

Meeting Minutes
McCarthy Area Council
27 March 2009

Members present: Bonnie and Rick Kenyon, Jeremy Keller, Rick Jurick, Mike Monroe, Keith Rowland, Tamara and Stephens Harper, Lynn and Don Welty, Jurgen Ogrodnik

Others present: John Adams, Mark Vail

President Keller called the meeting to order at 12:00pm.

Keller announced that a check for \$35,000 had come from the state as part of the revenue sharing program. He said that he will no longer lead the Tony Zak's restoration project. He will head up the effort to put new doors, which have been purchased, on the two outhouses at the E. footbridge, time to be determined. He briefly explained the funding proposal system—MAC is accepting proposals for projects that community members would like funded with the money we have received from the state. Proposals must be written, submitted and discussed at any MAC meeting and can be voted on by members at a following meeting. Proposal guidelines have been sent out by email to the community, and are posted at the mail shack.

R. Kenyon motioned to start the meetings at 11:30am. Adams seconded. Motion passed. All MAC meetings in 2009 will begin at 11:30am on the last Friday of each month at Tony Zak's.

Treasurer's report:

T. Harper said that MAC has \$20,550 in a CD account that comes due in June. We have \$15,984 in the checking account, with no outstanding bills. We have just received an additional \$35,000 from the state.

Of the \$28,182 we received from the state last year, \$16,500 has been allocated for community projects. Of that allocated amount, \$11,549 has been spent. A full accounting of approved projects and expenditures is available upon request.

T. Harper announced that MAC is looking for someone to clean and stock the outhouses for the summer 2009 season. The job involves 10 outhouse cleanings a week, paid at \$10/cleaning. The season is from mid-May through mid-September. The total salary is \$1,780. Please contact T. Harper at 554-4405 or tamaraegans@hotmail.com for details or if interested. Please get the word out that we are looking to hire this position.

KCHU funding proposal:

T. Harper submitted a proposal on behalf of KCHU to support moving the radio transmitter from Jurgen's to a new location by this fall. KCHU estimates the total costs will be \$31,000 and they need a 10% match to get a grant for the project, so the proposal is for \$3,100. Please see full details on page 4 of the minutes.

Vail voiced concern that the proposed new location, the CVT tower site, may not provide the entire community with a good signal. He encouraged the use of solar panels and possibly a different location for the broadest signal coverage.

Call Danny Sparrell at KCHU, 1-800-478-5080, with concerns or questions about this project. Voting on the proposal will be at the April meeting.

R. Kenyon expressed concern over the potential harm that the money we have received from the state could cause. He suggested returning the money to the state or wondered about another mechanism for distributing the money.

Keller agreed that that money should be returned.

Vail suggested putting some money away for ongoing expenses, such as outhouse maintenance.

R. Kenyon suggested a board to manage the money for interest and to consider proposals for funding, so that the entire group doesn't have to.

S. Harper supported a board for money management, but cautioned that it takes time and effort. He thought we should keep the money because the state feels that we can spend it more efficiently on projects that benefit the community than state bureaucrats can.

Jurick agreed with S. Harper.

Jurick motioned to reduce annual dues from \$25 to \$5, with no refunds for people who have already paid. Vail seconded. Motion passed. Dues are now \$5 a year to be a voting member of MAC. Please see last page of minutes for current MAC membership list. Dues can still be paid for 2009.

Jurick supported the full group discussing all proposals, everyone should participate.

Keller suggested 1 meeting a year to vote on projects. The money should be in an interest-bearing account for the rest of the year.

R. Kenyon suggested a streamlined board process for weeding out unreasonable projects.

Vail suggested 1 meeting a year for dispersing money and other meetings for discussing projects.

L. Welty suggested that folks who can't make it to the meetings to hear about proposals can read about them in the minutes.

R. Kenyon wondered about a dividend program, like the state of AK, for local residents with this state money.

Keller suggested that area residents get a portion of the money, like the state dividend program.

S. Harper stated that the idea of a dividend for locals is an easy way to use the money, but feels that this is a cop-out.

Keller talked about the lack of participation in MAC, suggested fewer meetings each year.

B. Kenyon was concerned about the lack of participation also. She said maybe people don't want to take the time to be involved with MAC or they are not sure what MAC does.

Keller wondered who would be president when he's not and noted the general lack of membership.

Rowland said it was a great turnout, especially for this time of year when there aren't many people around. It's rare for other towns to get a third of the citizens at a town meeting!

Vail said we're as close to town government as we're going to or want to get...he suggested using the interest from the money to pay for MAC expenses and keep it in the bank until we have big needs.

Adams said we have a pretty financially secure community, in that we can all afford to live here. We are lucky to have money in the bank, use what we need and don't worry about spending it quickly.

S. Harper said we need more people and new blood in MAC, offered to write a 1-page document that explains MAC and why people should be involved. R. Kenyon will help write it.

R. Kenyon said we need to define our purpose better.

Keller said MAC is a forum for discussing community concerns.

Vail said the bylaws should be posted, they include our purpose.

Keller said we all need to convince others of MAC's value, without MAC, there would be less communication, less talking among each other. It is a forum for dignified public discourse. He suggested the increased importance of community now and in the future; MAC is a part of that.

R. Kenyon worried about contention/negative outcome of having all this money.

R. Kenyon motioned to put the new state money into an interest-bearing savings account. Adams seconded. Motion passed. Treasurer T. Harper will research and put money into best interest-bearing account.

Rowland thought it was important to stick with the funding proposal guidelines the board already created.

R. Kenyon had philosophical problems with the way the money is being dispersed and the contention it may cause. He repeated his idea of a board dealing with the money dispersal instead of the whole MAC membership.

Keller emphasized the importance of different voices/opinions at the meetings.

Vail said full participation of everyone is the key against miscommunication and problems that can occur.

Discussion followed about the possibility of streamlining the money dispersal process in the future, how to make the money work for us, and the possibility of a board being in charge of funding requests.

S. Harper gave an update on NPS projects for this summer, including a new bus turn-around in Kennecott, restoration of the Mudhole Smith cabin, and new signage in the valley.

D. Welty gave an update from the most recent Subsistence Resource Commission meeting and he described the NPS's intent to develop a permit requirement for subsistence firewood harvest.

Discussion followed and Vail requested that NPS Superintendent Meg Jensen attend the April meeting to further address this subject.

D. Welty suggested the idea of a winter trail groomer that would be pulled behind a snowmachine, for the community to use. The group liked the idea and he will bring a formal proposal to the next meeting.

Keller encouraged participation in the future and adjourned the meeting at 2:15pm.

Next meeting is April 24th, 11:30am at Tony Zak's.

Agenda items: KCHU funding proposal voting

Subsistence firewood harvest permit discussion with Meg Jensen

Minutes by T. Harper.

FUNDING PROPOSAL FOR KCHU SUPPORT TO MOVE RADIO TRANSMITTER AND IMPROVE RECEPTION

Proposal presented March 27, 2009; anticipated to be voted on April 24, 2009.

Sponsor: Tamara Harper

Contact info: P.O. Box MXY #50
McCarthy, AK 99588
907-554-4405
tamaraegans@hotmail.com

KCHU contact: Danny Sparrell, General Manager
gm@kchu.org
1-800-478-5080

Project: KCHU is moving the radio transmitter from its current location at Jurgen Ogradnick's on Fireweed Mountain to a new location, probably the Copper Valley Telephone tower/generator site. They plan to have it done by this fall and they estimate their costs will be \$31,000. Upon completion of the project, the new site will broadcast a clean FM signal coming from the internet, and it will be on 24/7! Please contact Danny Sparrell if you have additional questions or concerns.

Who will benefit: All MXY-Kennecott residents who listen to public radio.

Proposed budget: The KCHU budget of \$31,000 includes all the studies that need to be done, insulation of equipment, FCC licensing, engineering and cables. They need a 10% match to get a grant for funding, so this proposal is for that 10% match of **\$3,100**.

Matching grant? This is not a proposal that asks for matching funds from community members. MAC would be meeting a 10% match for a grant for KCHU.

2009 MCCARTHY AREA COUNCIL VOTING MEMBERSHIP

List current as of March 27th, 2009

Bay, Natalie and Kelly
Bosshard, John
Cohen, Jeremy
Doherty, Susan
Gibert, Sally
Harper, Tamara and Stephens
Hunt, Meg
Jolliffe, Jen
Jurick, Rick
Keller, Allie and Jeremy
Kenyon, Bonnie and Rick
Kost, Victoria and Danny
Loso, Karen and Mike
Marrs, Gaia and Wayne
Milliard, Dianne
Monroe, Mike
Morris, Bill
Mozen, Howard
Ogrodnik, Jurgen
O'Neill, Charlie
Pizitz, Susan
Plomaritis, Lyn
Rice, Barbara and John
Richardson, Kirsten
Rowland, Keith
Schafer, Elizabeth
Shaine, Ben
Sullivan, Doreen
Thurston, Marcie
Welty, Lynn and Don
Wesson, Rob
Yould, Patty and Eric

Minutes for MAC meeting April 24th 2009

Call to order 11:40 President Jeremy Keller presiding.

In attendance: Rick and Bonnie Kenyon, Carl Donahue, Mark Vail, Mike Monroe, Neil Darish, Dave Hollis, Don and Lynn Welty, Keith and Laurie Rowland and family, Rick Jurick, Jeremy Keller, Melissa Blair, Lynn Grams, Meg Jensen, Rich Richotte, Nora Martinez, Mark Keough, Eric Veach, Howard Haley, Stevens Harper, and two proxies held by Harper.

Introduction of Supt. Meg Jensen

Meg introduces staff members in attendance.

Eric Veach – Chief of resources, Mark Keough - Chief of concessions, Nora Martinez – Chief Ranger, Law Enforcement and Interpretation, noting the combination of two sections, Rich Richotte – Chief Pilot

Meg started with a short preamble to the days' main discussion by noting the NPS desire to maintain open dialogue and a continued good relationship between NPS and the community. Also noted was the uniqueness of the interdependence of the NPS and community in providing a positive visitor experience.

