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MINUTES

May 21, 2002

USA/Kodiak Steering Committee

United Salmon Association Office, Kodiak

Call to Order: 4:20

Steering Committee Members Present: Thom Wischer, Virginia Adams, Matt Keplinger, Chris Myrick, Bill Fiorentino

Present via telephone: Bob Allen

Other Present: Erin Harrington

Approval of Agenda:

Motion to approve minutes of April 30 meeting. Keplinger, Fiorentino seconds. Minutes of last meeting approved.

Agenda approved with additions: III.2—Stevens/Zoellick letter received in “In” correspondence; III.5 State taxes paid in “Out” correspondence; V.5 Regular Meeting Times

Correspondence In/Out:

In:

1. Commercial Operators Annual Report Data received from ADF&G
2. Ted Stevens’s office copied a letter from Ambassador Zoellick to Stevens regarding Chilean Free Trade.

Out:

1. Letter to Chamber Supporting Community Branding Project
2. Thank you letters were mailed to members of Lisa Polito’s business writing class who worked on cover letter for marketing package.
3. A letter was mailed to Mundt MacGregor authorizing Schaclter, Adams, and Wischer as authorized callers from USA/Kodiak.
4. Letters were mailed to City Council and Borough Assembly asking them to adopt resolutions opposing farmed salmon, in order that they then have a standing policy on farmed salmon on the books and be able to sign petitions or participate in initiatives against farmed salmon.
5. State taxes were filed, including back taxes.

Schactler said he would like to consider legal proceedings against former USA Accounting firm Moss Adams because of their negligence in filing proper taxes for the Association.

Reports:

Salmon Branding Meeting

Harrington reported that there was a new batch of attendees at most recent Salmon Branding meeting, and that Debora King, Economic Development Specialist, would be writing a USDA grant for a needs assessment for Kodiak salmon branding.

Surefish Training

Quality training went well.

Wischer noted that essential nature of quality training may need to be brought up at Fleet Meeting in Hall.

Negotiation Committee Report

Keplinger reported that red offer had been sent out in past five days. Offer was the same as 2001.

Keplinger noted that market indicators are positive. He indicated market justified same price as in 2001. He also noted some small changes had been made to the post-season adjustment schedule, so that all payments for reds are due in March after the ASPR is released; pink payments are due entirely in July. Also, a contract language item was added so that fishermen be allowed to participate in quality marketing programs without retribution from their processors.

<Negotiations: Confidential>

Harrington reported that ASMI had sent trade leads to USA office.

Wischer reported that Negotiation Team did not have preferred pink offer yet.

Steering Committee Elections:

Adams said election procedures in past had been done according to old bylaws. Asked questions about how elections should properly function.

Keplinger strongly suggested that call for nominations be placed on Fleet Meeting agenda.

Wischer noted that membership needs to be informed that USA works on more than negotiations, including branding/quality efforts, work in federal arena, work on labeling requirements in Farm Bill.

Allen said he thought there was information in first bylaws about elections

Local Salmon Celebration:

Keplinger suggested celebration should be Monday of Crab festival.

Fiorentino noted there is an island-wide closure in early July, or that the music Festival may be a good time. Or June 9, after the first test fishery.

Wischer asked what intent of celebration is. Perhaps to celebrate lifestyle, economics, industry of community, and to share in excitement of fishing community.

Regular Meeting Times:

Wischer said he would like to see the Steering Committee adopt regular meeting times beginning in the Fall.

Grant Opportunities:

Wischer suggested USA pursue grants provided the Association does not lose its overall vision.

Adjourn: 5:50