

McCarthy Area Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 28, 2022, 6:30 PM, Tony Zak's/Zoom

Members present: *(in person)* Nik Merlino, Erin McKinstry, Jon Erdman, Hannah Rowland, Keith Rowland, Laurie Rowland, Charlotte Henson, Malcolm Vance, David Rowland, Stephanie Sever; *(virtually)* Julia Chester, Chris Chester, Geoffrey Downes, Cheryl Antenucci, Jules Hanna, Tamara Harper, Dave Hollis, Kristin Link, Lyn Plomaritis, John Rice, Greg Runyan, Dave Syren, Julie Truskowski, Mike Truskowski, Rob Wesson, Don Wolcott, Bradie Kozera

Others present: *(in person)* Michelle Casey, Marlon Collova; *(virtually)* Mark Miller, Amanda Swinehart, Jeremy Pataky, Jacob Shultz, Christine Johnson, Pat Proden

President Nik Merlino opened the meeting at 6:34 PM with a quorum of 9 members present at Tony Zak's and online. This was the first in person meeting of 2022, and the first meeting at Tony Zak's since 2019. It was also the first Tony's/Zoom hybrid meeting, and Nik asked for patience as MAC tried out a new format. Erin monitored Zoom for any votes or questions via chat.

A motion was made to accept the March 2022 minutes. The motion seconded and passed with no objections. The March minutes can be viewed at the MAC website www.mxycouncil.org.

OLD BUSINESS

Vote: KMVFD Essential Infrastructure Grant for Fire Hall Project-Chris & Julia Chester

Chris and Julia Chester answered questions about the proposal the KMVFD presented at the March meeting. The \$40,000 proposal is to start building a fire hall on their property north of the McCarthy Airport. Keith Rowland asked about the construction timeline. Chris said he was waiting for the funding before finalizing their plans. They received one check for \$27,600 from the Alaska Community Foundation's Coronavirus Nonprofit Relief Fund, which covers most of the cost of the dirt work. He's been in communication with David Rowland about starting that work sometime in August. He'll follow up with David. He's talked with Kaleb Rowland about doing the work for the concrete pad, but because of Kaleb's busy schedule, the KMVFD plans to organize volunteers to lay the forms, and Chris plans to either haul in the materials himself or hire the freight out to someone else.

Malcolm Vance asked what the \$40,000 from MAC will cover. Chris said the money combined with the money from the ACF will cover the cost of the dirt work and the concrete pad. The next step will be to raise money for the metal building kit. Julia added that out of three project phases, they'll be able to complete the first two. Malcolm asked how long a slab will last without a building on it. Keith Rowland said it will last indefinitely.

A motion was made to approve the KMVFD's proposal. The motion seconded and passed with no opposition. Contact Chris Chester and the KMVFD at kmvfd@hotmail.com. The entire proposal is attached to the minutes under the name "KMVFD 2022 MAC Essential Community Infrastructure Funding Application."

Vote: McCarthy Access & West Side Road Maintenance-Keith Rowland

Keith Rowland presented a proposal at the March MAC meeting for \$2,160 for road maintenance on the west side road and the access roads to and from the vehicle bridge (Hanagita and Castle Streets). Keith said this proposal is similar to past proposals, and clarified that the proposal will benefit anyone who uses the vehicle bridge as well as people who use the west side road. He also thanked people who contributed to cover the cost of two extra plowings this year because of all the snow.

The proposal will cover three winter plowings and two summer bladings. A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion seconded and passed with no opposition. Contact Keith Rowland at

907-554-4498. The proposal is attached to the minutes under the name “2022 Proposal MAC Rev Sharing (maintenance).”

NEW BUSINESS

EMS Medical Services Building Update-Jacob Shultz

Jacob Shultz said that the entire building package for the medical services building is on their lot in McCarthy. Construction will begin the first week of May. He said the \$40,000 they received from MAC last year for the project helped them access other sources of funding, like a Tier 2 Rasmuson Grant. He thanked the community for their support.

EMS is applying for a USDA grant for additional funding. Part of the application process is a month of public comment. The public comment period will open after the May MAC meeting. The additional funding would allow them to add electrical, heat, water and other elements beyond the building's shell.