Meg then gave the parks view of the history behind the Firewood Permit discussions in house. She noted the change in Regulations regarding the “live standing” clause and the dropping of the word “live”. NPS lawyers found inconsistency in ANILCA regulations and later amendments in the CFR Title 11 2.13 section A3 and a park wide prohibition of portable engines. Thus arose an opportunity to use the permitting process to address a noted resource degradation along creek bottoms where subsistence wood cutting and gathering had taken place in several areas of the Park, most notably along the road system on the North side. The Park first put forward the idea of a permitting process for firewood cutting and harvesting using chainsaws to the Subsistence Resource Council. Don Welty is a local representative on the council. The council soundly rejected the idea. Further discussions with other locals on the issue brought on a decision to drop the EA process on the new permits. There still remains the need for the park to protect resources and be proactive in solving the dilemma of the written regulations and the customary and traditional activities that take place on the ground in the park. Don Welty will raise the issue of changing the regulations at the fall SRC meetings. Supt. Jensen will proceed in that direction also, with continued discussions with the MAC as the process may take up to two years to complete. It was noted the Superintendent can close areas of the park for resource protection needs.

A general discussion of the issue by all members desiring to speak followed for an hour.

Melissa Blair and Lynn Grams representing the National Parks Conservation Association gave a short presentation about their organizations purposes and goals. They provided recent publications describing issues they are currently working on. They also donated Dana Stabenows' newest mystery novel to the local library. The book covers the controversial Pebble Mine project in the Bristol Bay headwaters on the Alaska Peninsula near Lake Clark National Park. They were in the area for a few days and available for discussions.

Old business:

Stevens Harper put the Motion for 10% match in the amount of \$ 3100.00 for the engineering study, upgrade and reciting of the Public radio Station KCHU translator KXKM . Mark Vail seconds the motion. Discussion...none. Vote: 7 in favor, 0 in opposition, 6 abstentions. The motion passes.

Jeremy Keller : State revenue sharing funds are available in the amount of \$35,000.00. Open discussion. Rick Kenyon puts the motion to decline the funds. Bonnie Kenyon seconds the motion. More discussion follows. Vote: 3 in favor, 8 opposed, motion fails. Application for funds will proceed.

Don Welty will proffer previously discussed trail drag proposal at a later date. Proceeding.

Neal Darish will no longer supply public laundry facilities/showers. Suggests, and will work with the interested on proposal for a washateria, Preferring a private entity to a public one.

Jeremy notes current meeting procedures will continue in present style thru the summer as previously noted. Changes , if desired will take place at the annual meeting in the fall. Proposals for Funding forms are available at the mailshack.

Copies of the MAC bylaws were made available for the taking and a future one page statement of purpose for posting is in the works. They may soon be available by PDF file.

Announcements:

Dorothy Adler will present Wilderness first responders course May 4th -11th. Cost is\$ 650.00 At the church on the island. Space is still available! Contact Dorothy. 554-4469

MAC Discretionary funds have been deposited in an interest bearing account with Wells Fargo.

Rick Kenyon asks for public accounting of spent funds, to be published in the paper.

Motion to adjourn....Done by unanimous consent.

Next meeting will be at Tony Zaks following Mail at 11:30 on the 29th of May 2009

These Minutes were taken and published by Mark Vail

All omissions and commissions are my own.

McCarthy Area Council Meeting Minutes
Friday, May 29th, 2009
Blackburn Center, McCarthy, AK

Members present: Jeremy Keller, Mark Vail, Stephens Harper, Ben Shaine, Marci Thurston, Kelly Bay, Mike Monroe, Keith Rowland, Dianne Milliard, Sonny Asbury, Elizabeth Schafer, Doreen Sullivan, Glenda and Paul Barrett, Lilly Goodman-Allwright, Rick Jurick, Gaia Marrs, Wayne Marrs, Don Welty, Bill Morris.

Others present:, Jeremy Pataky, Neil Darish, Nina Winegar-Thurston, Matt Vial, Mike Murphy, Jubal Rowland, Meghan Seifert, Matt Smith, Suzanne Drinen, David Williams, Meg Jensen, Dave Turner, Richard Millsap, Lynn Grams, Marie Thorn.

President Jeremy Keller called the meeting to order around 12 p.m.

Agenda:

Community-Park partnership process regarding NPS regulations

President Jeremy Keller began by requesting that NPS officials clearly represent their reasons for proposing Park regulations so that Park residents can understand who is making demands and why, whether it is the WRST superintendent, the WRST chief of cultural and natural resources, and/or the Department of the Interior in Washington, etc. Jeremy referenced the Park's fall 2008 intent to require a firewood cutting permit, saying that he wished to have better understood the specific reasons and agendas guiding the Park's proposal. WRST's firewood cutting Environmental Assessment process and proposal to require a firewood cutting permit were for the most part negatively received by the community and the Park's efforts regarding this permitting system were consequently terminated.

NPS' decision to limit commercial group sizes in Donoho Basin on a trial basis in 2009

At the September 2008 annual MAC meeting, WRST superintendent Meg Jensen presented the need to reduce bear-human conflicts in the area. This was following multiple closures of Donoho Basin since 2004 due to reported dangerous encounters with food-conditioned bears and the eventual NPS-managed elimination of a confirmed problem bear in 2008. Based on WRST's exchanges with people interested in this issue between September and December 2008, Meg decided in late December to limit commercial group sizes in Donoho Basin to 12, including guides, for the 2009 visitor season. This decision included a caveat to consider requests for exception to the policy on a case-by-case basis. The regulation does not apply to groups guided by non-profit organizations or private parties.

Jeremy prefaced the scheduled presentations regarding this decision by stating that we, the community and the Park, want to see impact in Donoho Basin reduced for a number of reasons and that evidence should be provided about why it is overly impacted.

Presentations by Wayne Marrs, an owner and co-operator of Saint Elias Alpine Guides, L.L.C. (907-554-4445) and WRST P/P superintendent, Meg Jensen (907-822-5234)

Wayne Marrs represented Saint Elias Alpine Guides (SEAG). He began with a timeline outlining his understanding of the history of negative bear encounters in Donoho Basin since 2003. First was a group of teens guided by a California company that had a granola bar taken directly from a tent at night. SEAG began working with WRST zoologist Mason Reid to address the food acquisition issue and started using electric fences through 2007; in 2008 WRST told SEAG that bear fences were not allowed. In 2008, SEAG had a large group at Donoho whose guides had miscalculated the number of bear resistant food containers (BRFCs) needed, as well as the amount of NPS bear box space available at a camp site, resulting in a bear acquiring a bag of tea and coffee. At the September 2008 MAC meeting, Meg requested input from interested parties, and SEAG followed up with an e-mail.

According to Wayne, there are two issues: human safety and bear safety. He said that after a great deal of time spent researching, he believes that large groups are safer than small groups. Wayne referenced resources that suggest traveling with a group whenever possible for safety in bear country and quoted bear biologist Steven Herrera's research showing that 1 person has a higher likelihood of a bear encounter than a group of 4. Wayne added that Canadian parks have a *minimum* group size of 4 in problem bear areas. For 2009, he has worked hard to improve SEAG's food management strategy, and publicly recognized that implementing sufficient food storage, the knowledge of how to use it, and the will to use it, can lessen the likelihood of food-acquisition by bears. He went on to note that the Park has said it wants to promote Commercial Use Authorization (CUA) activities, and asked whether the Park wants to prioritize bear safety or Park visitation. He suggested that we start collecting data to create reasonable solutions to this problem; not all bear incidents get reported to the Park. He also encouraged the Park to look into bear relocation to mitigate human mistakes when they do occur. Wayne said that in his best year 20% of his revenue is represented by large-group activities, and unfortunately, many of his groups were booked prior to the group size limit deliberation period, making his job of now reconfiguring those groups a hassle for his business and clients, with the added chance of clients lost in this process not returning in future seasons. He wants the Park to manage the resource for larger and smaller groups and thinks the Park is big enough to support both sizes. He concluded by stating that this Park regulation has no reasonable justification.

WRST superintendent Meg Jensen also addressed MAC. She followed Wayne's presentation by defining "reasonable" to mean governed by reason or sound thinking and using common sense. She doesn't think the commercial group size limit is an unreasonable solution. She outlined the history of human-bear encounters and conflicts in the Kennecott Valley and the Park's mitigation strategies since 2001. In 2001, the Park instigated a voluntary program using BRFCs for storage and transport of food. In 2002 Jim Wilder's study on the bear population in the Kennicott Valley reported 84 black and 8 brown bears. The report showed anecdotal evidence of McCarthy residents being involved in 80% of non-incident and negative human-bear encounters, based on

voluntarily completed encounter questionnaires passed out and returned during the course of his study. In 2004, following dangerous human-bear encounters in the Donohoe Basin, the Park decided to close the Basin to camping for 6 weeks. The Park next stationed bear boxes at high-use areas in the Basin, but problems continued. Between 2006 and 2008, WRST responded to ongoing reports of human-bear conflicts in Donohoe Basin by closing it for a cumulative 65 days of day use and 90 nights of overnight use. These closures, she said, impacted a lot of people's opportunities to enjoy the resource. Following the reported food acquisition from the SEAG group in 2008, the Park was compelled to kill the food-conditioned bear to ensure a reasonable environment for users.

Responding to Wayne's question about whether the Park wants to prioritize Park visitation or bear safety, Meg explained that the National Park Service is mandated to protect for people to enjoy the resource, but not at the expense of the resource for which it was mandated. She then clarified that Wayne's quotes from Steven Herrera's book refer to the safety of larger groups during travel, not camping. Meg said that the real issue is about having a group small enough that food preparation, transport, and storage can be reasonably overseen and managed. Therefore, she is requiring that client groups of 10 be paired with 2 guides, and when the overall client group size exceeds 10, that they be paired with more guides and travel with the rest of the group during the day, but separate for food prep, dining, and sleeping activities. WRST is asking for voluntary compliance regarding this group size limit from non-commercial parties and is implementing the following to encourage congruent behavior for the trial period:

- Hiring 3 additional seasonals to increase Park outreach and education in front country camping areas
- Improving signs and providing bear safety pamphlets at trailheads
- Though not yet as paramount to human safety, but equally important to resource preservation, Meg plans to develop a strategy to address human waste in the Basin
- Developing the walk-in campground at the Kennicott Glacier toe to disperse overnight front country use in the Valley.

