



MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
TALKEETNA SEWER & WATER BOARD

for
SERVICE AREA NO. 36

Andrew Haag, Chair
James Kellard

Jane Steere, Vice Chair

Ryan Sheldon
Vacant

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

Talkeetna Public Library
24645 Talkeetna Spur Road
Talkeetna, AK 99676

Microsoft Teams
Meeting ID: 219 084 064 569
Passcode: Rwkjk6

March 4, 2026
1:12pm-2:28pm

I. CALL TO ORDER

This regular meeting of the Talkeetna Sewer & Water Board for Service Area No. 36 was held on Wednesday, March 4, 2026, at the Talkeetna Warm Storage Building at 25150 S Comsat Road in Talkeetna, Alaska and via Microsoft Teams. The meeting was called to order at 1:15pm by Drew Haag.

II. ROLL CALL

Talkeetna Sewer & Water Board members present and establishing a quorum were:

Mr. Andrew Haag – present and on-time
Ms. Jane Steere – present and on-time
Mr. Ryan Sheldon – absent
Mr. James Kellard – present and on-time

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to adopt the agenda by James Kellard. Seconded by Jane Steere.

No objections, agenda approved as presented.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS

A. Regular Meeting:

Minutes for the February 4, 2026, regular meeting were reviewed by the Board. Motion to approve the minutes by James. Seconded by Jane.

No objections, minutes approved as presented.

V. STAFF REPORT

A. TSW Supervisor (Amanda Fleming)

- Operator Mike Foster is being promoted from Laborer to Technician effective March 23rd which is his 1-year anniversary. He is provisionally certified in 3 of the 4 systems and will be attending a training course in Anchorage for the 4th certification. He's doing a great job.
- Freeze ups are occurring both in and outside of the system. A freeze warning reminder was put on February statements. Low snow pack is providing minimal insulation so freeze ups are anticipated to extend into the next month, at least.
- The ADEC inspection of the WWTF is nearly complete except finalizing the Quality Assurance Project Plan. The plan is approximately 85% complete and will be submitted to ADEC at the end of the month after internal and external reviews are completed.
- ADEC has officially terminated the Compliance Order by Consent. This essentially resets the facility on the requirements for building a Phase 2 and recognizes that the facility is being operated correctly.
 - *Amanda will research total fines associated with the violations that lead to the COBC by ADEC.*

B. MSB Engineer (Mike Campfield) – not present.

- Update via Amanda – land acquisition is still in the waiting period with DNR. Last update was the request has gone through division review as of February 24th and there are no additional updates.
- There has not been an update from the EPA regarding the additional funding.

VI. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

- ##### A.
- Andrea Larson presented opposition with the MSB pursuit of acquiring DNR parcels 3 & 4 on Front St. Andrea presented a rendition of a water treatment facility and storage tank that she created. She is researching the native burial site that is known within the area to determine if the site is on one of the DNR parcels or one of the other adjacent lots.

Andrea requested the Board draft a letter to the MSB regarding her concerns with

parcels 3 & 4 (see attached letter submitted by Andrea).

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. **Service Area Rule & Rate Changes** – Amanda brought up the potential for a general service fee that is not dependent on seasonal changes such as certifying a backflow device.

Amanda will bring the board a copy of the Rules to discuss potential changes at the next meeting.

- B. **Land Acquisition for New Headworks and Storage Tank Project** – see update from MSB Engineer.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Request to Review Headwork Sites; letter to the board attached

Jane made a motion to draft a resolution to the MSB regarding the concerns with the headworks and storage tank project. Jim seconded.

Group discussed key items to include in the draft resolution; visual impacts, Native Lands, noise, historical trail preservation, flood water diversion, and ARRC lease details. Construction access for companies that dock at the river was also discussed.

No objections to preparing a draft resolution, Drew will bring letter for next meeting.

IX. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

- A. None.

X. NEXT MEETING

- A. Regular Meeting: April 1, 2026, 1:00pm, Talkeetna Warm Storage & Teams

XI. ADJOURNMENT

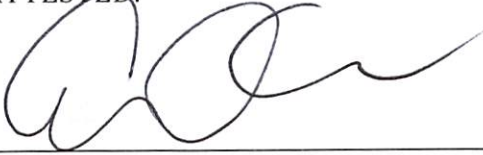
Motion to adjourn Jane. Seconded by James.

No objections, meeting adjourned at 2:27pm.



