things along,
41 how they have moved along so far. So I think things
42 are improving and look forward to working with you on
43 other issues and to move forward on how the AMBCC can
44 be truly a co-management organization.

45
46 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Thank you, Mike. Any
47 other comments. Joeneal.

48
49 MR. HICKS: I second the motion.
50

1 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Bob, go ahead.

2

3 MR. HENRICHS: Well, this is the Alaska
4 Migratory Bird Co-management Council. In Cordova and
5 Eyak Lake during the earthquake it raise up six or
6 eight feet and there was a lot of concern about the
7 water level in that lake as to habitat for
8 salmon. At the end of the lake where Eyak River was,
9 they drove a sheet pile to stabilize the -- put a dike
10 in to stabilize the water level. A lot of plants
11 started growing there and all of a sudden all these
12 swans started overwintering in Cordova. There'd be 50
13 swans there all winter.

14

15 Well, I was driving down the street
16 there one spring down the highway and there was a lot
17 of snow and there was some open ponds and I looked over
18 and I saw these three swans walking from one pond to
19 another and I had never seen that. They may be very
20 graceful in the air and very graceful swimming, but
21 don't walk worth a shit.

22

23 (Laughter)

24

25 MR. HENRICHS: It was so funny I almost
26 ran off the road.

27

28 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Thank you for that.
29 All right. I guess I would like to say something.
30 I've been involved in this council for 12 years, 10 or
31 12 years, and it seems like we went from I think a
32 pretty hopeful and optimistic group to the middle years
33 and the last probably four or five years of being
34 somewhat dissatisfied with the way things were turning
35 out. I think that we, in this past year, have made
36 some improvements. I think it's important that we're
37 going to have to continue to deal with some of these
38 pretty tough issues. They're not simple issues to deal
39 with.

40

41 One thing that I've learned in my work
42 on this council is I've learned how passionate these
43 issues are from the regional perspectives in the
44 villages. That was something in my prior 20 years of
45 working for the Service I hadn't really encountered
46 that much, so I do appreciate how much this means to
47 you all and how passionate you are about your life and
48 the things that enable you to continue to conduct your
49 lives. I think our Regional Director supports that
50 too. We're trying to make decisions that allow us to

1 still be within the confines of the law and accommodate
2 the needs and requests that are made.

3

4 I think progress still needs to be
5 made. I don't think we're out of the woods. I don't
6 know that we'll ever reach 100 percent agreement on all
7 the issues, but this is the forum that we have these
8 discussions and I think it behooves all of us to at
9 least be willing to sit at the table and hear what each
10 other say. So I appreciate each of you for the work
11 that you do and the dedication that you have for the
12 resource and for your people.

13

14 With that, it is time for me to
15 transfer the gavel to the empty seat.

16

17 I'm going to hand this over. The
18 incoming Chair will be the Native representative, the
19 regional representative. Next year the Federal
20 government will be the secretary and the State will be
21 the vice chair.

22

23 With that, it's time to look at our
24 calendars. The calendars are in the back of the book.
25 Let's look at the dates that make the most sense. We
26 have the month of April and May shown and those are
27 typically the months that we try to get together. Does
28 anyone have a preference.

29

30 MR. PEDERSON: Mr. Chair.

31

32 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Michael, go ahead.

33

34 MR. PEDERSON: Any time in the first
35 two weeks of April is good for our region. It was kind
36 of difficult for us to get away in May, late April and
37 May, because that's when the backbone of our cultural
38 harvest is happening up on the Slope.

39

40 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Rick, do you have a
41 preference.

42

43 MR. ROWLAND: One of the things that I
44 was going to reflect upon is what Myron was talking
45 about, that spring subsistence hunt for seals up there.
46 They have a certain time that starts. I'm not sure when
47 it is.

48

49 MR. WOODS: Later in April.

50

1 MR. ROWLAND: So it would be better for
2 that to coincide.

3
4 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Well, we have an
5 entire week, the first week of April, April 1st through
6 the 5th. Would you like to put that down as the date?

7
8 (Council nods affirmatively)

9
10 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: All right. April 1
11 through 5. Based on the discussion we just had
12 regarding committees, Monday, the 1st would be a day
13 for the committees to meet and that will be at the call
14 of the chair of the committees in working with the
15 Executive Director.

16
17 MR. WOODS: And they can extend that
18 into the training session if they want to.

19
20 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Well, Tuesday, the
21 2nd, would be training if so needed or committee
22 meetings and then the work session would be slated for
23 1:00 p.m. Tuesday the 2nd. The full council on the
24 record meeting that would involve Nathan would be the
25 3rd and the 4th and then Friday, the 5th, would be a
26 travel day and you can all go home unless there's a
27 need for committees to follow up. If there's a need,
28 an ad hoc need or some committee chair predetermines
29 that time is going to be needed, then you can slate
30 that time. Anyway, that week is scheduled that way.

31
32 So we'll pick that date. And location?

33
34 MR. WOODS: I'd advocate Bristol Bay.

35
36 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Well, it's a function
37 of cost.

38
39 MR. WOODS: I know that.

40
41 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: I find a lot of value
42 in going to the regions. It is about twice as
43 expensive to go to the other regions as it is to
44 convene this meeting, as we all know. So if we're
45 trying to be cognizant, especially if we get an 8.2
46 percent reduction, it seems to me it would make the
47 most sense to come back to Anchorage yet again. If
48 everybody is in agreement, we'll go ahead and schedule
49 that. We'll leave it to Patty to find us a meeting
50 location in town.

1 MS. BROWN-SCHWALENBERG: What did you
2 guys think of this meeting room?
3
4 MR. WOODS: (Indiscernible - away from
5 microphone)
6
7 MR. ROWLAND: If we could have a
8 window, it would be good.
9
10 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: Go ahead, Donna.
11
12 MS. DEWHURST: The other question I
13 think too is since I worked with Fred, Fred had a thing
14 about not having the meetings in our regional office
15 building at the main -- where OSM holds their meetings
16 if you've ever been to a Federal Subsistence Board in
17 the main Gordon Watson Conference Room. Do you have a
18 problem -- I mean that's another free place
19 potentially. Is there a problem with having it there
20 or if that's available, is that a possibility to
21 schedule?
22
23 MR. PEDERSON: We don't want to be
24 intimidated by having the meeting over there.
25
26 (Laughter)
27
28 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: It is available.
29 There is a snack bar there, there's vending machines,
30 there's restrooms and showers, so it's well equipped
31 for a meeting facility and it will seat 100 people and
32 it's free.
33
34 I'm not seeing anyone opposed to that.
35 What we'll do is we'll let Patty work her magic, look
36 for a place. If she can't find any place at a very
37 reasonable cost, we'll just try to get that, but we
38 need to get it scheduled early.
39
40 MS. DEWHURST: APIA, I think a lot of
41 people liked it over there. That's pretty reasonable.
42 I think they raised the rate a little bit, but it's
43 still only like \$100 a day compared to everywhere else.
44
45 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: We'll leave it to the
46 Executive Director to figure that one out. All right.
47 We are at a point of adjournment. A motion would be in
48 order to adjourn.
49
50 MR. ROWLAND: So moved.

1 MR. HICKS: Second.
2
3 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: I have a motion made
4 and second. Anyone opposed.
5
6 (No opposing votes)
7
8 CHAIRMAN ALCORN: No opposition. We're
9 adjourned.
10
11 (Off record)
12
13 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