Meg said she plans to revisit the group size limit at the September MAC meeting and wants to be as accommodating as possible. She said she will be developing a front country management plan for the 2010 calendar year that will include more trail networks and visitor facilities, and wants to work closely with the community during the process.

Meeting attendees proceeded to discuss the Park regulation-making process and front country human-bear conflict issue at length.

Attendees' proposals to increase or lift the commercial group size limit included:

- **Upping the 2009 group size limit to 15, including guides.** Across the nation, the state and national park group size standard ranges from 7 to 15, guides included. After deliberation, Meg established the 12-person limit, agreeing to consider requests for exception to this policy on a case-by-case basis. WRST is also evaluating alternative locations near the Kennecott area that could accommodate larger groups during the 2009 trial season.
- **Using electric fences.** Due to propensity for user error and varying terrain conditions, NPS does not consider the use of electric fences alone to be an acceptable bear

deterrent. Simply put, electric fencing does not replace proper food handling or camping guidelines.

Responses from WRST NP/P Law Enforcement (LE) Ranger Stephens Harper (907-554-1144)

Stephens cited the NPS food storage regulation: 10 feet up and 4 feet out or locked inside a vehicle, an aircraft or boat, or in an approved BRFC. He then listed the history of Park outreach regarding human-bear safety protocols and bear deterrence education in the Valley.

- Free BRFCs for visitor use
- Free ranger programs about living in harmony with bears for locals, businesses, and visitors
- Free fencing
- Free bear safe barrels
- Posted and printed human-bear safety and camping area closure information
- Bear boxes at primitive campsites
- More bear boxes
- More rangers
- Enforcement

He says that this regulation is the next effort to preserve bears and protect people.

Attendees visited a few suggestions to complement the 12-person commercial group size limit for the season at hand.

Discussion and suggestions for achieving human and bear safety in Donoho Basin, operating from the 12-person commercial limit:

- **Guides and local resource-users can share information about bear encounters and conflicts with each other and NPS rangers.** This will be a voluntary effort to help establish a current understanding and develop a data baseline of the bear demographic, specifically for those high use areas.
- **Help NPS rangers in their public outreach.** To minimize bear-human conflicts originating from private parties, locals and guides can voluntarily reach out and orient non-guided groups about human-bear safety protocols.
- **Practice bear deterrence.** If one has a bear encounter or conflict and it is safe to do so, he should make it very unpleasant for the bear to be near people—yell, propel objects, and don't let it get any trash or food!

Meeting adjourned around 3 p.m..

Minutes prepared by Marie Thorn, edited by Meg Hunt and Jeremy Keller.

McCarthy Area Council

Minutes of meeting Friday, June 26, 2009, at the Tony Zak house

Members present: Kelly Bay, Elizabeth Schafer, Natalie Bay, Don Welty, Keith Rowland, Wayne Marrs, Gaia Marrs, Jeremy Pataky, Meg Hunt, Marci Thurston, Ben Shaine, Stephens Harper, Bob Cook, Tamara Harper, Claris Syren, John Rice, Sunny Cook, Mike Monroe, Dianne Milliard, Mark Vail, Bill Morris, Jeremy Keller.

Others present: Meg Jensen (Superintendent, WRST), Lynn Grams (NPCA), Melissa Blair (NPCA), Christine O'Connor, David Rowland, Hannah Rowland, Jenny Rosenbaum, Chris Chester, Dan Doak, Neil Darish, Brian MacMillan.

President Keller called the meeting to order at 11:41 a.m.

Minutes of last meeting: Most haven't seen them because Starband won't transmit the email.

No Treasurer's report.

President Keller opened the meeting by apologizing for not remaining more objective at the last meeting. He reviewed some of the issues between the Park and local residents, particularly the backcountry group size limit that this Park is imposing, and the NPS-wide ban on ORV's. Meg Jensen is working on getting an exception for ORV use for residents in Wrangell-St. Elias. There are some jurisdictional issues.

Wayne moved that we take a position that back- and front-country regulations made by the Park be presented clearly and rationally and be scientifically justified. A search for appropriate language for the motion followed, leading to discussion. Points made include:

- The term "scientific" is too strong for a situation in which there are only probabilities.
- Both sides of the issue (smaller group sizes and larger) have clear and rational explanations for their positions.
- We should think about whether the issues at Donoho basin, i.e., severe bear problems, should be separated out from the larger issues of backcountry use.
- We all want what this motion stands for, but is a motion by MAC the appropriate means?
- As MAC, we need to form our own recommendations on what backcountry regulations are needed.

No vote was taken.

Superintendent's report

Meg Jensen said she intended to initiate monthly meetings in the McCarthy area during the summer for Park-community dialog—a “Superintendent’s Round Table.” She called for openness to dialog with people who disagree and indicated her willingness to listen to other points of view. The first monthly meeting, mostly about the Donoho basin issues, will be at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, July 15 at the Tony Zak house. The front-country planning process will start next summer with public meetings. An interim strategy is needed; making the larger policy will take several years.

Cars on Museum property

Meg Hunt reported that junker cars are showing up in the parking place on Museum property. This makes an unsightly entrance to the townsite, but there is a need for some people to be able to park functioning vehicles there, so she feels we can't shut it down altogether. She called for peer pressure to be applied to vehicle owners. Chris Chester declared his intent to move his vehicle very shortly. All applauded. All are asked to remove any ailing vehicles from the property, and to refrain from staging materials there.

Board replacement

Meg Hunt needs to be replaced on the MAC Board, both as Secretary and as a Board member.

Gaia moved, Dianne seconded, that we hire a secretary at \$2,000 per year. Vote was unanimous.

Applicants should put applications in the MAC mail slot in the mail shack.

Tamara nominated Mike Monroe for the Board. He declined.

Sunny nominated Mark Vail. He accepted. Vote was unanimous.

(Other Board members include Jeremy Keller, Allie Keller, Stephens Harper, Tamara Harper, Bill Morris, Charlie O'Neill, Gaia Marrs, Keith Rowland, Dianne Milliard, Elizabeth Schafer.)

From now on, the Board will meet at 10:30 a.m. before each MAC membership meeting, which is the last Friday of each month at 11:30.

Funding requests

Brian MacMillan (BMac) presented a request from the Fire Department for \$6,350 (attached). They have already used the \$78,000 from the Chamber of Commerce grant and have identified more equipment they need. A vote will be taken on this proposal at the next MAC meeting.

Stephens presented a funding proposal for \$2,000 for supplies for the medical caches: oxygen equipment, femur traction device(s), oral/nasal airway clearing device(s), masks for giving CPR. The \$559 left from the last grant will cover filling

oxygen tanks. Mark moved, Sunny seconded, that we WAIVE the requirement of waiting until the next meeting to approve the funding, because the season has begun and time is of the essence. Vote was unanimous.

(There will be a proposal coming from Friends of Kennicott for a structure for housing recreational equipment and supplies that don't fit into the Kennicott Rec Hall storage.)

Other matters

Mark reported that 12,000 acres of University land are under a legal cloud. He advocates that we let the legislature and governor know that it should go back to DNR as public land.

Thanks to Don Welty for the new floors in the outies!

The meeting was adjourned at some time around 1 pm.

Meg Hunt
Outgoing Secretary

**McCarthy Area Council
Minutes of July 31, 2009 meeting at Tony Zak house**

Members present: Jeremy Keller, Elizabeth Schafer, Keith Rowland, Gaia Marrs, Dianne Milliard, Tamara Harper, Stephens Harper, Mark Vail, Bob Cook, Sunny Cook, Kenny Smith, Mike Monroe, Ben Shaine, Mike Loso, Karen Loso, Wayne Marrs.

Others present: Dave Hollis, Brian MacMillan, Sonny Asbury, Melissa Blair, Jake Schlapfer, Sue Masica, Meg Jensen, Eric Veach, Harlan Loso, Norah Martinez, Jessica Speed.

New members: Bob and Sunny Cook, Dan and Haika Frost, Claris Syren.

President Keller called the meeting to order at 11:30 am.

The MAC board has approved the purchase of a fireproof safe for the Tony Zak house to store MAC documents and records.

Funding proposal vote:

Brian MacMillan (BMac) reviewed his proposal for funds to buy equipment for the MXY-Kennecott Volunteer Fire Department. The VFD will match the MAC grant.

Mark Vail motioned to allocate \$6,000 for MKVFD equipment, including 1 floto pump (\$2150), a well pump (\$800), a generator (\$900), and shed construction (\$1,600). Bob Cook seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurer Tamara Harper gave the following report:

2008 state grant of \$28,182: we have allocated or spent \$21,622 so far, with \$6,560 remaining (this does not include the above grant to the MKVFD). Full accounting of what has been spent so far is available upon request.

2009 state grant of \$35,067: in a savings account.

Checking account: \$8,690. CD time account: \$20,589

July expenses: \$890 for ½ of outhouse cleaning contract

\$560 to Rowcon for Nizina road work, part of Bob Cook's proposal from last year

\$68 for outhouse TP and books for the board

Thank you to Sunny Cook for donating \$266 to MAC on behalf of Neil Darish/MXY Lodge from the 4th of July fundraiser.

Thank you MXY Lodge for organizing the auction!!

WRST Superintendent Meg Jensen invited everyone to the next community meeting to discuss Donoho Basin management options for the next 2 years. The meeting will be Thursday, August 13th, 6:00 pm at Tony Zak's. Any discussion ideas can be sent to Chief Ranger Norah Martinez at Norah.Martinez@nps.gov.

Meg Jensen introduced the NPS AK Regional Director, Sue Masica, who started her position in Sept. 2008. Sue Masica introduced herself and explained her background. She is open to any suggestions from community members regarding NPS issues and advocates a bottom-up management style. She noted that Jon Jarvis, former WRST Superintendent, is now the National Director of the Park Service.

Jeremy Keller explained that we will be using more aspects of Robert's Rules of Order for future meetings.

He announced the MAC board is hiring a paid, contracted position for the secretarial duties, including taking, writing and distributing the minutes, posting announcements, handling correspondence, organizing old records and maintaining files. The position will be paid at \$20/hour for 100 hours of work a year, equaling \$2,000 annually. Contact any board member if you are interested; applications submitted before August 25 will have the best chance.

