

DESK PACKET

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Miscellaneous Information

- **09/04/25 Moose Pass APC Meeting Minutes**

MOOSE PASS ADVISORY PLANNING COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING

LOCATION: MOOSE PASS SPORTSMAN CLUB AND ZOOM

TELECONFERENCE THURSDAY, September 4, 2025

6:00 P.M.

UPDATED DRAFT MINUTES

Jennifer Boyle, Kevin Dunham, Jeff Estes, Jeff Hetrick, Bruce Jaffa, David Pearson, Dave Schafer

To join the meeting from a computer, visit <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/9360805262> . To attend the Zoom meeting by telephone, call toll-free 1-888-788-0099 or 1-877-853-5247 and enter the Meeting ID 9360805262. If you connect by computer and do not have speakers or a microphone, connect online and then select phone for audio. A box will come up with a toll free numbers, the Meeting ID, and your participant number. You may join the meeting physically at the Moose Pass Sportsman Club, 33675 Depot Road, Moose Pass, AK 99631

1. CALL TO ORDER at 6:02 PM

2. ROLL CALL - Jennifer Boyle, Kevin Dunham, Jeff Estes, Jeff Hetrick, Bruce Jaffa, David Pearson, Dave Schafer

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA - Update to add Cindy Ecklund for presentation. Jeff H. Move to approve, Jen B. 2nd. Approved

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. June 6, 2025 Kevin D moves, Dave S. Approved.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT/PRESENTATION

(Public Comment for items not appearing on the agenda)

a. Public Comments

Dave Pearson as a member of the public. USFS received FLAP funding (millions of dollars) to improve Vagt Lake trail head for INHT improvements, but the borough and USFS are unable to come to agreement regarding easement. Due to inability to come to an agreement, funding is being pulled at the end of the month. This is an unfortunate loss of opportunity to build a parking lot and services, thus pushing people to park in the neighborhood and to use the restroom on the ground. Dave spoke with the mayor and Robert Ruffner regarding this issue, and no resolution was available.

Jennifer Boyle, Moose Pass - Concern for increased camping in areas without facilities in Moose Pass and lack of facilities for restroom use.

B. Cindy Ecklund -

Spoke with Ruth D'Amico regarding the Vagt Lake Trail Head issue. In an assembly, the mayor said they would not be giving any land away, but more recently in his mayor's report says that they are still working on the Vagt Lake trail head issue. Cindy is seeking an explanation of what this means. She has been in contact with multiple people from USFS. Concern from the Borough seems to be that they do not think the USFS will pay for the 9 acre easement once the land is given. It would be nice if we can get some kind of planner report for clarification.

Another item at the assembly meeting, the approval of appointments to the Planning Commission Boards may change from the mayor needing to approve the commissioners to assembly members.

Recommends sending public comments via email to the clerk (Michelle Turner) and asking to share with the assembly and the mayor.

Bruce moves to suspend regular order of business to revise the agenda.

Dave P. makes a motion to add 6 iv. to write a letter regarding Vagt Lake trail head issue under new business, 2nd Jeff H. Approved.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Borough

i. Conditional Use Permit – Alaska Railroad, Rip Rap Placement along Snow River

Motion to recommend approval of CUP- A by Kevin D, 2nd Dave S, unanimous approval.

Discussion -

Jeff E. concerned about fiber optic cables in shoulder. Would like to request attention be paid to the location of the fiber optic cables as nothing is mentioned in the CUP application.

Bruce J. - there are some old homesteads within the area. Not sure of the status of the homesteads and hopes that borough has been in contact with owners if there are any.

Julie H. - Clarifies that all work will be done within the railroad right away, notice is sent to property owners within 300 ft of the project (from tax assessment).

ii. Planner Report - 2 seats expiring at the end of this month, need to apply on the website. Needs to happen as soon as possible to be able to be approved by the mayor prior to the next MP APC meeting.

Bruce wanted to know if anyone contacted the planners or advisors to the planning commission regarding Vagt Lake improvement.

Julie has not heard anything, but she will make sure Robert Roughner knows that there are concerns.

Bruce would like to know if it's appropriate for the planning commission to bring land issues (land transfers/sales) to the MP APC.

Julie - yes, it will be brought to the MP APC, but once it has been brought to a certain point within the process.

If the APC would like presentations from organizations, info should be sent to Julie with contact info for her to set up.

iii. Report from the Chair

iv. Letter regarding Vagt Lake Trailhead

Kevin D. moves that Bruce writes a letter with APC input regarding our desire to be a part of this conversation. Jen B. 2nd.

Dave P would rather write a letter tonight.

Julie says we can have a special meeting to write a letter but need one week in order to post an agenda.

Dave P moves to amend the motion to write the letter tonight, Jeff E. 2nd. 6 to 1, passes.

Amended motion passes unanimously.

DRAFT LETTER:

The Moose Pass APC is concerned with the lack of communication concerning the Vagt Lake Trailhead. In general the Moose Pass community is in support of recreation facilities in our community and sees them as an economic benefit. Had the APC or the community been asked, we would have supported that the Borough proceeded with working with the USFS in order to come to a mutual agreement on this project. In the future, we would like to be included in discussions regarding opportunities concerning our community.

At our meeting held on September 4, a unanimous motion was passed requesting that the Moose Pass Planning Commission send this letter.

Julie recommends sending the letter through the chair to mayor and Robert Ruffner.

7. OLD BUSINESS

a. None

8. PUBLIC COMMENT - Cindy encourages personal letters be written in support of the Vagt Lake Trailhead project.

Cindy Ecklund terms out in 2 years, so we need another representative from our community.

9. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Kevin D - concern with current issues with federal government websites.

Dave P - Disappointed with the communication with the borough and the bureaucracy of the federal government that has thwarted a funded project that would have a direct positive impact on our community. The opportunity was there and it was squandered and he was dismayed.

Jeff H - This is a bigger problem than just Vagt lake as tourism is being pushed by the state yet there are no services. This issue may not have come through the regular channels through the planning commission which is why we may not have been informed.

Bruce - looking forward to the winter and completing our comp plan. Bruce will be traveling in October, so he will need to zoom in. Dave P. will chair the meeting. Bruce thinks this project was discussed in detail during land selection and is concerned that this wasn't brought to the APC. In 3 days, he had multiple residents come to him with concerns about this project.

10. NEXT MEETING DATE

a. October 9, 2025

11. ADJOURNMENT 7:21 pm, Jeff E moves, Kevin D. 2nd, approved.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Contact the Moose Pass Advisory Planning Commission at:

To send a message to the Moose Pass APC:

<https://www.kpb.us/local-governance-and-permitting/leadership-governance/planning-commission/advisory-planning-commissions/moose-pass-apc>

Click on the last item listed "Send a message to the Moose Pass APC Commissioners"

Send USPS mail to:

Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Department, Attn: Moose Pass
APC, 144 N Binkley, Soldotna, AK 99669