Hannah Rowland asked about their plan for adding water to the building. Jacob said the design includes a plan for water, but they've been focused on procuring funding and haven't finalized the plans yet. They've considered using the well at Tony's or hauling water to a tank. Hannah asked if they'd consider using the well at Tony's, so it gets more use. Jacob said that could be a conversation.

Jacob went over the 2020 grant expenditures. They applied and received \$2400 from MAC in August 2020:

- \$292: Repair a leaky gas tank plus maintenance on ambulance
- \$1999: Ambulance Insurance
- \$109: Fixed an AED

He said they plan to present a new proposal for funding at the next MAC meeting. Contact Jacob Shultz at mxeyems@gmail.com.

Hanagita Street Road Maintenance Proposal-Hannah Rowland

Hannah Rowland presented a proposal for a project to lay 2" minus gravel on Hanagita Street. The road runs from the stop sign at the end of John Adam's runway to the corner before the Kennicott River private vehicle bridge. Anyone who uses the vehicle bridge uses this road.

The project would overlay $\frac{1}{3}$ of Hanagita St. with 3" depth 2" minus gravel. The ROWCON project would be completed this summer or fall. The total cost to cover the entire $\frac{1}{2}$ mile street is \$13,754. They plan to complete the project in three phases. The total cost for this phase is \$4,585. They are requesting \$2,400 from MAC, ROWCON will pay 10% (\$458.50), and they are raising \$2,400 in matching funds. They've raised \$2,185.00 so far. Hannah said they're still seeking contributions.

Malcolm asked how this differs from the proposal that was approved earlier in the meeting. He asked if grading the road isn't enough to maintain it. Keith Rowland clarified that, yes, he does grade the road twice a year, but that it's still bumpy. Laying 2" minus gravel would improve the road's condition. He mentioned a similar project a few years ago on the west side road where they laid gravel from Bonnie Kenyon's to the end of the road, and the condition is much better than the first part of the road. He also mentioned a McCarthy Road project that laid a higher quality gravel (D-1) and greatly improved the condition. He clarified that this isn't his project, but that he was lending his expertise. Hannah said it also helps with drainage.

Keith brought up a past project proposed by DOT to lay D-1 all the way to Kennicott. At the time, Keith asked if he could get some of the D-1 gravel to use on the access roads to the vehicle bridge. He said the project never came to fruition and he's not sure if it's still on the docket now that John Hoffman, the former head of Tazlina DOT, has retired.

The proposal will come to a vote at the May meeting. Contact Hannah Rowland at 907-259-5648 or hannahroserowland@gmail.com with questions or to contribute. The proposal is attached to the minutes under the name “2022 Hanagita Rd. Proposal.”

Mail Shack Outhouse Repair-Erin McKinstry

MAC is seeking someone to repair the outhouse at the mail shack. It needs a new roof, especially after this winter's heavy snow, and a fresh coat of paint. Greg Runyan shoveled off the outhouse, took photos and put a description together of the work the needs done. Thanks, Greg!

Roof: *Replace roof on outhouse with similar dimensional lumber, same roof pitch and metal roofing; include proper blocking, fasteners, and hurricane clips for high winds and heavy snow loads; provide adequate roofing overhang to protect fascia and roof members. Remove existing roof and materials, and replace flashing on the vent pipe.*

Paint: *Clean and remove old peeling paint. Paint inside and outside of the outhouse with a similar color. Clear and remove brush and branches from behind the outhouse. Properly dispose of all paint supplies, cleaning supplies and project waste.*

Those interested can send an estimate to mccarthyareacouncil.secretary@gmail.com. The funding to pay for the repairs will come from MAC's operations budget. (Update 5/5/22: MAC found someone to do the repairs).