Mark Vail is writing a letter regarding the State of AK public lands in the valley that were transferred to the University 2 years ago and then given back to the state by a court decision. The state legislature will decide whether this land will remain public or become private. Mark's letter will support them remaining public and we will discuss and vote on the letter at the next meeting.

Funding proposals: 2 proposals were submitted.

#1: Purchase a community trail groomer. Don Welty/Keith Rowland, sponsors. 554-4416, 554-4498

Would purchase a heavy duty, all steel trail groomer for community use on regularly used community travel routes. The groomer should be sized so that a utility snow machine could pull it and only to be used on trails designated by and approved by MAC board members.

All winter visitors and residents will benefit. Skiing, snow-machining, and walking would be easier on flat, groomed trails.

Cost of groomer: \$2,375. shipping: Lynden \$1800, Rowcon \$300. Total: \$4475.

(Don Welty is also trying to get information on a company in Palmer that makes groomers. More info on this option may be shared at the next mtg. This option could save on shipping costs.)

#2: Purchase a 3" wood chipper. Bob Cook, sponsor. 907-980-9313

Would purchase a MAC-owned chipper that would be moved by a 4-wheeler and would be for rental to MAC members.

Everyone that has slash waste to get rid of would benefit.

Cost of chipper and shipping: \$900

A letter from Pat, the museum volunteer, was read concerning motor vehicle speeding near the museum. MAC discussed options for slowing down traffic, including signs, speed bumps, trenches, word of mouth, peer pressure, or logs in the road.

Bob Cook motioned to make 5 traffic signs around town and speed bumps near the museum. Sunny Cook seconded. Motion passed.

The board will make signs at the next meeting and a work party will follow the MAC meeting to put them up and make speed bumps. We discussed putting the clean water signs in more visible locations at the water hole, etc.

We will invite Danny Rosenkrans to the next meeting to discuss signage in the valley.

Jeremy Keller suggested having community meetings to plan what the MXY-Kenn community wants regarding park planning for the future. We discussed creating a citizen group to advise the park on planning for the future.

Next meeting agenda items:

--Citizen group to advise the park

--Mark Vail's letter regarding state lands in the valley

--Randy Elliot's equipment in the Kennebec River

McCarthy Area Council
30 July 2010

Minutes for the July General Meeting

In Attendance: Stephens Harper, Sonny Asbury, Mike Monroe, John Adams, John Rice, Mike Lucas, Corey Belt, Nancy and Nizi Cook, Ben Shaine, Marci Thurston, Michele Latvala, Dianne Milliard, Meg Hunt, Mike Trimmer (DOF) Maggie Rogers (DOF), Jon Hutchison (DOF), Sunny Cook, Keith Rowland, Danny Rosenkrans (NPS), Kristen Link, Erica Edmonds (NPS), Charlie O'Neill, Lyn Plomaritis, Carol Harding(NPS), Elizabeth Schafer, Gaia MARRS, Wayne MARRS, Mark Vail.

A quorum having been met the meeting commenced at approximately 12 noon. Mark Vail presiding.

Minutes from the June meeting were approved as posted.

National Creek: Mark read aloud a letter from the Superintendent in regards to the Ongoing project and the use of treated wood . The NPS will hold off on the use of treated wood for the season and will follow a public process if it is to be used in the future. See letter attached.

Update on the Lakina Bridge status with restrictions and time schedules, DOT is in the engineering and design process for repairs of the bridge following the accident that caused structural damage to the overhead trusses. They hope to effect a fix as soon as possible and may have to close the bridge during the repairs for a short duration. For info call DOT @ provided by Erica Edmonds (NPS) For claims of loss and impact contact Cat Transport @907-274-0604

Treasurers report: Tamara reported that the outstanding Payments due for work on the Nizina road were made to Rowcon, Outhouse supplies were purchased and paid for as well as quarterly payment of the secretary's position.

Board of Directors met earlier in the day and created a job description and hiring process for the position of Recording Secretary.

Committee Reports: Front Country Advisory Committee met following their appointment after the June meeting and Wayne MARRS reported a summary of the meeting.

1. Address the question? should Kennicott be included in the Front Country Management Planning Process. Yes.
2. Decided that Front country should include anything within a unspecified walking distance from Any road accessible area.
3. The committee also thought it preferable to add two more seats to the committee and desired that at least one of those seats be filled by a member of the community who resides here year round. Any interested parties should make application to the committee.

The next two monthly meetings with the NPS Supt. Meg Jensen will be Kennicott specific issues and concerns. The next meeting is scheduled for 18 August 2010, 11:30 am @ Tony Zaks (Blackburn Heritage Center)

PROPOSALS FOR FUNDING

KENNICOTT RIVER DEBRIS

Wayne MARRS read a letter and provided photos from Don Welty of equipment on the Kennicott rivers edge. Don made contact with Randy Elliot about the condition of Hidden Lake and the expected imminent release of the those waters and the resultant flood . As of 7-29 those items still in place. The flood occurred starting on the 31st. At present status of the items noted unknown. Don removed with the owners permission the red trailer that sat next to the Info sign across from the museum and would like to find the owner of the red sno-go that he removed from the foot bridge turn-around. These items to be hauled out . Help in funding this removal of roadside eyesores would be

helpful. Thanks go out to Don for his community volunteer spirit in helping to keep our environment cleaned up and presentable.

The proposal to locate and remove over the fall and winter season was detailed. Don Welty will continue to provide services by air to help locate and mark by GPS for later removal.

SEAG and Copper Oar will walk and float the river and remove small items and locate flag and GPS large items for fall removal. Wrangell Mountain Air will donate the first flight for return of the rafters and collected trash items, and will provide at cost up to three additional flights as needed, using the Beaver.

Cost per flight is \$330. Total \$990.

Rowcon Services big equipment trash retrieval and removal including one semi load to the Glennallen landfill. Cost \$6500

Total expense \$7490

Given the long standing problem and discussion of the removal of debris from the Kennicott River the motion was made and seconded to fund this proposal. The membership voted to approve without dissent.

We also agreed to the return to Mr. Elliot of the Scraper to his land as far from the river as is practical.

SLOW DOWN

Wayne also presented homemade SLOW signs to be deployed on in bound and out bound areas near the Museum per discussion last season. Thanks Wayne.

REMEMBER ALL; The roadways between Tony Zaks and Downtown and the Museum and the foot bridges is an area of heavy pedestrian use, PLEASE SLOW DOWN in these areas and drive carefully always.

ABANDONED EQUIPMENT ON THE NIZINA FLOODPLAIN

Stephens Harper Noted the immanent threat to Park resources due to rising waters in the Nizina River and the National Park Service approved the removal and impoundment of the Pickup truck w/fuel and the rock sorter that had been left by owners on the flood plain . Work was contracted to Rowcon services. NPS is working with the owners to recoup the cost.

Mark V. will write a letter of appreciation to the Superintendent.

MUSEUM

Sonny Cook From the Museum brought a proposal to add heat and light in the form of a propane heater and small solar system for the reading room. Cost approx. \$3000.

Request for 1 solar panel,

2 batteries for the system and one for the caretakers cabin that can be charged using the solar system

Propane tank and wall mounted heater

The work is proposed to be done in the spring. A second request was made for the archival reframing of the museums Hubrick panoramas. Dianne Milliard noted that these were possibly the most valued of the museums collection. Cost approx. \$1500.

Additional shelving. Approx. \$500. In kind donation of labor \$1000.

Total request, \$5000. Vote to be held at August meeting.

BEAR BROCHURE

Kristin Link with the Wrangell Mountain Center proposed to create and print out a bear aware safety pamphlet. By and for the local community illustrated and in color. To be available at places of contact with the visiting public such as local businesses and the footbridge. It will be pertinent to the front country here in the Kennicott Valley. Costs \$900. To be voted on in August.

COPPER VALLEY TELECOM

Ben Shaine opened for discussion the recently announced Grant/ loan of \$5.2 million dollars for the

upgrade of infrastructure in communications. It was announced that it was geared to business and several businesses noted that they did not need it. Other individuals noted that the upgrade would serve more than the business community and felt it was appropriate. The NPS has received application for the necessary sites in the park for the microwave towers. The park needs to consider the application in light of the possible wilderness potential of the sites, and will have an environmental assessment (EA) be done by CVT.

The system would include microwave sites in Chitina, on Gilahina Butte, and near the mouth of the Lakina River as well as new accommodations on Sourdough Ridge (in the same foot print in use at present).

See attached Documents.

Mark will write a letter to CVT Inviting them to next Mac meeting or to meet here with the public about the proposed upgrades. Motion made seconded and approved.

FORESTRY/ FIRE SAFETY

Mike Trimmer from DNR Division of Forestry attended the meeting and presented a report on the ongoing Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) . During the Chakina fire last summer Forestry along with the McCarthy/Kennicott VFD were able to assess approximately 500 structure in the valley and work with other pertinent agencies DNR, NPS to develop a plan for further safety enhancements for our communities.

The first lines of defense could be Shaded Fuel Breaks. These were described as 100 foot wide lines along section line borders between State/Private lands and NPS lands. They would entail clearing the under story brush and thinning of trees to make the crown spacing a minimum of 10 feet. This would help move a crown fire to the ground where deployment of on ground resources would be most effective in fighting wild fires in the future. A 4.5 mile perimeter east and south of the University subdivision would most likely be the focus due to the ability to protect those private properties and McCarthy proper. There is a possibility for funding thru a nationwide program and the deadline is in mid August. NPS has agreed to allow clearing along those sections splitting the 100 foot shade break. Funding would also allow for fuel reduction around peoples homes with a priority on folks with the need for help and who can't do it themselves. Forestry would like the community to have a discussion on the issue before they move forward with the plan.

The community as always appreciates the dedication and thanks our Forest Firefighters and the volunteer Fire departments in the Valley.