Mr. Andrew Haag, Chair

ATTESTED:



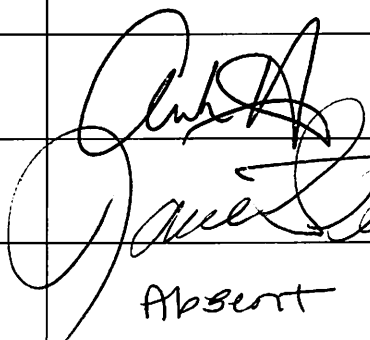
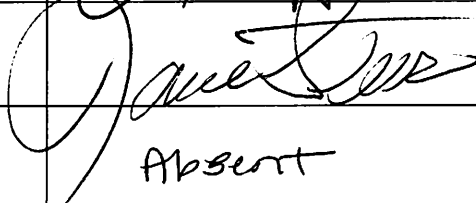
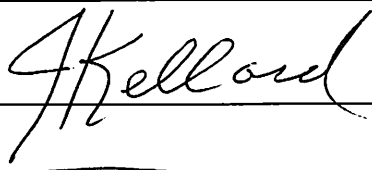
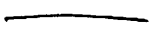
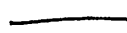
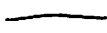
Ms. Amanda Fleming, Board Administrative Support

3/4/26

Date

Talkeetna Sewer & Water Board for Service Area No. 36

BOARD SIGN-IN SHEET

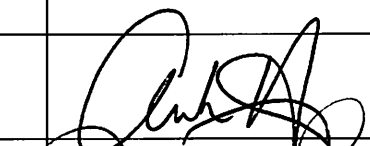
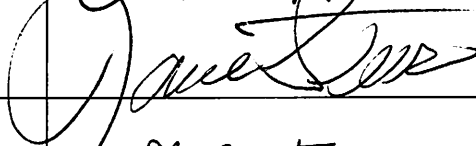
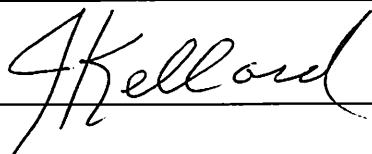
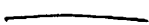


VOTING MEMBER	SIGNATURE	PHONE NUMBER	EMAIL
Andrew Haag		(907) 355-4808	drew@abovealaska.com
Jane Steere		(907) 414-9450	jsste@mtaonline.net tkchinookjane@gmail.com
Ryan Sheldon	Absent	(907) 947-6678	ryansheldon99@gmail.com
James Kellard		(907) 355-1981	tkajim@icloud.com
Vacant			

