



**STAFF REPORT  
DECEMBER 7, 2015**

**ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCE:**

REPLACE.

Account Balances as of October 31, 2015 (November 30 Balances to be provided under separate report):

Key Bank (SSL --Restricted):	\$ 196, 132
Key Bank Savings -- AMLIP	\$ 160,544
Wells Fargo Checking	\$ 30,865
Wells Fargo Savings	\$ 100,703
Charles Schwab Investment Account	\$ 496,913
Petty Cash	\$ 100
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<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 985,257</b>

**PROJECTS/OLD BUSINESS:**

Regional Energy Planning:

Joined by APIA, BBNA, and KIB, we submitted a response on October 30 to the Department of Energy's Request for Information into the design of their "Remote Alaskan Communities Energy Efficiency Competition". Our submission introduced the work that has been done under the regional energy planning program and the benefit of the community-by-community approach that we take. We hope that the U.S. DOE will take our comments into consideration and design their initiative in a manner similar to the planning process we have already been carrying out, giving us a leg up when they open up to applications during their Funding Opportunity Announcement.

- **Aleutian/Pribilofs:** AEA approved the scope and budget for the Aleutians Energy Plan Implementation Phase in mid-November. The contract extends to June 30, 2016. Much of the work so far has involved updating community energy priorities and preparing to reach out to technical advisors for their advice on steps communities should take to complete their projects. We also have been working extensively with Information Insights on the development of an Implementation Plan database to house this information and track communities' progress as they work through each project step.
- **Bristol Bay:** We are currently waiting for the contract for the Bristol Bay Implementation Phase to be approved by AEA. This contract extends through June 30 as well. Preparation for this phase of work has already begun, most of which has involved bringing BBNA's Annie Fritze up to speed with the Energy Planning process as she is replacing our previous contact, Lawrence Sorenson, who is no longer at BBNA. Consultant Peter Crimp is working with us on the Bristol Bay plan as well, and we are currently working to gather information about the non-residential buildings in each community to ultimately benchmark their energy use for upload into AHFC's ARIS database. On December 7, SWAMC entered into a Bristol Bay Regional Energy Plan Implementation contract with the Alaska Energy Authority in the amount of \$75,000. SWAMC is subcontracting with the Bristol Bay Native Association and Information Insights and the contract runs through June 30, 2016.
- **Kodiak:** Throughout November, we have been assisting Information Insights with their economic analysis of Kodiak priority projects, especially energy efficiency projects to public buildings. They are using the benchmarking forms that were completed by the Kodiak energy committee to estimate potential cost savings with retrofits. We are also working with them to develop the Implementation Plan database, the same that will be used for the other two regions, and filling it in with initial energy project data from Kodiak communities. Additionally, Doug Griffin has been working to put together sample templates to help community representatives get a start on developing their formal resolutions for each project.

Business Retention & Expansion

November 16-18, staff members Brianna Dym and Hope Broecker traveled to Unalaska and conducted 7 in-person Business Retention & Expansion interviews in addition to establishing connections with more businesses to follow-up with over the phone at a later time. Dym contacted Kodiak volunteers in attempt to establish strong Kodiak BRE presence. Dym also

spoke with Stephen SueWing about how to better incorporate volunteers into a BRE program. A BRE Vista Volunteer is being scouted out for Haines, and Dym is interested in seeing if this is an applicable use of Vista Volunteers in SWAMC or other organizations within Southwest Alaska. Dym and Broecker are also scheduled to visit Dillingham December 16-18 to collect more BRE interviews with businesses within Dillingham.

#### Membership & Network

SWAMC has 75 members for FY16. Of those 75, the following distinctions can be made:

- 23 municipal members (4 of which are the major boroughs)
- 33 associate members
- 16 non-profit members
- 3 reciprocal members

\$38,502.40 in membership dues have been collected thus far. Delta Western has confirmed they will renew.

Invoices were electronically sent out July 1, 2015 to specific email addresses. Some correspondents were corrected with feedback, meaning next year's email submission will work more smoothly. Staff also followed up with a physical letter mailed out at the beginning of August with a membership form and return envelope enclosed. This encouraged a large number of membership renewals as well. At the start of September, staff sent out Member Certificates to all of SWAMC's renewed membership for FY16. Staff also spent November and early December making personal phone calls to the remaining outstanding members.

#### Workforce Development

During her time in Unalaska, Broecker coordinated with the local library, the Department of Fish and Game, and the Waste Water Treatment Plant to organize a STEM Education Night, which took place Tuesday, November 17. Thirteen students attended the event and spoke with different STEM experts about their jobs.

#### Manufacturing Extension Partnership

Staff utilized the website 99designs as suggested by Tab Wilkins in order to scout out a logo for the new MAKE Partnership. After 10 days of receiving proposed designs, staff selected a finalist and received the new MAKE logo.

#### Aleutian Fiber -- Broadband Internet Improvement for Aleutians/Pribilofs

Griffin continued research on the best approach to securing funding for a planning grant for the Aleutian Fiber project. The alternatives include applying for an EDA grant that would require match or asking for State funding through the capital budget either for the match or for the entire amount (\$75,000). Neither of these alternatives are very good. There is renewed interest from the Aleut Corporation.

#### Alaska Planning Association Presentation

Doug Griffin and Erik O'Brien served on a panel to discuss energy plans in the Kodiak and Bristol Bay Regions. Jed Drolet of the Alaska Energy Authority and a planner from the Tanana Chiefs Conference were the other speakers.

#### Alaska Municipal League

Doug Griffin dropped by the AML meetings to hear Governor Walker speak. He also attended a presentation by OMB Director Pat Pitney and Revenue Commissioner Randall Hoffbeck of the Walker Administration's Sovereign Wealth Fund proposal to help address the State's budget gap and cash flow issues.

**NETWORKING/MEETINGS:**

- October 30 - Broecker talks to Fred Derick from National Fund about their program and is invited to monthly meeting.
- November 10 – Dym meets with Katie Conway and Jimmy Ord concerning a proposed conference presentation – “Investing in Energy Efficiency”.
- November 12: Broecker meets with Ashley Burns to discuss the new iPad courses at UAS, arranging a possible conference presentation.
- November 16-18 – Dym & Broecker travel to Unalaska, interviewing 7 businesses (Island Grind, Norwegian Rat Saloon, Ounalashka Corporation, Red Fish Electronics, North Port Ventures, Grand Aleutian Hotel, & Ace Air Cargo) for the BRE program.
- November 17: Broecker coordinates STEM Education Night at Unalaska Library.
- November 24 – Dym teleconferences with Stephen SueWing and delivers an update on Business Retention & Expansion, mostly discussing how to re-engage the Kodiak region in the project.
- November 30: Broecker confirms APICC for March Conference.
- December 1: Broecker attends the Serve Alaska Volunteer Collaboration Workshop.
- December 7: SWAMC entered into a Bristol Bay Regional Energy Plan Implementation contract with the Alaska Energy Authority in the amount of \$75,000