ANNUAL MEETING.... 27 August 2010 Tony Zaks 11:30

Agenda: Election of board members

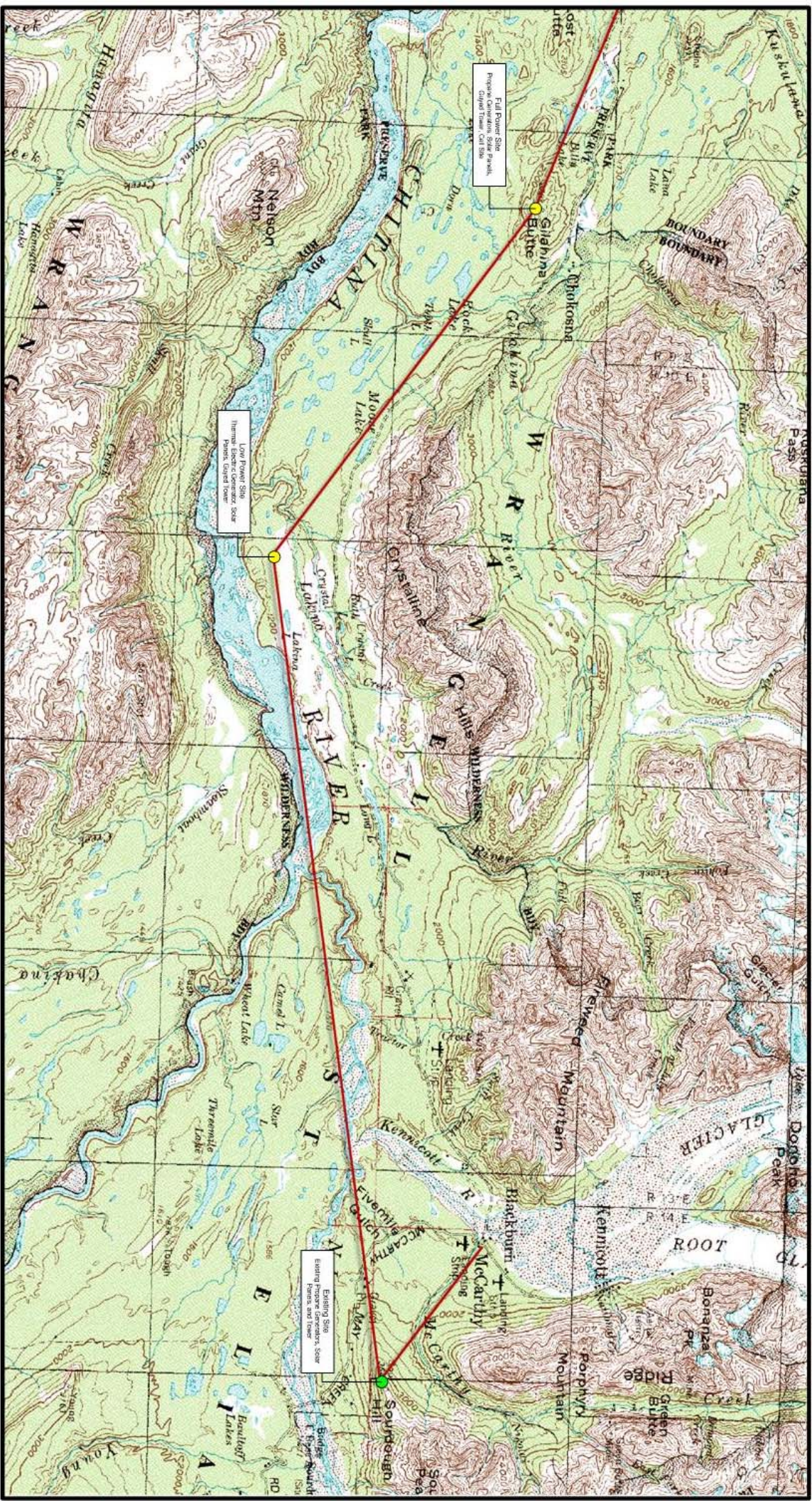
Election of Officers

Vote on above proposals

Discuss the disposition of State Lands in the Valley

ANNOUNCEMENTS; Federal Subsistence Hunting Permits are Available contact Stephens Harper Or Matt Smith with the NPS

Meeting Adjourned 1:32 pm



TITLE
McCarthy Microwave Path Concept

DATE
6/4/09

SCALE
1 Section = 5 Miles

DRAWN BY
CHRIS MISHIMASH

CONTACT NUMBER
835-7700

**APPLICATION FOR TRANSPORTATION AND
 UTILITY SYSTEMS AND FACILITIES
 ON FEDERAL LANDS**

Wrangell-St. Elias
 National Park/Preserve
APR - 2 2010
 Copper Center
 AK 99573

MT J...

FORM APPROVED
 OMB NO. 1004-0189
 Expires: November 30, 2008

NOTE: Before completing and filing the application, the applicant should completely review this package and schedule a preapplication meeting with representatives of the agency responsible for processing the application. Each agency may have specific and unique requirements to be met in preparing and processing the application. Many times, with the help of the agency representative, the application can be completed at the preapplication meeting.

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY

Application Number _____

Date filed _____

1. Name and address of applicant (include zip code) Chris Mishmash Copper Valley Wireless PO Box 3329 Valdez, AK 99686	2. Name, title, and address of authorized agent if different from Item 1 (include zip code) <p style="text-align: center;">N/A</p>	3. TELEPHONE (area code) Applicant (907) 835-7700 Authorized Agent _____
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4. As applicant are you? (check one) a. <input type="checkbox"/> Individual b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corporation* c. <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership/Association* d. <input type="checkbox"/> State Government/State Agency e. <input type="checkbox"/> Local Government f. <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Agency * If checked, complete supplemental page	5. Specify what application is for: (check one) a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New authorization b. <input type="checkbox"/> Renewing existing authorization No. c. <input type="checkbox"/> Amend existing authorization No. d. <input type="checkbox"/> Assign existing authorization No. e. <input type="checkbox"/> Existing use for which no authorization has been received* f. <input type="checkbox"/> Other* * If checked provide details under Item 7
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6. If an individual, or partnership are you a citizen(s) of the United States? Yes No

7. Project description (describe in detail): (a) Type of system or facility, (e.g., canal, pipeline, road); (b) related structures and facilities; (c) physical specifications (length, width, grading, etc.); (d) term of years needed; (e) time of year of use or operation; (f) Volume or amount of product to be transported; (g) duration and timing of construction; and (h) temporary work areas needed for construction (Attach additional sheets, if additional space is needed.)

Please see page 1 on the attached sheets for full project description.

8. Attach a map covering area and show location of project proposal **Attached.**

9. State or local government approval: Attached Applied for Not required

10. Nonreturnable application fee. Attached Not required

11. Does project cross international boundary or affect international waterways? Yes No (If "yes," indicate on map)

12. Give statement of your technical and financial capability to construct, operate, maintain, and terminate system for which authorization is being requested.

CVW, and its parent company Copper Valley Telephone Cooperative, provides state of the art communications services to a large geographical area within Alaska and is highly technically proficient and logistically adept. CVW/CVTC completed a very complex microwave project from Valdez to the Village of Tatitlek in 2009, which is very comparable to this project in both scope and logistics and the link is successfully in operation today. This type of project is very common in the industry and no untested technologies are included as part of this proposal.

CVW/CVTC has been in operation and fiscally healthy since 1961. This project will be partially funded by a federal grant and poses no threat to it's solvency.

- 13a. Describe other reasonable alternative routes and modes considered.
- A. Status quo system of satellite based communications
 - B. Buried fiber optic cable along the road system
 - C. Installing a system similar to the one proposed using private inholdings.

b. Why were these alternatives not selected?

Please see page 3 on the attached sheets for full answer to this section.

c. Give explanation as to why it is necessary to cross Federal Lands

It is necessary to cross Federal Lands because McCarthy is in a remote location and is surrounded by it.

14. List authorizations and pending applications filed for similar projects which may provide information to the authorizing agency. (Specify number, date, code, or name)

Please see page 3 on the attached sheets for full answer to this section.

15. Provide statement of need for project, including the economic feasibility and items such as: (a) cost of proposal (construction, operation, and maintenance); (b) estimated cost of next best alternative; and (c) expected public benefits.

Please see page 4 on the attached sheets for full answer to this section.

16. Describe probable effects on the population in the area, including the social and economic aspects, and the rural lifestyles.
- This project will allow the residents and businesses of the McCarthy and Kennecott communities, as well as others along the road corridor access to broadband and wireless communications services at a level experienced by most others in CVW's operating area and many throughout the country. Access to broadband services opens many opportunities for new or improved business dealings, social endeavors and entertainment possibilities. In an increasingly web based world, it would remove current barriers to access. Those wishing to maintain a traditional rural lifestyle need only to not subscribe.

17. Describe likely environmental effects that the proposed project will have on: (a) air quality; (b) visual impact; (c) surface and ground water quality and quantity; (d) the control or structural change on any stream or other body of water; (e) existing noise levels; and (f) the surface of the land, including vegetation, permafrost, soil, and soil stability.

Please see page 5 on the attached sheets for full answer to this section.

18. Describe the probable effects that the proposed project will have on (a) populations of fish, plantlife, wildlife, and marine life, including threatened and endangered species; and (b) marine mammals, including hunting, capturing, collecting, or killing these animals.

(a) Wildlife may be effected during the construction phase of the project when activity at the sites will be the greatest. As witnessed at the existing Sourdough site, effect during the subsequent operation appears to be minimal as wildlife seems to be abundant at least to the casual observer. CVW would look to WRST management for advice on ways to mitigate disturbance in both construction and operation timeframes.

19. State whether any hazardous material, as defined in this paragraph, will be used, produced, transported or stored on or within the right-of-way or any of the right-of-way facilities, or used in the construction, operation, maintenance or termination of the right-of-way or any of its facilities. "Hazardous material" means any substance, pollutant or contaminant that is listed as hazardous under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq., and its regulations. The definition of hazardous substances under CERCLA includes any "hazardous waste" as defined in the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (RCRA), as amended, 42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq., and its regulations. The term hazardous materials also includes any nuclear or byproduct material as defined by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 2011 et seq. The term does not include petroleum, including crude oil or any fraction thereof that is not otherwise specifically listed or designated as a hazardous substance under CERCLA Section 101(14), 42 U.S.C. 9601(14), nor does the term include natural gas.

None.

