

**Kenai River Special Management
Area Advisory Board Minutes
Gilman River Center
Thursday, September 10, 2009 5:30 p.m.**

I. Call to Order

- A. Members Present:** Wayne Ogle, Robin West, Bobbie Jo Skibo, Tom Vania, Jack Sinclair, Tim Stevens, Ted Wellman, Carol Padgett, Richard Dykema, George Heim, Adam Reimer, Bruce King, Brenda Trefon, Steve Bonebrake.
- B. The Minutes** for August 13, 2009 were approved as written.
- C. Agenda Changes and Approval:** No changes to agenda.

II. Public Comments

Dwight Kramer commented in regards to the Replacement Guide Regulation Intent Language.

Ron Carey commented in regards to the 21 foot regulation, which expires in December 31, 2009, on behalf of his father. His 81 year old father cannot afford a new boat.

III. Reports

A. Agency and Government Reports

- a. Jack Sinclair, ADNR/Parks**, commented on the series of flood events that occurred, such as the Skilak Glacier release. Several phone calls were fielded during the flooding event. During the flood event, an advisory was issued for the Kenai River. All users were asked to limit their use on the river and to use caution. Plans to meet with ADF&G and the Borough this winter to work on contingencies on how we might handle this in the future, during high water events and how we might advise boaters in the future. October we will have agency meetings. Doug Whittaker will come in October for a report regarding the river use study.
- b. Tim Stevens, DEC**, was not present.
- c. Tom Vania, ADF&G**, nothing to report.
- d. Robin West, USF&WS**, reported that the refuge comprehensive conservation plan is complete and will be signed. It would be important for the board to revisit some of the issues that will be implemented.
- e. Bobbie Jo Skibo, USFS/Chugach**, made it through the season with zero bears killed due to Defense of Life and Property (DLP's) at the Russian/Kenai River area. Over 200 federal tickets were written to visitors, from fishing violations to food storage regulations. There were 62 volunteers for the Streamwatch program this year, and made contact with close to 5,000 visitors. They picked up over 1,000 lbs of monofilament and trash in the area and worked over 1,000 volunteer hours. The Kenai River cleanup is scheduled for September 12, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. Introduced Travis Mosley, New District Ranger for the Seward District.

- f. **Wayne Ogle, City of Kenai**, reported that the city of Kenai is going through the receipts for the 2009 dip netting season. Preliminary results show that this season is by far the best year yet. Proceeding ahead with a of couple grants. One is putting up 5,000 linear feet of fence on the south beach. The other grant is beach nourishment / wetland grant that we are working with Mike Edwards of US Fish and Wildlife Service. They are continuing with a bluff erosion project with the Corp of Engineers, collecting grant money from various sources and getting support from the legislature. Right now the cost is around \$25 million for the particular project scope that the Corp of Engineers is recommending and each year it goes up more and more. Hope to have the project completed in two to three years.
- g. **Steve Bonebrake, City of Soldotna**, commented on three grants, the first is the stairway at the Soldotna Bridge on the south side, which is going out to bid next week. The second is the Soldotna Creek Park phase 1, which is basically upland construction and will bid sometime this winter. Work on this project isn't anticipated to start until next spring. The third grant is a project going on downstream of Centennial boat ramp, which involves extending the existing trail by 250 feet and adding another fish walk. Met with ADOT regarding fishing pressure. Due to other rivers being shut down around the state, we had abnormal amounts of traffic.
- h. **Milli Martin, Kenai Peninsula Borough**, was not present.

B. Committee Reports

- a. **Guide Advisory** did not meet.
- b. **Habitat** met on Thursday September 10, 2009 at 11AM at the Donald E. Gilman River Center. They discussed the matrix and prioritizing habitat issues, which will hopefully be presented to the board in the future. Also discussed the issue of education program and plan to invite speakers to educate the board on habitat issues along the Kenai River.
- c. **River Use** did not meet.
- d. **Permits**, did not meet.
- e. **Legislative/Government Activities** did not meet.
- f. **Board Development** did not meet.
- g. **Agenda/Board Structure/Housekeeping** Joe Connors and Jack Sinclair met to set agenda for September 10, 2009 meeting.

IV. Old Business Action Items

A. Draft Regulations- In-season Guide Replacement

George Heim made motion to bring the Guide Replacement Intent Language to the table.

Carol Padgett seconded.

Jack Sinclair gave a brief background on the guide replacement SB177 statue.

Guide Replacement Intent Language passed.

V. New Business

A. Committee Goals 2009-2010, Jack Sinclair reminded all committees to present their 09-10 goals for the October meeting.

B. Board Nominations it is the recommendation of the board to extend the nominations for 3 of the board position vacancies. At this time, only 5 applications have been received. A minimum of 6 are required according to the bylaws.

Steve Bonebrake made the motion that the deadline for board nominations be extended by 2 weeks.

George Heim seconded.

Motion for extending board nominations by 2 weeks passed.

Deadline was extended by two weeks; deadline 4:00 pm Thursday September 24, 2009.

VI. Correspondence - none

VII. Public Comment

Randy Berg commented on Guide Replacement Intent Language. He asked that the word "qualified" be removed from the language of the guide replacement intent language.

Val Early commented on Guide Replacement Intent Language.

VIII. Adjournment

A. Board Comments

Steve Bonebrake commented on Guide Replacement Intent Language.

Jack Sinclair thanked Robin West for his time and service on the KRSMA board and presented him with a state park hat and a moose hat.

B. Date/Agenda of Next Meeting October 8, 2009 5:30 p.m.