3/4/26

Date

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	FY18 Actual	FY19 Actual	FY20 Actual	FY21 Actual	FY22 Actual	FY23 Actual	FY24 Actual	FY25 To Date	FY26 To Date	FY26 Adopted	FY27 Projected	FY28 Projected	FY29 Projected
Total Revenues	\$538,100.78	\$1,460,772.84	\$1,061,549.06	\$989,254.36	\$2,202,242.36	\$1,406,601.80	\$2,001,986.52	\$1,477,945.85	\$1,062,488.65	\$1,438,000.00	\$1,466,760.00	\$1,496,095.20	\$1,526,017.10
Total Expenditures	(\$315,567.96)	(\$362,107.71)	(\$1,892,244.11)	(\$808,145.68)	(\$751,864.47)	(\$1,031,477.12)	(\$946,904.01)	(\$1,320,811.72)	(\$723,036.69)	(\$1,048,615.80)	(\$1,100,640.07)	(\$1,115,510.12)	(\$1,130,702.58)
	\$222,532.82	\$1,098,665.13	(\$830,695.05)	\$181,108.68	\$1,450,377.89	\$375,124.68	\$1,055,082.51	\$157,134.13	\$339,451.96	\$389,384.20	\$366,119.93	\$380,585.08	\$395,314.53
Projected Revenues									\$1,062,488.65	\$1,438,000.00	\$1,466,760.00	\$1,496,095.20	\$1,526,017.10
Projected Expenditures								(\$1,320,811.72)	(\$723,036.69)	(\$1,048,615.80)	(\$1,100,640.07)	(\$1,115,510.12)	(\$1,130,702.58)
Capital Projects								(\$14,023.38)	(\$18,130.00)	(\$25,000.00)	(\$85,000.00)	(\$25,000.00)	(\$25,000.00)
Loan - Principal payment								(\$337,254.06)	(\$331,313.00)	(\$336,823.50)	(\$336,303.00)	(\$341,369.00)	(\$346,511.00)
Actual adjustment to fund balance 6/30	\$222,532.82	\$1,098,665.13	(\$830,695.05)	\$181,108.68	\$1,450,377.89	\$375,124.68	\$1,055,082.51						
Projected adjustment to fund balance at end of FY								(\$180,119.93)	\$8,138.96	\$52,560.70	\$29,816.93	\$39,216.08	\$48,803.53
Actual fund balance 6/30	(\$236,952.10)	\$861,713.03	\$31,017.98	\$212,126.66	\$1,662,504.55	\$2,037,629.23	\$3,092,711.74						
Projected fund balance at end of FY								\$2,912,591.81	\$2,920,730.77	\$2,965,152.51	\$2,994,969.44	\$3,034,185.52	\$3,082,989.05
WTP Loan Interest Payment										(\$605.30)			
WTP Loan Principal Payment										(\$5,510.50)			
WWTF Loan Interest Payment										(\$108,841.64)	(\$103,851.07)	(\$98,785.34)	(\$93,643.30)
WWTF Loan Principal Payment										(\$331,313.00)	(\$336,303.00)	(\$341,369.00)	(\$346,511.00)
Capital Funds Returned to Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$756,926.00	\$21,707.08	\$486,645.88	\$1,977.00	\$134,498.40				
Corrected Actual Revenues w/o Cap Project Returns	\$538,100.78	\$1,460,772.84	\$1,061,549.06	\$989,254.36	\$1,445,316.36	\$1,384,894.72	\$1,515,340.64	\$1,475,968.85	\$927,990.25				
Fund Balance w/o Cap Project Returns	(\$236,952.10)	\$861,713.03	\$31,017.98	\$212,126.66	\$905,578.55	\$2,015,922.15	\$2,606,065.86	\$2,910,614.81	\$2,786,232.37				
Sales Tax Revenues	\$163,591.04	\$1,083,732.41	\$667,123.68	\$596,972.98	\$1,034,675.93	\$928,250.93	\$1,055,472.88	\$1,030,556.17	\$574,066.79				
Rates & Fees Revenues	\$369,539.27	\$372,417.83	\$387,724.13	\$378,257.49	\$396,649.02	\$448,877.15	\$453,258.21	\$431,494.11	\$310,729.56				
Interest on Investments	\$146.00	\$221.00	\$499.00	\$258.00	\$1,625.00	\$4,311.00	\$4,241.00	\$4,157.00	\$0.00				
State PERS Relief	\$1,533.47	\$4,401.60	\$6,202.25	\$13,765.89	\$12,366.41	\$3,455.64	\$2,368.55	\$5,129.57	\$0.00				
Other Revenues	\$3,291.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$756,926.00	\$21,707.08	\$486,645.88	\$4,632.00	\$42,772.00				
Totals	\$538,100.78	\$1,460,772.84	\$1,061,549.06	\$989,254.36	\$2,202,242.36	\$1,406,601.80	\$2,001,986.52	\$1,475,968.85	\$927,568.35				
Totals minus Other	\$534,809.78	\$1,460,772.84	\$1,061,549.06	\$989,254.36	\$1,445,316.36	\$1,384,894.72	\$1,515,340.64	\$1,471,336.85	\$884,796.35				

YTD Updated 2/25/26



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Environmental
Conservation

DIVISION OF WATER

PO Box 111800
Juneau, Alaska, 99811-1800
Main: 907.465.5066
Toll free: 866.241.2805
Fax: 907.465.5070
TDD: 1(800) 770-8973
www.dec.alaska.gov

February 23, 2026

CLOSE-OUT LETTER

Compliance Order By Consent Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Talkeetna Lagoon

Mike Brown, Borough Manager, mike.brown@matsugov.us
Tom Adams, Public Works Director, tom.adams@matsugov.us

Dear Mr. Brown,

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has performed a casefile review and acknowledges receipt of all deliverables required by Compliance Order by Consent (COBC) Enforcement Tracking Number (ETN) 15-R0495-40-0002, with the effective date November 29, 2018, with modification effective July 22, 2019. Consistent with COBC Paragraph 47, the Matanuska Susitna Borough timely completed the corrective actions (facility upgrades/modifications) required by the COBC, and paid the financial penalties associated with past violations timely and in full and is not currently in significant noncompliance with their APDES general permit authorization AKG373033. Accordingly, DEC and the Alaska Department of Law are hereby terminating the COBC effective the date of this letter.

No further action is requested of you at this time. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance in protecting public health and the environment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Melinda O'Donnell".

Melinda O'Donnell, Enforcement Officer

Credential No. R-0332

Signed by:
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Currie".
C5AA742EC9494A3...