20. Name all the Department(s)/Agency(ies) where this application is being filed.

Wrangell-St. Elias National Park only.

I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I am of legal age and authorized to do business in the State and that I have personally examined the information contained in the application and believe that the information submitted is correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Applicant



Date

4/1/10

Title 18, U.S.C. Section 1001 and Title 43 U.S.C. Section 1212, make it a crime for any person knowingly and willfully to make to any department or agency of the United States any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or representations as to any matter within its jurisdiction.

(Continued on page 3)

(SF-299, page 2)

SUPPLEMENTAL

NOTE: The responsible agency(ies) will provide additional instructions

CHECK APPROPRIATE
BLOCK

I - PRIVATE CORPORATIONS

ATTACHED FILED*

a. Articles of Incorporation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Corporation Bylaws	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. A certification from the State showing the corporation is in good standing and is entitled to operate within the State.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Copy of resolution authorizing filing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. The name and address of each shareholder owning 3 percent or more of the shares, together with the number and percentage of any class of voting shares of the entity which such shareholder is authorized to vote and the name and address of each affiliate of the entity together with, in the case of an affiliate controlled by the entity, the number of shares and the percentage of any class of voting stock of that affiliate owned, directly or indirectly, by that entity, and in the case of an affiliate which controls that entity, the number of shares and the percentage of any class of voting stock of that entity owned, directly or indirectly, by the affiliate.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. If application is for an oil or gas pipeline, describe any related right-of-way or temporary use permit applications, and identify previous applications	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. If application is for an oil and gas pipeline, identify all Federal lands by agency impacted by proposal.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

II - PUBLIC CORPORATIONS

a. Copy of law forming corporation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Proof of organization	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Copy of Bylaws	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Copy of resolution authorizing filing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. If application is for an oil or gas pipeline, provide information required by Item "I-f" and "I-g" above.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

III - PARTNERSHIP OR OTHER UNINCORPORATED ENTITY

a. Articles of association, if any	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. If one partner is authorized to sign, resolution authorizing action is	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Name and address of each participant, partner, association, or other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. If application is for an oil or gas pipeline, provide information required by Item "I-f" and "I-g" above.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

* If the required information is already filed with the agency processing this application and is current, check block entitled "Filed." Provide the file identification information (e.g., number, date, code, name). If not on file or current, attach the requested information.

Copper Valley Wireless – SF299 McCarthy Microwave Path
Supplemental Sheets

7. Project Description

(a) Type of system or facility

CVW is proposing to construct a communications site and a repeater site that will be part of a microwave system extending from Chitina to McCarthy.

(b) related structures and facilities

Other facilities essential to this system are an existing communications site on Sourdough Ridge on NPS property, an existing site in the town of McCarthy on private property and a new site in the Chitina area on non-federal lands. These sites would connect our central office in McCarthy to the rest of our network and to the outside world via terrestrial based (non-satellite) facilities.

(c) physical specifications

Two new sites would be constructed under this proposal and our existing site at Sourdough Ridge would need upgrades. The first new site, located on the summit of Gilahina Butte, would be a full communications site with microwave and wireless phone aspects. This site will include the following infrastructure.

1. Two buildings mounted on a raised metal platform. - The platform will be installed on a pier foundation engineered for the soil conditions and will be elevated only enough to provide a level surface and reasonable clearance from winter snow accumulation. The buildings will be 12'x12' and 8'x10. They will be constructed of insulated fiberglass panels and finished in a color suitable to WRST. The larger building will house microwave radio equipment, wireless telephone equipment and supporting equipment including non-spillable, lead-acid batteries. The smaller building will house two propane fired generators, which will run intermittently depending on equipment demand and solar array output.

2. 1 each solar array – A array composed of 20 individual panels and measuring approximately 12'x 24' will be attached to the southern edge of the raised metal platform and will provide a alternative source of power to the generators, thereby limiting the engine run time.

3. 1 each 30 ft. self-supporting galvanized metal tower. - This structure will be professionally engineered for the site conditions and will support 2 each microwave dishes up to 8 ft. in diameter and 2 each 12 ft. tall cellular antennas.

4. 3 each 1000 gallon propane tanks. – The propane stored in the tanks will support the propane fired generators and building heaters. They will be filled on an annual basis and will be painted to blend with the surrounding area.

It is the desire and intent of CVW to work closely with the WRST staff to locate the above components in a manner that results in minimal impact to the area and to the viewshed.

The second site would be located on the bluffs above and east of the Lakina River near its confluence with the Chitina River. The precise site is yet to be determined, but because this will be a repeater with both donor sites being at relatively high elevations, the actual location is less critical. Choice of an exact location will require a site visit in the spring of 2010. This site will include the following infrastructure.

1. **One 10' x 12' skid mounted building** – This will again be of fiberglass panel construction and finished in a suitable color. It will house a low power repeater, a small battery bank and one or two smaller generators.
2. **1 each solar array** – This array will be sized to severely limit the generator run time for this site.
3. **1 each 30ft. self-supporting galvanized metal tower** – This structure will also be professionally engineered to the local conditions and will support 2 each microwave dishes up to 8ft. in diameter.
4. **2 each 1000 gallon propane tanks** – These will be treated in the same manner as the tanks listed above for the Gilahina site.

The existing site at Sourdough Ridge will require some significant upgrades for the new system. The following changes will be required at this site.

1. **Expanded solar array.** – Although the existing array is functional it would be advantageous to upgrade to current technology and higher wattage during construction. The existing panels will be replaced with new versions, which are slightly larger but provide 80% more output. This will result in a slightly larger array, but will not affect the current footprint as they will still be mounted on the same supporting structure.
2. **Expanded communications building** – The existing communications building is filled to capacity with electronics and supporting equipment. Rather than replacing the building it will be expanded towards the existing generator building, meaning the overall footprint will not increase. The expansion will be designed using engineers certified in the State of Alaska.
3. **1 each 20ft. self-supporting galvanized metal tower.** – This structure will also be engineered to local conditions and will support 2 each microwave dishes up to 8ft. in diameter and 2 each 12ft. tall cellular antennas. This

configuration is considered to be worst case scenario and a less obtrusive structure combined with existing antenna mounts may be able to be utilized. Again it is our desire and intent to keep structures to a minimum for visual purposes.

(d) term of years needed

CVW is requesting the maximum allowable term up to 30 years.

(e) time of year of use or operation.

All requested sites would be in operation on a year round basis.

(f) volume and amount of product to be transported

The only products transported outside of the construction phase would be propane in amounts to match the tank sizing and motor oil in amounts up to 10 gallons per occurrence for maintenance purposes.

(g) duration and timing of construction.

Design and engineering of the project would be completed during the winter of 2010-11. Construction would commence in the spring of 2011. CVW's objective would be to complete construction in 2011 barring unforeseen delays.

(h) temporary work areas needed for construction.

Temporary work areas will be needed during construction. Most of the large items (i.e. buildings, towers) will be staged and flown to the sites from the State airport facilities at Chitina and McCarthy. Other smaller items would be staged and flown from other available areas such as the open area adjacent to and south of the Kuskalana Bridge or from private parcels pending approval from State of Alaska DOT or other applicable land owners. CVW will not work from areas for which it does not have exclusive permission in writing.

13b. Why were these alternative not selected?

The current system, although reasonably reliable is costly to operate, subject to latency and quality issues inherent in satellite transport, limited in bandwidth, and not in line with the mission of our parent company or with the Federal desire to push broadband services to the rural communities. A buried fiber optic cable along the long and challenging roadway is too costly and would be prone to damage in many areas due to potential shallow burial depths, unstable soils and other extreme environmental conditions. A system on private properties along the road would require more sites to be constructed and maintained and would be inharmonious with WRST management.

14. List authorizations and pending applications filed for similar projects which may provide information to the authorizing agency.

CVW and its parent company Copper Valley Telephone Cooperative has numerous facilities on leased lands under all types of agreements. This includes sites on lands controlled by BLM (Glennallen Office), US Forest Service (Cordova and Glacier Ranger Districts), State of Alaska DNR, State of Alaska DOT, City of Valdez, Mentasta Tribal Council, Tatitlek Native Corporation, AHTNA Native Corporation and The Tatitlek Corporation among others. CVW/CVTC has a long history of working cooperatively and effectively with a multitude of entities and is committed to continuing this tradition. CVW will provide more detailed information or contact information for any site or partnership on request.

The site that WRST is most familiar with in terms of our performance and integrity is the installation on NPS property on Sourdough Ridge. CVW believes it is accurate to say that we have lived up to the requirements of the Right-of-Way in place dutifully and openly.

A similar microwave project extending from Valdez to the native Village of Tatitlek was completed by CVW in 2009. This project was comparable in scope, complexity and logistical challenges. The project was completed on time and is in full use today. More details are available on request.

15. Provide statement of need for project, including the economic feasibility and items such as: (a) cost of proposal; (b) estimated cost of next best alternative; and (c) expected public benefits.

Construction of this project would be made possible, in large part, by an American Recovery and Reinvestment Act grant for which CVW is applying. This grant program seeks to create economic growth and jobs while bringing broadband services to rural America. The operation and maintenance costs of the new infrastructure will be offset by the fact that CVW will be able to direct funds currently paid to outside companies for satellite transport to this effort.

The completion of this project will bring the residents, businesses and visitors of McCarthy access to state-of-the-art broadband and telecommunications services. The residents and businesses in McCarthy and Kennecott have historically craved and continually requested the improved services that only a terrestrial based backhaul system can provide.

As a side product, the location of the additional communications sites will allow CVW to install cell sites that will provide expansive wireless coverage of the McCarthy road corridor. This would not only provide general communications capability where it currently does not exist, but also provide public safety in the form of 911 emergency dialing capability in this remote and extreme stretch of public highway. This service would not only be available to CVW's direct customers, but to anyone with a handset compatible with our system as mandated by the FCC.

17. Describe likely environmental effects that the proposed project will have on: (a) air quality; (b) visual impact; (c) surface and ground water quality and quantity; (d) the control or structural change on any stream or other body of water; (e) existing noise levels; and (f) the surface of the land, including vegetation, permafrost, soil and soil stability.

(a) This project will have a minimal impact on air quality through the addition of two sites with propane fired generators; however the generators will run intermittently and run time will be further reduced by solar arrays designed to maximize alternative energy usage.

