



RTOC with EPA Meeting Minutes

July 19-21, 2022

Anchorage Museum

625 C St, Anchorage, AK 99501

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Phone Conference ID: 583 528 915#

Tuesday, July 19, 2022

Tribal Representatives: Billy Jean Stewart, AK1 RTOC; Raymond Paddock III, Tribal Chair AK2 RTOC; Robert Myers, AK3 RTOC; Aaron Miles Sr., Tribal Vice Chair ID RTOC; Bill Hand, Treasurer AK1 NTOC; Sarah Devens, AK1 NTOC Alternate; Gayla Hoseth, Secretary AK2 NTOC; CaSander Johnson, AK2 NTOC Alternate; Kelly Wright, ID/EWA/EOR NTOC Alternate; Russell Hepfer, WWA/WOR NTOC; Todd Mitchell, WWA RTOC.

Absent Tribal Representatives: Shawna Larson, AK2 RTOC Alternate; Eric Alstrom, AK3 RTOC; Ken Clark, ID RTOC Alternate; Heather Bartlett, OR RTOC; Rodney Cawston, EWA RTOC; Ann House, WWA RTOC Alternate; Lee Juan Tyler, ID/EWA/EOR NTOC.

Support Staff: Randi Madison: RTOC Executive Director (X) Rick Eichstaedt: RTOC Policy Analyst (X) Ashley Corrao, RTOC Assistant (X), Rob Brewer, IT Specialist (X)

EPA Chairs: Casey Sixkiller; EPA Chair, Regional Administrator (A) Michelle Pirzadeh; EPA Co-Chair, Deputy Regional Administrator (A) Andrew Baca; EPA Chair Alternate, Regional Administrator's Division Director (X) Adam Baron; EPA Co-Chair Alternate, TTAB Manager (X)

EPA Support Staff: Michael Ortiz (A) Michelle Davis (X) Kristy Fry (X)

Guests: Rose Kalistook, NTAA Executive Committee

Open and Welcome / Roll call; Raymond Paddock III, Ashley Corrao

- **Motion to Approve this Agenda;** Raymond Paddock III. Kelly Wright, seconded by Aaron Miles Sr.; **motion carried.**
- **Motion to approve All RTOC Minutes February, March, April;** Aaron Miles Sr., seconded by Kelly Wright, **motion carried.**
- **Tabled May Minutes for a later date.**

Communications and Outreach Committee Updates; Randi Madison

- Elections Outreach Improvement Discussion
 - Russell Hepfer feels that the information on terms should be expanded upon by the EPA.
 - Raymond Paddock talked about Quarter notice to run or support regarding elections.

- Rose Kalistook asks why this is being brought up again about GAP she is just finding out about comment letters.
 - Andrew Baca stresses to continue to write letters as it may help.
- We need to have more in person meetings.
 - RTOC expresses frustration with EPA not being in person at our meetings.
 - Frustration is growing to not having our RA in our meetings.
- Recap of Town Halls
 - There is a lot of concern with the GAP possibly cutting consortium.
 - Wildfire smoke was also another issue.
 - Tribes are upset with PO's being unavailable or interested in the projects that are being proposed or completely changing their proposals to something else.
 - Asking for Region Specific Project Officers
 - Adam Baron has been asking for more PO's.
 - Talks about the travel budget and having PO's visiting the regions that they work in.
 - All of these problems are only going to get worse if consortia is cut.
- Reaffirm and add members
 - Communication and Outreach Committee – Michael Ortiz
 - Possible addition of an EPA person in the future.
 - Gayla & CaSander are reaffirmed on the committee.**
 - We need to give introductory training for our new members.**
 - Randi and Ashley will work on creating a quick reference welcome pamphlet and specific series of orientations over the first 2 months of new member's service.**
 - AIEO makes information available to new NTOC members online.

TELS Committee Updates;

- 2023 Location: Fort Hall, Idaho hosted by Shoshone-Bannock
- March 6-10, 2023
- R10 RTOC meeting March 6, Inter-RTOC meeting March 7, TELS March 8-10
- Discuss Contractor/Hybrid/Budget
 - Looking to find a Cultural Liaison just as Barbara Gongyin was for our 2022 TELS in Spokane.
- Reaffirm and add members
 - Gayla & CaSander are reaffirmed.**
 - Aaron Miles Sr. And Lee Juan Tyler (if he accepts) is added to the TELS Committee**
 - Adam Baron will be added to the TELS Committee on the EPA side.**

Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and Coastal Plain, Randi Madison; Karlin Itchoak, TWS Senior Regional Director; Meda DeWitt, TWS IMAGO Initiative Director

- Slideshow presentation, Randi Madison
- Review of the Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program SEIS from 2021
- Refuge Protections RE: Opening of Northern Passage – How to be proactive?
 - Concerned about the increased traffic it's going to bring on the North Slope.
 - At what point does the EPA become involved in that?

- OITA has Northern Passage on their agenda, and it is being discussed. There are groups that are gathering data of what this Northern Passage will possibly cause. Certainly, folks are involved but it would be good at some point to have this talked about with the counterparts at OITA in the future. – Andrew Baca.
- **Raymond asked whatever information Andrew and Adam can get from OITA to be passed along to us by the next meeting.**
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Action Items and Closing Remarks; Ashley Corrao, Raymond Paddock III

- **Motion to Approve this Agenda;** Raymond Paddock III. Kelly Wright, seconded by Aaron Miles Sr.; **motion carried.**
- **Motion to approve All RTOC Minutes February, April;** Aaron Miles Sr., seconded by Kelly Wright, **motion carried.**
- **Tabled May Minutes for a later date.**
- Communication and Outreach Committee
 - Possible addition of an EPA person in the future.
 - **Gayla & CaSander are reaffirmed on the committee.**
- TELS Committee
 - **Gayla & CaSander are reaffirmed.**
 - **Aaron Miles Sr. is added to the TELS Committee**
 - **Adam Baron will be added to the TELS Committee on the EPA side**
- Northern Passage
 - **Raymond asked whatever information Andrew and Adam can get from OITA to be passed along to us by the next meeting.**
- **Raymond Paddock III & Aaron Miles Sr. were re-elected for Chair and Co-Chair**
- **Gayla Hoseth is now our RTOC Secretary**
- **Bill Hand was reaffirmed as our Treasurer.**
- **Motion to end the Agenda: Raymond Paddock III;** Bill Hand, Seconded by Gayla Hoseth.
- **Adjourned @ 4:00pm**