Kennicott-McCarthy Recreation Alliance Update (KMRA)-Jon Erdman

The nonprofit was recently formed to develop the playground up by the softball field and host recreational events for the community. It's hosting an ultimate frisbee game and fundraiser with the KMVFD and EMS on Memorial Day weekend. The date is Sunday, May 29 from 3-5 pm at the softball field. It's an inclusive event for families and all members of the community. They ask for people to refrain from smoking, drinking or vaping in the immediate area. Snacks will be provided on a donation basis. Each nonprofit will have a table to donate and learn more about their projects and services. They're looking for volunteers to help set-up. They'd also like to thank Chuck Schuetze for volunteering to offer legal services to the KMRA. Contact Jon Erdman at jon@wrangells.org.

Meeting locations moving forward

A motion was made by Hannah Rowland to hold in person meetings at Tony Zak's for the rest of the year. The motion was seconded by Laurie Rowland. Members asked whether the motion was for hybrid meetings or solely in person. Laurie clarified that people have always been able to call in on the phone and vote via email or proxy. Hannah said she meant a hybrid meeting. Nik clarified that the bylaws do specify the meeting location of Tony Zak's, but that they allow the Board of Directors to decide to hold the meeting elsewhere from time-to-time. This motion would not supersede the Board's authority. This would be a vote of confidence and to indicate preference. The motion passed with no opposition.

MISC Projects-Malcolm Vance

Malcolm brought up replacing the chimney at Tony Zak's. The creosote drips down, and the current set-up is a fire hazard. He said even shutting it down during the meeting, it started smoking. Nik said there potentially could be some community funds available, but that we'd need to work together with the Blackburn Heritage Foundation. Malcolm offered to reach out to Dan Talcott to get the conversation started.

Malcolm also asked how we could get the puddle in front of the mail shack filled with gravel. Nik mentioned it may belong to DOT. Keith mentioned that the mail shack sits at the bottom of a hole. Tamara wrote via chat that MAC may be able to use operations funding as part of mail shack maintenance to lay some gravel there. The Board will look into it further.

Treasurer's Report-Tamara Harper (not read at meeting)

checking \$20,478

savings \$96,977

CDs \$138,646

deposits:

\$85 dues

\$115 all interest

expenses:

\$15 zoom monthly fee

\$2,400 MXY EMS 2020 operations grant

\$400 Rowcon--Tony's/EMS lots snow plowing

Announcements

Nik thanked the dedicated mail sorters and reminded everyone that all of them are volunteers. They put in a lot of time and energy, especially during the busy summer season. He asked everyone to be kind and courteous, and pick up their mail in a timely manner, especially large packages. The mail shack has limited space.

A motion was made to end the meeting. The motion was seconded. The meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.

PROCEDURE TO APPLY FOR SMALL-GRANT FUNDING, ADMINISTERED BY McCARTHY AREA COUNCIL, FUNDED BY STATE OF ALASKA'S COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

MAC receives money annually from the State of Alaska's general funds. The State has asserted that we can spend the money more efficiently than government bureaucrats, with specific attention to our own needs, and that MAC is the only appropriate local body to administer these funds. The MAC Board of Directors implemented this proposal process in order to fairly and efficiently disburse this money. **Requests that positively affect the most community members and have long-lasting benefit are encouraged.** We have many more local needs than can ever be covered by the amount we have, so we must choose wisely, and we must match the Community Assistance funds with local investments of labor and financial contributions, as well as outside funding from sources apart from these funds. To this end, we have come up with the following guidelines for small-grant funding:

Eligibility:

Any person who is eligible for MAC membership (an adult who maintains a residence in this valley) may submit a proposal for project funding at any MAC meeting; only MAC members may vote on proposals. If anyone else wishes to present a proposal, a MAC membership-eligible person must also co-sponsor the proposal.

Procedure:

1) Proposals must be emailed to the MAC secretary (mccarthyareacouncil.secretary@gmail.com) as an electronic PDF or Word file that can be distributed by email to the MAC membership. A proposal must be submitted prior to the MAC meeting at which it will be presented and discussed. Voting may occur as soon as the following MAC meeting, but can occur at any meeting following the presentation meeting.

The written proposal must include the following information:

- Name(s) of sponsor(s) and contact information
- Specific project description, including start and end dates
- An explanation of who will benefit from the project
- Proposed budget for the project. Itemize all anticipated expenses, including materials, rate/hours of labor, rate/hours of machine/equipment rental, etc.
- A specific explanation (with dollar amounts) of how the Community Assistance funds from MAC will be matched by money/labor/materials from community members and/or from external funding sources (other than MAC).

