



BRISTOL BAY

Regional Seafood Development Association

BBRSDA Board Meeting Minutes

April 19, 2023 – 9:00am AKT

Teleconferenced

1. Call to Order/Establishment of Quorum

President Jackson called the meeting to order at 9:00am AKT. Present were board members Sabo, Morgan, Johnson, Niver, Schonberg, and Andrew; members Luke Peterson, Janis Harsila, and Kelly Stier; and staff members Bursch, Dunn, Machain, McNeil, and Wink. **A QUORUM WAS ESTABLISHED.**

2. Approval of Agenda

Johnson moved and Schonberg seconded to approve the agenda with the amendments of moving the legal discussion into Executive Session and moving Executive Session to item 9 and Miscellaneous business to item 10.

MOTION CARRIED WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

a. March 14, 2023

b. March 29, 2023

c. April 5, 2023

Johnson moved and Niver seconded to approve the previous meeting minutes from March 14, March 29, and April 5, 2023. **MOTION CARRIED WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT.**

4. Seating of New Board Members

Jackson welcomed Fritz Johnson and Mark Niver back on the board as the winners of seat C and F in the board election. Their terms will end in 2026.

5. Election of BBRSDA Officers

Jackson announced he is stepping down from the president position. He thanked staff for all of their work in his tenure and recognized previous board members who brought us to where we are today.

Johnson thanked Jackson for his leadership and activism for BBRSDA over the years and shared appreciation for his energy and commitment.

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Jackson opened the floor for nominations for president. Schonberg nominated Sabo for president. Sabo would prefer if the position alternated between resident and non-resident but said he would be amenable if no one else was interested.

Sabo nominated Johnson for president and Johnson accepted the nomination. **With no opposition, Johnson is the new president.**

President Johnson opened the floor for nominations for vice president. Sabo nominated Schonberg for vice president. Jackson nominated Andrew for vice president. Morgan nominated Sabo for vice president.

Schonberg and Sabo accepted the nominations. Andrew declined and seconded the nomination for Sabo.

The board voted anonymously and Sabo was declared as the winner for the vice president seat 5-2. **Sabo is the new vice president.**

President Johnson opened the floor for nominations for Secretary/Treasurer. Andrew nominated Morgan. Morgan accepted the nomination. With no other nominees, nominations were closed. With no opposition, **Morgan is the new Secretary/Treasurer.**

6. Member Comments

Mike Ferris would like the board to consider looking into ways to possibly tag salmon to get a better idea of where they are going or why they are leaving the river. He would like us to keep working towards the goal of being able to tag and track salmon.

7. Executive Director Report

Wink shared the following: *"Michael "MJ" Jackson has served as BBRSDA's President for the past two years, and vice president for the two years before that. These four years have been perhaps the most remarkable and eventful seasons in Bristol Bay's long history. MJ was a great leader for this organization, and I am deeply grateful for his passionate, devoted service to this fleet. During his time as an officer, we worked with the State to create a set of safety protocols to execute a successful 2020 season, built stronger relationships with fishery managers and research entities, halted Pebble Mine, proposed bold new projects, expanded capacity for RSW technicians, improved our board election process, and acted*

aggressively to market to the record 2022 pack. MJ often acted as unpaid staff allowing us to increase our capacity to get stuff done when needed. He put in an incredible amount of volunteer hours into this board and organization, and I think the fishery is in a really good place as we look toward the future. During MJ's time as an officer BBRSDA has become a more mature, more capable, and more respected organization which ultimately is the greatest enduring benefit to our members. So, in closing, I want to thank MJ for his dedicated service to Bristol Bay fishermen."

Andrew and Johnson seconded Wink's sentiments and requested they be shared in the minutes.

Wink shared the ED report highlighting notable items and responding to any questions. Sabo moved and Niver seconded to approve the ED report.

MOTION CARRIED WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

8. Program Updates & Committee Business

a. Finance

Machain walked through the finance bullets on the ED report and highlighted notable items on the financial snapshot. The finance committee will likely meet again early May before the season and the audit should begin in May as well.

b. Marketing

Dunn continues to work with retail partners on promotions. Most recently, lent promotions have wrapped up and our contractors are kicking off the "summer of sockeye" events. We are tying in food influencer partnerships with our retail partners. Consumers will see how to cook and handle our fish while also being directed to where to buy it.

c. Sustainability

Wink highlighted notable items in the Sustainability program, including:

- Bursch presented at the SWIM scientific conference on April 3rd.
- Staff have contacted Dillingham, Naknek and Egegik about ways to better provide services to dispose of waste fluids.
- Wink and Jackson are collaborating with FRI, ADF&G and UW researchers to collect data on kings in the Nushagak. Looking into a sort of "log book" to track catches of kings in the commercial

fishery and map the location and conditions to see if there are trends. Staff are looking into an app that is cost effective and could help get this up and running. This might be available by the May 4th forecast webinar and volunteers are needed.

- Wink and Jackson will be holding a townhall meeting in Homer, AK next week to meet with fishermen who had questions and wanted to meet.

d. Quality

i. Quality Research & Technical Support Proposals

The quality committee met and approved funding for two RSW apprenticeship proposals (out of 4) and approved full funding for Mark Buckley's proposal and funding of up to \$20,000 for the CQ Foods proposal.

e. Outreach

Bursch is working with Ocean Strategies on the ex-vessel price report. The setnet vote to join BBRSDA is a top priority and updates will continue to be given to the committees and board. The Annual Report is scheduled to print and go out next week.

9. Miscellaneous Business

a. Adopt 2023-2027 Strategic Plan

Jackson moved and Sabo seconded to formally adopt the 2023-2027 Strategic Plan. **MOTION CARRIED WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT.**

b. Proposed changes to bylaws (*pending S04T joining*)

Sabo moved to postpone this discussion for a future meeting to allow time to discuss options with the setnet task force and allow this to go through the normal committee process. Jackson recommended also running this by the advisory panel.

c. Denali Commission Grant Proposal

This is the very last chance for us to accept the \$150,000 of Denali grant funding. Barring any ideas about how to utilize these funds (and board direction), Wink will inform the Commission that we will pass on the grant funds.

Morgan has a contact that he will connect with Wink about possible micro-ice research.

d. Cook v. BBRSDA lawsuit settlement

This was moved to executive session.

10. Executive Session

Niver moved to enter executive session at 9:43am AKT to discuss legal matters. Seconded by Sabo. **MOTION CARRIED WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT.**

Jackson moved and Sabo seconded to exit executive session at 11:04am AKT. **MOTION CARRIED WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT.**

Regarding Cook vs. BBRSDA case 3AN-22-05544 CI, Sabo moved to accept the April 17th settlement agreement proposed by Tim Cook which will be filed with the court and dismiss the case with prejudice for \$30,000.

Seconded by Morgan.

Yea: Sabo, Morgan, Schonberg, Niver

Nay: Johnson, Jackson, Andrew.

MOTION CARRIED 4-3.

11. Future Meetings & Agenda Items

May 9

June 8 – Naknek (plus Member Meeting)

August 8

September 12

October 10

November PME (TBD)

December 12

12. Adjourn

Morgan moved and Jackson seconded to adjourn at 11:39am AKT. **MOTION CARRIED WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT.**

Total meeting time: 2 hours, 39 minutes

Board members in attendance: Andrew, Jackson, Johnson, Morgan, Niver, Sabo, Schonberg