

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
ROAD SERVICE AREA TASK FORCE MEETING**

Minutes 6/21/2022

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Road Service Area (RSA) Task Force was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Gary Foster for the purpose of conducting the meeting.

II. ROLL CALL

Board members present and establishing a quorum were:

VOTING MEMBERS:

Gary Foster, Vice Chairperson
Jashua Leatham
Ken Walch
Darren Zimmer
Stephen Edwards – Alternate

MSB Staff:

Tom Adams – Public Works
Russ Krafft – Purchasing
George Hays – Administration
Tiffany Richards - Administration

Voting Members Absent:

MSB Staff Absent:

Tyler Blazejewski – Operations & Maintenance

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

GENERAL CONSENT: The agenda was approved.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

V. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Patti Fisher suggested posting a video of the meetings on FaceBook, she said the video will gain more attention from community members and it would be beneficial. It would be for informational purposes and available to view once posted, after the meeting has taken place. There was a group discussion and it was decided to check with Public Affairs and test once.

The question was raised regarding whether there is an easy contact button on the RSA Task Force Board page, which is displayed on the MSB website, for the public to be able to email the board members.

VI. CONTACT DISCLOSURE

Task Force members disclosed to the group any conversations they had about Task Force topics with other members, the public, or MSB staff.

VII. PROCESS AND STRUCTURE

There was discussion amongst the group members about the assigned committees. Gary Foster will replace Pat Daniels on the committees. Also, it was decided that the committee's names need to clearly reflect the ordinance that was approved by the assembly.

Committees are assigned and descriptive legislative language included as follows:

Committee 1 - Alternate Contract / Scalability (shall consider):

- A) the adoption and implementation of an alternate contract structure in Big Lake Service Area No. 21 to include, but not limited to, a time and material structure; (and)***
- B) the scalability or applicability of such a method to other road service areas;***

Jashua Leatham
Gary Foster

Committee 2 - Brush Cutting (shall consider):

- C) areawide brush cutting; and***

Steve Edwards
Gary Foster

Committee 3 – Substandard (shall consider):

- D) processes to address substandard roads Boroughwide.***

Darren Zimmer
Gary Foster

Committee 4 - Alternate Specifications (may consider):

- A) how to address the issue of currently maintained roads in RSA 21 which become impassable or have major deficiencies preventing safe public access , to include whether modifications of the existing maintenance specifications are warranted or options for advancing capital improvements;***

Ken Walch
Gary Foster

VIII. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

A. Legal Clarification on OMA – Gary Foster asked the group if there was anyone in need of clarification about the Open Meetings Act; everyone said they understood and didn't need to have the attorney come to the task force to offer clarification.

B. Committee Reports:

- Darren Zimmer submitted a draft for review of the direction Committee 3 is heading regarding the Borough Substandard Road Process. This draft is included in the June 21 handouts.
- Ken Walch provided a draft for review of the direction Committee 4 is heading regarding current road maintenance practices and recommendations for improved management and operations. This draft is included with the June 21 handouts.
- Gary Foster submitted notes for review for Committee 2 regarding brush cutting. This draft is included in the June 21 handouts.

C. Future Agenda Items:

- Presentation from Finance to include copies of RSA budget sheets showing how the mill rate funds are dispersed to the RSAs.

D. Location for July 19 Meeting – Tiffany will schedule a location and let the group know ahead of time.

IX. TASK FORCE MEMBER AND STAFF COMMENTS

Tom Adams – Understanding the “why” behind Mokie Tew requesting this Task Force is important. Tom suggested, and Mokie confirmed, that if contracts had been enforced he would not have seen a need for this Task Force.

Mokie Tew – Under the current contract structure the contractor gets paid whether the specifications detailed in the contract are met, or not met. Contract enforcement has been a problem. Now that Public Works has changed leadership he is hoping this is not an issue moving forward.

Action Items:

- Request Finance present RSA budget sheets and distribution of mill rate money.
- Tiffany will schedule meeting location for July 19.
- Next meeting: Tuesday, July 5, 2022, at the main Borough building in the Lower Level Conference Room, from 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 PM

Minutes Approved on: _____