



Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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TRUSTEE COUNCIL MEETING NOTES

Anchorage, Alaska

January 19, 2021

Trustee Council Members Present:

James Balsiger, NOAA/NMFS

David E. Schmid, USFS

Sara Taylor, USDOJ ***

• Jason Brune, ADEC

Steve Mulder, ADOL **

Doug Vincent-Lang, ADF&G

• Chair

** Steve Mulder - alternate for Attorney General

*** Sara Taylor - alternate for Senior Advisor to the Secretary for Alaska Affairs

The meeting convened at 1:37 p.m., January 19, 2021 using the Zoom conferencing platform. A moment of silence was initiated for the passing of Cherri Womac, long-time EVOSTC employee.

1. Approval of the January 19, 2021 meeting agenda

APPROVED MOTION: Motion to approve the draft January 19, 2021 meeting agenda dated January 16, 2021.

Motion by Vincent-Lang, second by Balsiger, approved unanimously.

APPROVED MOTION: Motion to amend agenda to add the Prince William Sound Science Center update.

Motion by Vincent-Lang, second by Schmid, approved unanimously.

Federal Trustees

U.S. Department of the Interior

U.S. Department of Agriculture

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

State Trustees

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

Alaska Department of Law

2. Approval of October 14, 2020 meeting notes

APPROVED MOTION: Motion to approve the draft October 14, 2020 Trustee Council meeting notes dated January 12, 2021.

Motion by Vincent-Lang, second by Balsiger, approved unanimously.

Gary Fandrei, Chair, reported on the January 8, 2021, EVOSTC PAC Meeting.

Public Comment: Twenty-one public comments were given.

Off record at 3:19 p.m.

On record at 3:30 p.m.

3. Approval of Kenai Peninsula Ecosystem Restoration Project 15150123

APPROVED MOTION: Motion to approve the request for funding reallocation between sub-projects.

Motion by Vincent-Lang, second by Schmid, approved unanimously.

4. Discussion: Draft Resolutions 20-A and 20-B: Changing Annual Meeting and Reporting Requirements, and Allowing Multi-Year Funding of Projects

MOTION PROPOSED: Motion to approve amending the 1994 Restoration Plan to eliminate the annual meeting and approval requirements and to establish a new 10-year multi-year meeting cycle and make non-substantive updates to the Restoration Plan as appropriate to effectuate this change.

Motion by Vincent-Lang, second by Balsiger. Discussion followed.

APPROVED MOTION: Motion to amend PROPOSED MOTION to issue a single solicitation, eliminating requirement for annual public meeting and funding decision process, but continuing to require annual progress reports from projects that have been awarded funding, requiring biennial status reports and reviews by EVOSTC PAC, Science Panel,

and staff, and conducting Trustee Council meetings at least every 5 years.

Motion to amend by Taylor, second by Balsiger, approved unanimously.

APPROVED MOTION: Motion to approve PROPOSED MOTION, as amended, approved unanimously.

5. Discussion: Draft Resolution20- C: Combining Habitat and Research Accounts

FAILED MOTION: Motion to approve initiation of the steps to transfer the EVOSTC Trust Funds from the separate Restoration and Habitat sub-accounts into a single account to be used in accordance with the requirements of the Memorandum of Agreement and Consent Decree entered as settlement of *United States of America v. State of Alaska*, No. A91-081

Motion by Vincent-Lang, second by Brune, opposed by Mulder, motion fails.

6. Discussion: Draft Resolutions 20-D: Changing Spill Area Boundary

APPROVED MOTION: Motion to amend the 1994 Restoration Plan to eliminate the strict criteria for out-of-the-spill-area restoration actions (“Location of Restoration Actions: Item 8 of page 14 of the Restoration Plan) and replace it with an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary that would extend the boundary to encompass the Lower Copper and Bering River watersheds and Controller Bay for approval of restoration activities.

Motion by Schmid, second by Balsiger, approved unanimously.

7. FY22-31 Invitation

APPROVED MOTION: A) Motion to approve any necessary edits to the FY22-31 Invitation, dated 11.04.2020, due to actions the Council has taken at this meeting, including edits pertaining to the reporting policy and review

requirements language and removing the fish passage text from the mariculture focus area.

Motion by Vincent-Lang, second by Taylor, approved unanimously.

APPROVED MOTION:

B) Motion to prepare a new 5-Year Invitation for the General Restoration and Habitat Protection categories per the 1994 Restoration Plan with proposed categories such as land purchase/protection, habitat restoration/damaged beaches, community development (i.e., archaeology), fish passages and culvert work, streambank erosion repair and restoration, as defined in the 1994 Restoration Plan, pages 4 and 19.

Motion by Vincent-Lang, second by Balsiger, approved unanimously.

Closing comments provided by Trustees.

Adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

Motion to adjourn by Schmid, second by Vincent-Lang, approved unanimously.