



Big Lake Water Quality Improvement Project
Work Session #4 – February 7, 2011
Meeting Notes
Facilitated by Shelly Wade, Agnew::Beck Consulting

Summary of Agenda Topics

Welcome + Introductions – Work session participants introduced themselves. Shelly Wade gave an overview of Work Sessions 1-3, the purpose and topics of Work Session #4 and an overview of the planning schedule.

Action Plan Updates – Work session participants identified progress to date, opportunities and immediate next steps for two core action items: 1) clean boat launch campaign, and, 2) facility improvements.

Action: Clean Boat Launch Campaign

Progress to Date

- Clean boat campaign brochure
 - Has gone out to DMV. Now, we need to make sure that people are getting them in the mail when they receive their boat license renewal.
 - Would like them to go out in DNR launch passes. No progress on this yet, but Cindy will do necessary follow-up. (Note: As of, 2/14/2011, this was completed.)

Upcoming Opportunities + Next Task (Task Lead)

- Alaska Clean Boating Program offers free boating classes. These classes also include a useful clean boating component. One of Cindy's staff people took the class and said it was extremely worthwhile. It would be good for folks in Big Lake to take the class, but we need to make sure that there is interest in the community. Immediate next step is:
 - Dan will pass flyer info along to the right folks in Big Lake that can gauge interest and then provide follow through with ACPB contact. (Note: As of 2/14/2011, Cindy sent Dan the name and number of person to call at ACPB.)
- Funding Opportunities
 - DEC Alaska Clean Water Action Grants: Grant is due on February 22nd. There is an opportunity for the community to partner with Cook Inletkeeper (CIK), <http://www.inletkeeper.org/>, and Wasilla Soil and Water Conservation District (WSWCD), <http://www.wasillaswcd.org/>, on the grant proposal. Rachel Lord (Cook

Inletkeeper) and Catherine Inman (WSWCD) shared a brief overview of their organizations and ideas for partnering. Community members agreed that the partnership makes sense, but there are some immediate next steps that must happen first including:

- Rachel and Catherine will reach out to Big Lake Community Council president Seth Kelley to get a spot on the February 10th BLCC meeting agenda. Need to explain the potential partnership to the BLCC. Dan, Margaret and Nick will be there to support Rachel and Catherine.
- Establish sub-committee to work with WSWCD and CIK on the grant proposal. There must be a strong community partner for the proposal process to work.
- Potential Ideas for the Proposal:
 - Applying Clean Boat Harbors Program in Big Lake – CIK would be the lead
 - Develop and Pilot Launch Host Program – WSWCD would be the lead
 - ✓ As a start, the host could go between the two campgrounds on busy holidays
- When writing the proposal, consider the following grantwriting tips
 - Clearly link budget to tasks
 - Look at sample ACWA application online
 - Demonstrate community support. For example:
 - ✓ The work we've done to date in the work sessions and the action plan
 - ✓ BLCC support (letter)
 - ✓ Big Lake Trail support (letter)
- Alaska Department of Fish and Game Sustainable Salmon Fund, <http://www.akssf.org/>, grant solicitation has been announced. There is a potential funding opportunity here, but we need to learn more about it and determine who the applicant should be. The immediate next step is:
 - Cindy, Rachel + Catherine will talk about potential for BL priorities (this week!)
- Mat-Su Health Foundation, <http://www.matsuhealthfoundation.org/>: We have missed the first deadline for pitching a Big Lake project. More information outlined below.
 - Healthy Impact Grant Program: Mat-Su Health Foundation accepts Healthy Impact grant requests in excess of \$15,000 biannually in January and June of each funding year. Please consult the MSHF grant guidelines located on our website for additional information on what Mat-Su Health Foundation does and does not fund. The two cycle periods follow:
 - Cycle One:
 - Project Pitch - November 29 to January 7
 - Full Application - January 17 to February 25
 - Cycle Two:
 - Project Pitch - April 19 to May 28
 - Full Application - June 14 to July 30

- Immediate next step is for someone from the community to establish a relationship with the Foundation. **Paul** may be good person to initiate this process. He used to be on the board.

Action: Facility Improvements

Progress to Date: None to report

Opportunities + Immediate Next Steps (Task Lead)

- Funding Opportunities
 - Discretionary funds from Legislators Huggins and Neuman. Immediate next step is:
 - Understand requirements for legislative request. **Dan** will call and can draft letter/email next week. For this round, focus will be on getting designing/engineering funds to complete the ramp design. **Wayne** will provide the most current ramp design his staff has worked on and a cost estimate for the request. Letter should also suggest design/engineering monies be incorporated into State Parks budget so that they complete the work they have started. Next fiscal year, Big Lake could request construction funds. Right now, time is short and design/engineering is good starting place. (Note: As of 2/14/2011 - Wayne provide above information to Dan)
- Marina improvements
 - **Nick** will review the Clean Harbors checklist and get Burkeshore's wish list to Rachel next week so that she can incorporate that information into the ACWA grant proposal
 - **Nick** and **Katie** will look at checklist and provide more comprehensive feedback on what they can do to improve their facility and operations and where they need help to do that (by April)
- Potential future step – BLCC point person that keeps an eye out for grant opportunities
 - For water quality funding opportunities, group can send information to Seth Kelley

Next Steps:

- Shelly summarize meeting notes and send back to group for their review and then send final to full contact list
- Shelly will reorganize and update action plan and send to full contact list
- Work Session #5 – 2nd week of April after ACWA grant awards are announced

Work Session #4 Attendees:

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