(b) Visual impact is the biggest concern for this project and CVW is under no disillusion that we can completely mitigate the effects of two new sites on Parklands. Nonetheless, we are confident that we can work with Park management to minimize the effects and still provide this important service.

(c) Water bodies will not be affected by this project.

(d) Water bodies will not be affected by this project.

(e) Existing noise levels will increase near the two new sites due to the addition of generators. As mentioned above, generator run time will be minimized to the extent possible.

(f) Land at the two new sites will be disturbed somewhat. Local vegetation will be cleared and excavation will be required for tower and building foundations. The area of disturbance will be limited to the immediate vicinity.

June 23, 2010

Dear Ms. Jensen:

This letter is in response to your request, in your letter dated April 26, 2010, for additional information to support our application to construct communications sites on park lands submitted April 2, 2010. Since the date of this letter, as you know, we have visited each of the sites with representatives of WRST integral to this process and so I am confident that the information contained herein, along with actual on-the-ground knowledge, will provide a clear picture of what we are trying to accomplish and how it will be done.

It is our understanding that the EA process could not commence until this information was received by your agency and a MOA was drafted and signed by CVW and your regional director. We are very interested in getting the process kicked off in a timely manner now that we have gathered the required information. I am uncertain of the status of the MOA at this time except that we have submitted our comments on the draft provided by Danny Rosenkrans and that it was forwarded to the regional office. Also at this time we have a contractor on board and ready to begin work on the EA. In other words, all the pieces required for the process are presumably in place or very close.

Please review the attached information and let me know what else I can provide. I have many pictures of the proposed sites and can forward them if necessary; however I believe your staff likely has an adequate supply from our visits. I look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff on this process, while learning more about the Park. It has been a pleasure working with everyone involved to date.

Following is information you requested.

1. Site plans showing dimensions and improvements for the Gilahina and Lakina sites and the new improvements for the Sourdough site.

Drawings for each of these sites are attached.

2. Site preparation including amount of disturbance, clearing, digging and construction, types of equipment that will be used on the sites.

The People You Know

Telephone | Long Distance | Internet | Wireless | DISH TV

Gilahina Butte – This site will require the clearing of all vegetation in an area of approximately 45'x100'. It will also require a separate helicopter landing area to be cleared that will be approximately 50'x50'. Furthermore, up to twelve additional spruce trees may need to be cut in the two directions that the microwave signals will travel. The ground will be excavated for tower and building foundations to a depth suitable for local conditions, which will be engineered and is unknown at this time. If bedrock is encountered no further excavation would be required and in any circumstance the excavation would not be outside of the cleared vegetation limit mentioned above. Brush and tree clearing will be accomplished with chainsaws and materials will be disposed of by cutting into small pieces and dispersing throughout the area. A small tracked excavator will be flown to the site by helicopter to dig footing holes and level minor contours. Concrete will be mixed on site using a gas powered mixer with materials flown to the site by helicopter. Portable generators, compactors, power tools and welding equipment will also be used heavily during construction.

Lakina – The methods and equipment used for construction will be identical to those for the Gilahina Butte site. The limits of clearing will be approximately 60'x150' which will include the construction and helicopter landing areas. Up to two dozen trees of mixed sizes and species will be required to be cleared in the near distance to ensure unobstructed line of sight to both the Gilahina Butte and Sourdough Ridge.

Sourdough Ridge – This site, in contrast to the previous two, will require only minor clearing of brush as it is an existing site with adequate space for the additions proposed. Construction will still require all of the tools and methods mentioned in the Gilahina Butte section.

3. Methods of access to the sites during construction.

Gilahina Butte – Access to this site will be by helicopter only. All materials and supplies will be air lifted to the site for construction from sites as detailed in section 5 below.

Lakina - Access to this site will be by helicopter only. All materials and supplies will be air lifted to the site for construction from sites as detailed in section 5 below.

Sourdough Ridge - Access to this site will be by helicopter only. All materials and supplies will be air lifted to the site for construction from sites as detailed in section 5 below.

4. Work schedule detailing when work will be performed and how long each task will take.

Provided that all permitting is in place before spring of 2011, the construction schedule will be as follows. In May or June of 2011 a contractor will mobilize to the various sites and begin preliminary work clearing brush, sampling soils and beginning foundation construction. In July and August construction would be in full swing and helicopter traffic would be at its peak. During this timeframe buildings and towers would be constructed and subsequently outfitted with antennas, telecommunications equipment

and power generation equipment. The initial fueling of propane tanks would occur in August. Construction activities would be wrapped up in late August or early September. Copper Valley Wireless crews would continue commissioning the system through September and possibly into October, but traffic to the sites will be diminished during this period.

5. Additional temporary sites on park lands that may be needed during construction.

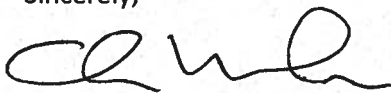
The only additional park lands required for construction would be a staging area where materials could be stored prior to air lifting them to the site(s). For the Gilahina Butte site, a small parcel along the McCarthy road adjacent to and east of the Chokosna community has been identified as a preferred site. This parcel, owned by WRST, is reportedly a restored area formerly containing private vehicles in various states of disrepair. For the Lakina site private property owners in the vicinity of Moose Lake would be contacted for the possibility of staging out of their lands. If this could not be arranged, the Gilahina Butte staging area would be used. Staging for the Sourdough Ridge improvements will be located at the airstrip in McCarthy and would not be on park lands.

6. Maintenance and operations after construction including maintenance tasks, anticipated number of site visits, and means of access.

The first year after construction of this type of facility is typically the busiest for maintenance related activities as technicians become familiarized with the system and it is optimized for the long term. Beyond the first year, maintenance activities will be limited to quarterly battery and electronics maintenance, semi-annual generator maintenance and annual propane refueling along with infrequent remedial maintenance visits. Approximately ten site visits will be required during the first year after commissioning the system. Thereafter only six site visits per year will be typical. For efficiency, especially given the high cost of helicopter chartering, all three sites would be visited as a group whenever possible; however conditions such as weather and available daylight would likely make this impossible all of the time. The end effect would be that there would be more than the 6-10 annual trips mentioned onto park lands as a whole throughout the year.

Don't hesitate to contact me at anytime for more information at 835-7700 or 255-1019.

Sincerely,



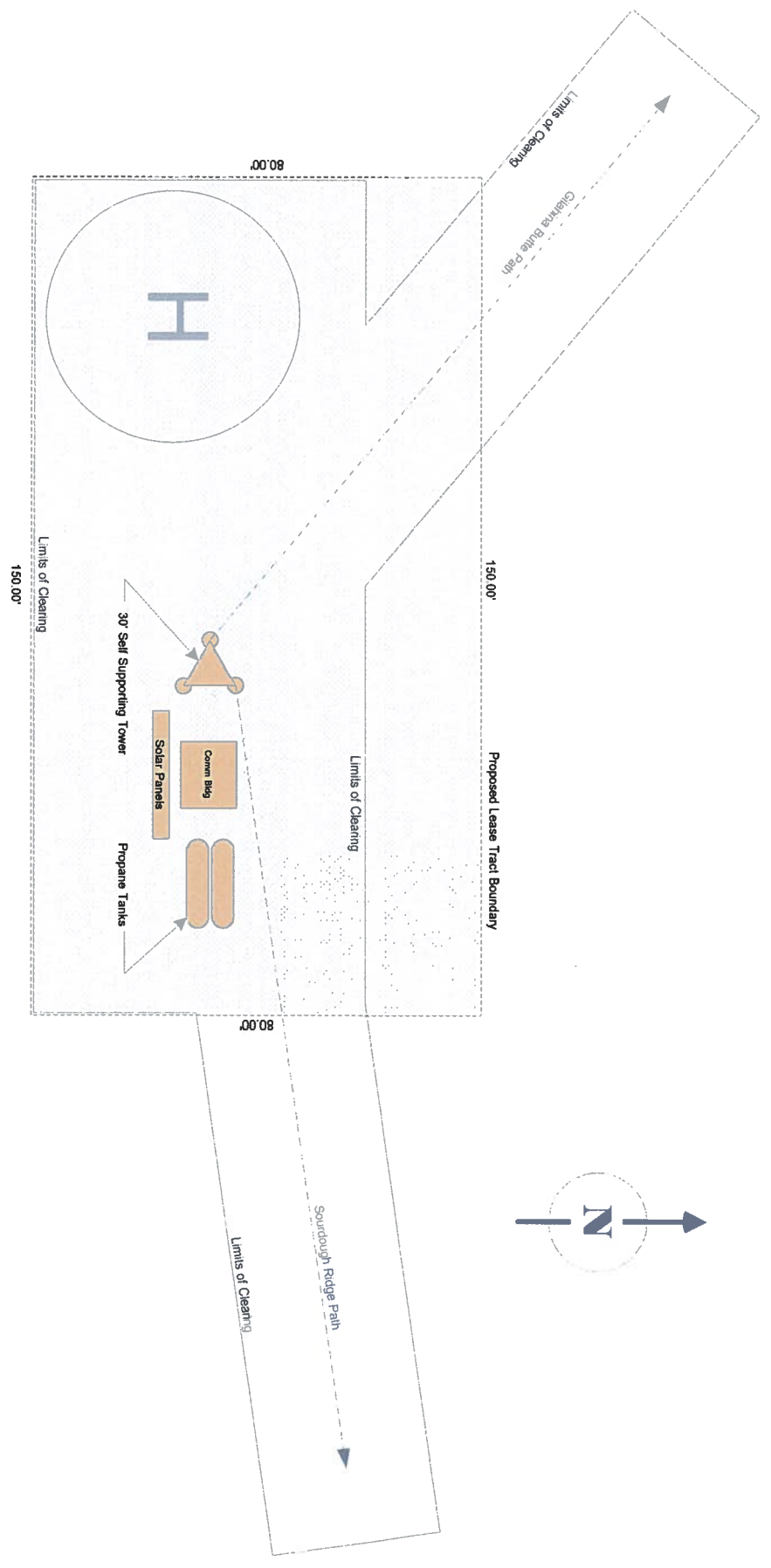
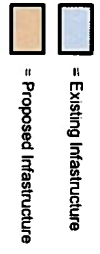
Chris Mishmash

