

Seward Bear Creek Flood Service Area Meeting Minutes

June 2, 2025 - 7:00 PM

Regular Meeting

Bear Creek Multi-Use Facility Zoom Meeting ID: 838 7499 8070

David Hettick, Sr. Chair Seat A Term Expires 2026

Bob Reisner Seat B Term Expires 2027

Nicola Murawsky Seat C Term Expires 2025

Rodney Roemmich Seat D Term Expires 2026

Steven Taylor Seat E Term Expires 2027

Andy Bacon Seat F Term Expires 2025

Mark Ganser Seat G Term Expires 2025

A. CALL TO ORDER

The June 2nd, 2025 regular meeting of the Seward-Bear Creek Flood Service Area board was held in person/Zoom. Chairman Hettick called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

There were present:

Board Members

- A. David Hettick, Chairman
- B. Robert Reisner absent
- C. Nicola Murawsky
- D. Rodney Roemmich
- E. Steven Taylor
- F. Andy Bacon
- G. Mark Ganser, Vice Chairman

Also in attendance,

Nicholas Chapman, SBCFSA Program Manager Samantha Allen, SBCFSA Administrative Assistant Julie Hindman, River Center Planner

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Hettick called for unanimous consent to approve the agenda as displayed with no objection.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Hettick called for unanimous consent to approve the May 5, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes with no objection.

E. REPORTS AND PRESENATIONS

1. **Julie Hindman, River Center Planner,** reported that letters were sent last month to property owners in the mapped floodplain within the SBCFSA area, reminding them of permit requirements for development. She noted that the River Center conducted site visits, reviewed outstanding violations, and is working to obtain after-the-fact permits, which will not come before the SBCFSA board. She also provided updates on the status of various local permits.

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2. Nick Chapman, SBCFSA Program Manager reported, reported on ITB 25-060 Streambed Maintenance of Upper Kwechak Creek project, noting that while the bid came in over budget, the contractor signed a contract within the approved budget. He hopes to approve a change order to complete the full project scope. Nick also provided updates on creek conditions across all service areas, highlighting concerns at Upper Kwechak, where erosion is threatening the south bank near the Iditarod Trail crossing. He expressed concern about the potential impact of heavy rain before the aforementioned project begins.

He noted that the State is working on Sawmill Creek, and SBCFSA recently completed a 2,500 cubic yard excavation upstream of the bridge to help center channel flow. Excavation work is also underway on Japp Creek.

- **F. PUBLIC COMMENTS** (LIMIT 3 MINUTES PER PERSON)
- **G. BOARD'S RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- H. CORRESPONDENCE

I. PERMITS FOR REVIEW

1. Multi-Use Permit for Uriarte, River Center #13605

Taylor moved for approval with the comment to remove the top soil requirement. Seconded by Bacon.

VOTE ON MOTION: Approved unanimous.

2. Multi-Use Permit for Matheson, River Center #13640

Bacon moved for approval with the comment to advise northern property owner to consider extending their revetment to connect with this project. Roemmich seconded. VOTE ON MOTION: Approved unanimous.

J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

K. NEW BUSINESS

1. Vote on appropriation of additional funds up to \$115,000 for ITB 25-060 Streambed Maintenance of Upper Kwechak Creek.

VOTE: Approved unanimous.

2. Vote on allowing the River Center to issue Multi-Use permits prior to SBCFSA Board review, upon request by the SBCFSA Program Manager, to expedite the process.

MOTION TO ESTABLISH: Taylor moved for approval, Vice Chairman Ganser seconded.

MOTION TO AMMEND: Vice Chairman Ganser moved to amend the motion to include "when delay would impact the process of the project."

VOTE ON AMMENDMENT: Approved unanimous.

VOTE ON MOTION: Approved unanimous.

3. Establish July Work Session Topic:

Vice Chairman Ganser moved to establish the July Work Session to be a Tour of ITB 25-060 Streambed Maintenance of Upper Kwechak Creek. Taylor seconded. VOTE ON MOTION: Unanimous.

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L. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS AND REPORTS (NO ACTION REQUIRED)

M. PUBLIC COMMENT (LIMIT 3 MINUTES PER PERSON)

N. BOARD COMMENTS:

Nici, expressed appreciation and hopes for a flood-free summer.

Rodney, thanked everyone, especially Julie, for her helpfulness and patience with his questions.

Steven, thanked Julie and staff; appreciated the information for Urairte permit and acknowledged applicant Matheson's presence as valuable for project visualization.

Andy, thanked staff and agreed that having applicant Matheson present was very helpful. **Ganser**, thanked Ben and emphasized the importance of public participation. Highlighted the board's role in representing the community and suggested reviving an annual newsletter to increase public engagement and awareness of projects.

David, thanked everyone; supported the idea of a newsletter and expressed appreciation for staff efforts.

O. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Hettick called for unanimous consent to adjourn with no objection, and with no further business to come before the board, Chairman Hettick adjourned the meeting at 8:08pm.

The next regular work session and board meeting are scheduled for July 7th, 2025

Samantha Allen

Administrative Assistant

Date of Approval

7.7.2025

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