2) At the meeting before the vote, the sponsor(s) must present the proposal in person to the membership and be prepared to answer questions about it. Presentations will not exceed 10 minutes, excluding questions.

3) **All proposals must show that a minimum of 30% of the total cost of the project will be covered by sources other than MAC.** This could be financial contributions or in-kind investment of labor by community members, or it could be funding from external sources other

than MAC. If a proposal includes local labor as a matching contribution, the total number of hours and the equivalent hourly pay rate used to calculate the matching contribution must be specified in the proposal. Note that 30% is the **minimum** matching contribution; the greater the percent of the total cost of the project covered by sources other than MAC, the greater the likelihood that the MAC membership will vote to support the project.

4) In 2022, the MAC BOD determined the amount available for each small-grant project proposal will be limited to **\$2,400**.

5) If your proposal wins financial support from MAC, within a month of the end of your project, please submit to the MAC secretary a brief report on exactly what was done, and an itemized accounting of all the money that was spent and all matching funds collected. Projects will generally be reimbursed after they are completed unless an upfront lack of funds makes this impossible. All receipts and bills will need to be submitted to the MAC treasurer for reimbursement. Projects must be completed within one year of approval for funding reimbursement. Six-month extensions may be requested if a progress report/explanation is given; extensions may be approved by vote of the membership.

6) Long-running projects can return to MAC to make successive proposals to fund portions of the larger project. However, each proposal must meet the minimum 30% matching requirement and the annual limit. Moreover, whether a final report was submitted and whether the previous funding was used efficiently and as intended will be considered by the membership when requests are made for additional funding for the project.

updated 3/2022
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Proposal for MAC Revenue Sharing Funds

Sponsor: Keith Rowland
Box MXY #51
McCarthy, AK 99588
(907) 554-4498

Date: March 30, 2022
Project: McCarthy Access & West Side Road Maintenance

Explanation: The West Side Road provides year-round access for many McCarthy area residents.

This proposal would fund two summer bladings and three winter plowings, from John Adams' residence to the end of the West Side Road (Welty's driveway). It also funds the vehicle bridge bypass from John's runway (Stop sign) to the McCarthy Rd. east side.

Cost Breakdown:

12 hr	160M Road Grader (summer blading)(6 hr ea)	\$2160.00
12 hr	160M Road Grader (winter plowing)(4 hr ea)	<u>2160.00</u>
	TOTAL Cost for one year	\$4320.00

Requested funds from MAC: \$2160
Matching funds solicited (50%): \$2160

Respectfully Submitted,

Keith Rowland
Member, McCarthy Area Council

Proposal for MAC Revenue Sharing Funds

Hanagita rd. maintenance 2022

Sponsor: Hannah Rowland (907)-259-5648

Box mxy 39b McCarthy, AK 99588

Date of proposal: April 28, 2022

Project: 2" minus gravel for Hanagita St.

Explanation: Hanagita St. is the road going from the stop sign at John Adam's runway to the corner before the Kennicott River private vehicle bridge. Those who will benefit from this project are those who use the road. It is a main route access to some homes on the West Side and the private vehicle Bridge. The vehicle Bridge is a main access to McCarthy proper, Kennecott, and Nisina Rd. Communities.

Project Description: The project is to overlay 1/3 of the Hanagita St. with a 3" depth of 2" minus gravel. This project will be completed by ROWCON and will be completed this summer/fall.

Cost: The current cost to overlay the entire 1/2 mile of Hanagita St. with a 3" depth of 2" minus gravel is as follows:

529 yds of 2" minus @ \$26/yd, placed: \$13, 754

This cost will be divided by 3 for this project to make the cost at \$4,585.00

This cost covers the cost of operator, equipment and material needed for the project.

Requested funds from MAC: \$2, 400

Matching funds of 48%: \$2, 185.00

10% from ROWCON: \$458.50

Funds still needed to be raised: \$1,726.50