Facilities Manager



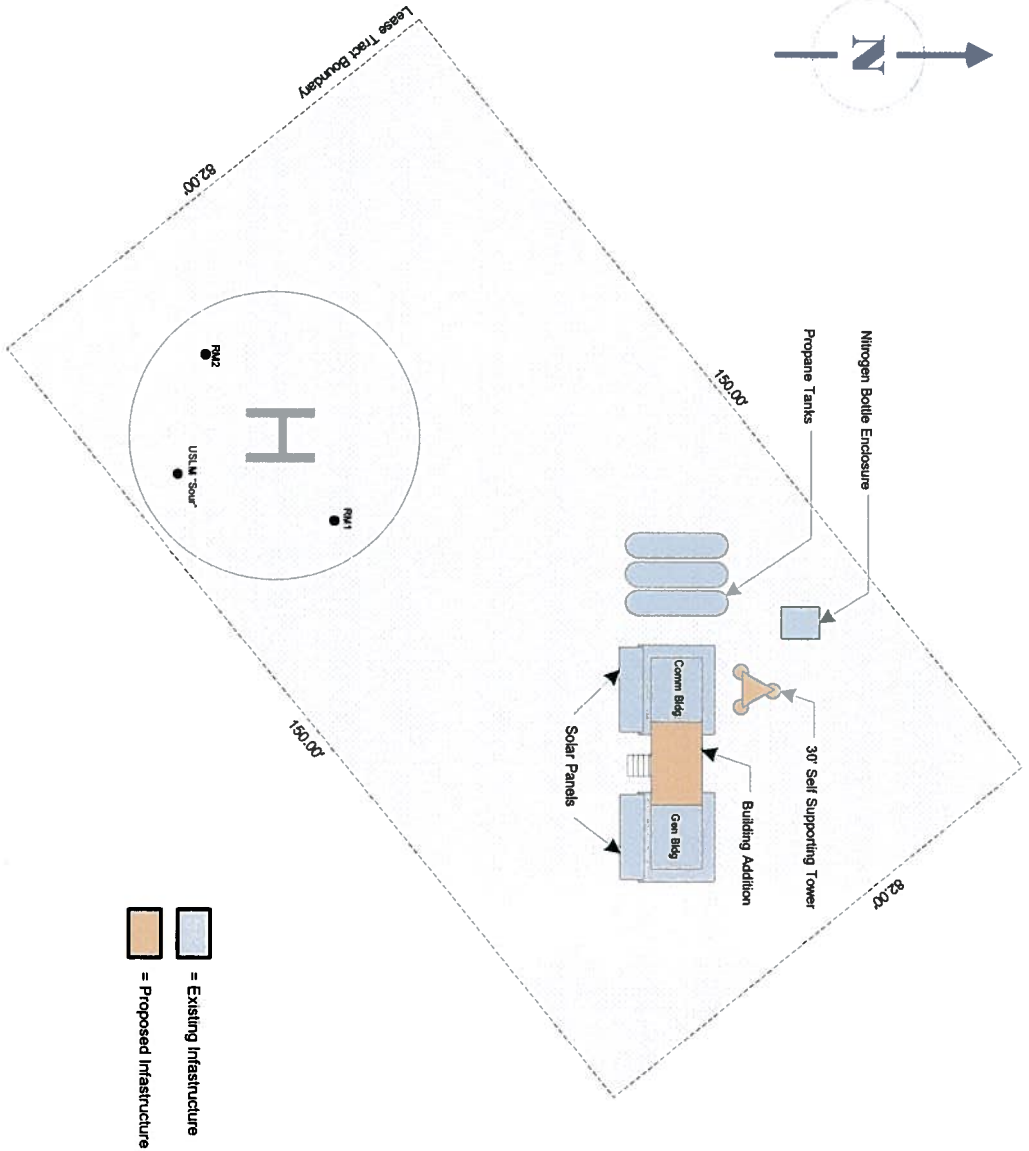
Proposed Lakina Comm Site

TITLE	Proposed Lakina Comm Site	
DATE	June 22, 2010	SCALE 1" = 30'
DRAWN BY	C. Mishmash	TOWER CENTER 61-20-20 4N 143-33-24 6W





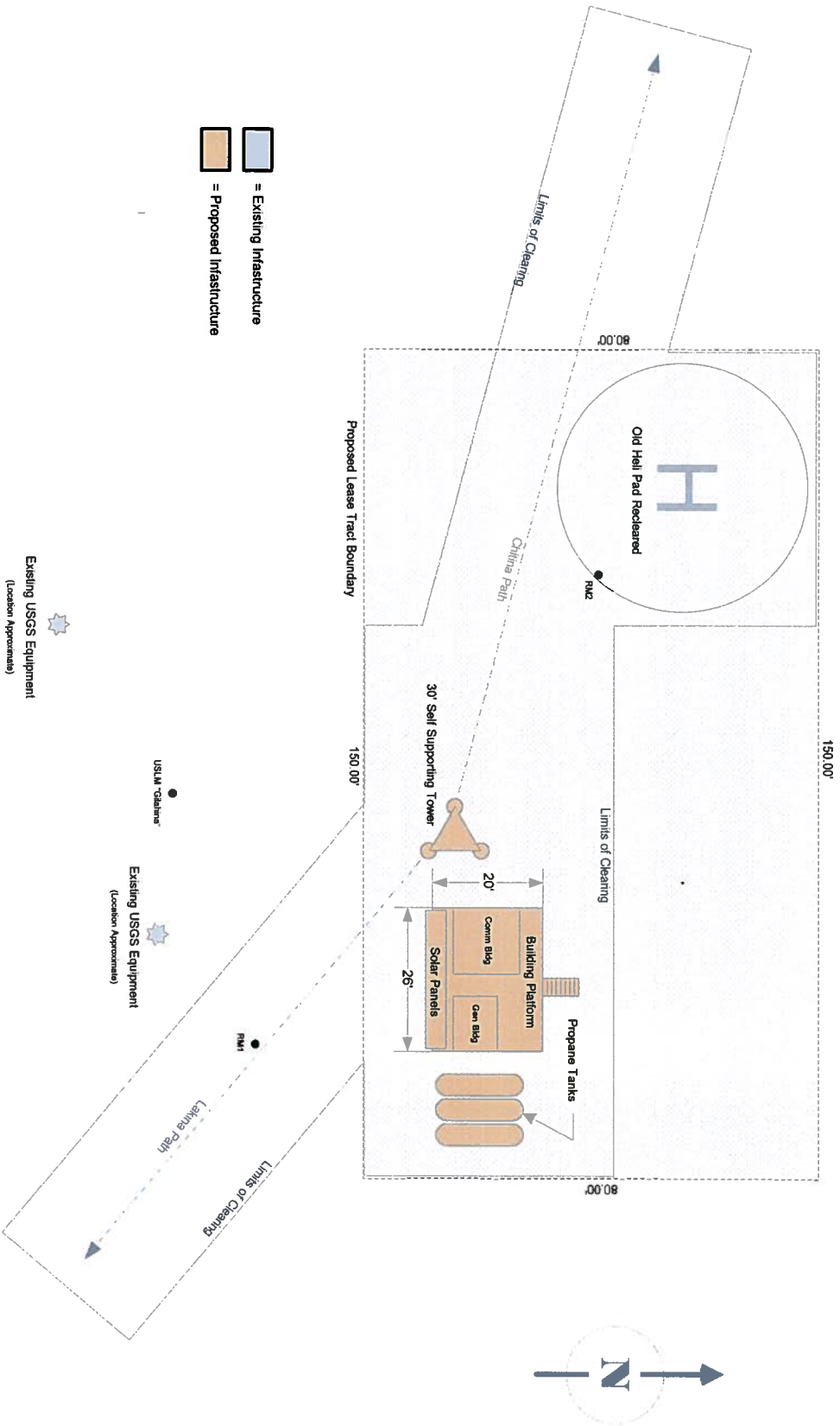
TITLE	Proposed Sourdough Additions	
DATE	June 22, 2010	SCALE
DRAWN BY	C. Mishmash	1" = 30'



- = Existing Infrastructure
- = Proposed Infrastructure



TITLE		Proposed Gilahina Butte Comm Site	
DATE	June 22, 2010	SCALE	1" = 30'
DRAWN BY	C. Mishmash	TOWER CENTER	61-26-30.5N 143-48-44.2W



- = Existing Infrastructure
- = Proposed Infrastructure

**McCarthy Area Council Financial Report
 Fiscal Year Sept. 1, 2009-August 31, 2010
 By Tamara Harper, Treasurer**

MONIES COLLECTED:

• Membership Dues (51)	255.00
• State of AK Community Revenue Sharing Grant	34,971.00
• Donations	65.00
• Interest	383.00
TOTAL	\$35,674.00

MONIES SPENT:

• Paid Secretary salary (Lindsay Jensen)	2,400.00
• Outhouse cleaning salary (Christine Johnson and Tamara Harper)	1,780.00
• Outhouse pumping (Copper Basin Sanitation)	582.00
• Office/administrative supplies/printer/books	631.00
• Outhouse cleaning supplies and toilet paper	296.00
• Bank fees	37.00
Revenue Sharing Project Funding:	
• Kennicott-MXY Volunteer Fire Dept. support (2000w generator)	999.00
• MXY Lot Owners Association Nizina Road work (Rowcon-grading, spread gravel)	1060.00
TOTAL	\$7,785.00

APPROPRIATIONS YET TO BE PAID:

Revenue Sharing Project Funding:

• Kennicott-MXY Volunteer Fire Dept. support	5001.00
• Community medical cache supplies/oxygen tanks	2559.00
• MCLOA Nizina Road work	380.00
• Wrangell Mountains Center Bear Safety Brochure project	900.00
• MXY-Kennicott Historical Museum infrastructure	5000.00
• Kennecott River clean-up/refuse removal (SEAG, Rowcon, WMA, Welty)	7490.00
TOTAL	\$21,330.00

CURRENT ACCOUNT BALANCES:

Wells Fargo checking	676.35
Wells Fargo savings	91,105.55
TOTAL	\$91,781.90