Jennifer Currie
Assistant Attorney General
Alaska Department of Law

on the 23rd day of February, 2026

cc:

DEC.Water.APDESData@alaska.gov

DEC.Water.Enforcement@alaska.gov

Nicole Warner, DEC

Dino Marchalonis, EPA

February 22, 2026

To: Talkeetna Sewer and Water Advisory Board

Re: Block 26/Lots 3 & 4 - Letter to Matsu Borough
Sewer and Water Facility Location

Dear Drew,

Thank you for taking the time to meet with me at the February 4th Talkeetna Sewer & Water (TSAWB) meeting regarding concerns about a future location for the Talkeetna Sewer and Water upgrade project and in particular, Lot 3 and 4 on Front Street in the Talkeetna Townsite. I appreciated the opportunity to discuss my concerns and issues directly. I had also presented these concerns at the most recent Talkeetna Community Council meeting. As discussed, I am respectfully requesting that the TSAWB write a letter to the Matanuska-Susitna Borough based on the following concerns.

Community and Tourism Impact

First and foremost are the community and tourism impacts. The proposed DNR-owned site on Front Street, Block 26, Lots 3 and 4, totalling 1.42 acres of heavily forested area with trails is highly visible and well-traveled by local residents and visitors within the core of the Talkeetna townsite. These proposed lots border two lodging businesses Swiss Alaska Inn and Talkeetna Trailside Cabins, (my property), private property owners and residences, and are within about one hundred feet of the Talkeetna Boat launch Campground. Additionally, Mahay's Riverboat Service and Phantom Tri-River Charter buses pass this location on drives multiple times daily transporting a large share of summer visitors which impacts them not only visually but also forcing them to endure the ongoing construction and related noise impact of the proposed water facility using the only access road to their boat-launch and the cabins during the limited summer construction season.

Installation of a 375,000-gallon water tank which is typically approximately 48 feet in diameter and up to 30 feet in height would require significant leveling and clearing of most of this Front Street forested land. Based on similar installations, the visual mass of such a structure is substantial. The leveling of nearly an acre of mature trees for the tank pad, associated grading for a backwash lagoon, parking areas, and barbed-wire security fencing would materially alter the wooded backdrop that defines the character of this corridor. This is not simply a utility addition; it would represent a permanent visual shift within the heart of community and a tourism-dependent townsite.

Historical and Cultural Considerations

There are also concerns regarding proximity to known historic and cultural areas, including references to a local Native burial area. Respect for cultural and historic

resources requires careful verification and documented diligence before any disturbance of this magnitude.

Economic and Regulatory Considerations / Heightened Restrictions

From a regulatory and economic standpoint, this property is located within the 100-year flood zone, requiring compliance with increased base flood elevation standards under MSB 17.48 (Floodplain Management). Development within Special Flood Hazard Areas must demonstrate that it must meet FEMA elevation and floodproofing criteria prior to permit issuance. Beyond compliance, numerous FEMA guidance publications and analyses by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and American Society of Civil Engineers have consistently documented that locating critical infrastructure in floodplain areas increases long-term costs due to flood exposure, accelerated corrosion and deterioration of piping systems, higher maintenance cycles, and greater disaster-recovery expense following major flood events. Studies evaluating post-flood infrastructure repair costs after major riverine flood events show that utilities placed within mapped flood zones experience significantly higher long-term lifecycle costs compared to facilities sited outside of flood hazard areas.

In addition to regulatory risk, siting critical water infrastructure in a floodplain increases the potential for service disruption during extreme events — precisely when public health protection is most essential. Long-term financial responsibility for mitigation, elevation retrofits, and future repairs ultimately falls to ratepayers.

Need For Water Infrastructure Improvements

I fully acknowledge the need for water infrastructure improvements, including a treatment plant and the proposed 375,000-gallon water storage tank. However, given the visual, community, cultural, environmental, economic, and regulatory considerations associated with Lots 3 and 4, I respectfully request that the Board write a letter to the Matanuska-Susitna Borough urging careful consideration of pursuing this property and to consider maintaining and expanding infrastructure at the existing Sewer and Water location, or revisit the previous studies of recommended sites or to continue researching alternate locations better suited for long-term sustainability.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration and for your continued service to the Talkeetna community. I'll see you all at the next meeting.

Andrea Larson
Local Business Owner

Cc: Talkeetna Community Council
Swiss Alaska Inn
Mahay's Riverboat Service
Phantom Tri-River Charters