On April 30, 2014 the AAHPA Board of Directors met via teleconference with board members President Phil Benner (Haines), Past President Steve Corporon (Ketchikan); Vice President Carl Uchytil (Juneau); Treasurer Stan Eliason (Sitka); Director Bryan Hawkins (Homer); Director Jean Barrett (Dillingham); and Executive Secretary Kim Elliot (Sitka) all present by telephone call-in at 1:03 p.m. with Director Marty Owen (Kodiak) joining the meeting at about 1335 hours. Alternate Director Pete Williams (Bethel) did not participate.

Resolution 2013-1: Matching Harbor Grant Program – Kim contacted Mike Lukshin and received the following: “The Legislature appropriated funding for all Tier I applications in this year’s capital bill. The projects that got funded are the Whittier SBH ($2.0M) and Sitka’s New Thompson Harbor Transient Float ($2.7M). But this funding is not official until the Governor signs the FY15 capital bill. He still has line item veto power to reduce the funding. We will have to wait until sometime in mid to late June to know what the final amounts are. The Governor has to sign the capital bill before July 1st. The Tier II applications in Akutan and at Sitka’s New Thompson Harbor were not funded.”

Mike also reported that applications are now open for the FY16 Harbor Facility Grant Program. The application deadline is 8/1/14. You can find out more information about this grant program by going to the department’s Ports and Harbors web page at http://dot.alaska.gov/stwddes/desports/harbor_grant.shtml or contacting Mike Lukshin at 907-465-3979.

Resolution 2013-3: Abandoned & Derelict Vessel (ADV) Task Force– Bryan Hawkins reported they had their first meeting in February and those participating include representatives from ADEC, ADNR, ADF&F, USCG, and ADOT. Holly Wells of Birch Horton Bittner & Cherot is providing free legal advice, and Rachel Lord with Cook Inletkeeper organized and chaired the meeting. The first meeting focused on how ADVs are currently handled, what needs exist, and how we can improve ADV management and prevention around the State. There was discussion on communications between stakeholders and to set up a manual of best practices guide. On the organizational side there was discussion regarding ad hoc task force versus Governor appointed board or committee. The consensus is to continue meeting as an ad hoc task force for now but it was recognized that at some time in the future we would want to be acknowledged by the Governor and our state and federal delegates as this would be advantageous for program funding. Additional discussion addressed setting up a data base for documentation of derelict vessels. Another face to face meeting is coming up in on Anchorage May 21st. A goal for that meeting is to set up a newsletter outlining what they are doing and their progress to be distributed to municipalities and other concerned parties. They will to continue to
work on identifying potential derelict vessels and get them into a database. It was recognized that a central agency was needed to handle the database – ADNR looks like best agency but they have funding and staffing issues. Kim suggested when the newsletter is implemented it could be put on the AAHPA Website or a link for folks to find it. Carl asked if this would be brought to the Ketchikan Conference and Bryan said he expects it will be as Rachel will be attending as well as Mike Lukshin of ADOT.

The **2014 Seattle Boat Show** report was not carried forward on the agenda but it will be brought back at the fall Board and Annual meetings.

**Clean Harbors Certification** – Bryan Hawkins congratulated Phil on achieving Clean Harbors certification for Haines and asked him what he felt about the process. Phil felt it was a fair process that included paperwork and things they needed to do. A lot of it was signage to educate the public. Homer is going for recertification which is needed every three years. Bryan doesn’t think it will be too difficult as they have mechanisms in place. Bryan also reported there is money available through ADEC and Rachel of Cook Inletkeeper can help with that grant information. Bryan got one to replace a pump-out station. A link to the Rachel and the Cook Inletkeeper website can be found under our Associate members tab – Cook Inletkeeper.

**Kate Mickelson of ASCE – AAHPA providing support for American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Alaska Section efforts for a type of Alaska “port and harbor report card.”** – Carl Uchytil reported that Kate Mickelson is the President of ASCE and also works for PND is organizing ASCE Members to coordinate an Alaskan infrastructure report card. Turnover within ASCE has hindered the start date and the initiative is delayed until this fall. AAHPA members who were to work on this included Carl, Steve Corporon of Ketchikan, Peggy McLaughlin of Unalaska/Dutch Harbor, Bryan Hawkins of Homer, and Steve Ribuffo of the Port of Anchorage. This issue needs to be kept on our radar and will be brought forward to the fall conference business meetings.

**Alaska Dept. of Commerce – The rewrite of Article V. Officers/Board of Directors are not in compliance with State of Alaska law the way they were changed at the 2013 Conference.** Kim did not know that at the time. She requests that the Board approve rescinding the change and revisit it in Ketchikan at the Annual meeting. She provided an outline of what does need to be done and will bring it back at that time. The Board unanimously approved rescinding the change.

**Valdez 2013 Conference Report** – Kim briefly summarized the 2013 Valdez Conference: 89 attended with $12,827.47 in conference proceeds to support AAHPA and $2,815 from the conference annual raffle for a total to the AAHPA coffers of $15,642.47. A big thank you to Diane Kinney and her dedicated staff for a job well done!

**2014 Conference – Steve Corporon of Ketchikan reported he has had the Civic center reserved since last year for October 13 – 16, 2014 with the 13th and 17th as travel days.** He is starting to build the agenda and he thinks they are on track. His Administrative Assistant that is doing the conference planning is out for medical until June 1st. She did the 2006 conference and has already gotten the Alaska Airlines discount code and blocked rooms at Cape Fox and two other hotels. Be sure to mark your calendars and plan to attend!

**2014 Award & Grant Announcements**

**Employee of the Year**
The City of Ketchikan Port and Harbor Department is hosting the 2014 Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators (AAHPA) annual conference during the week of October 13-17, 2014. All Corporate members are encouraged to choose an Employee of the Year for
your Port and Harbor and submit a letter or email identifying noteworthy achievements of that employee. At the conference, the Association will then recognize all these employees. Please submit your letter or email **no later than September 15th, 2014** to Kim Elliot, AAHPA Executive Secretary at 7 Maksoutoff Street, Sitka, AK 99835 or to aahpa@gci.net.

**AAHPA Grant Program**
The Association’s annual conference, held in one of our member’s communities, is a great educational and networking opportunity. We recognize that smaller communities with harbors have financial limitations that make it difficult to send someone to a state conference. In an effort to help these communities, we are offering grants to help defray the costs of attending the conference to help build their harbor operations. **This year we have $1,500 available. The conference registration fee will also be waived.**

If this interests your community, we invite you to send us a letter of interest by **August 15, 2014**. Since we have limited funds and may receive multiple requests, please let us know why your community would be the best candidate for a grant. Your letter should be sent to Kim Elliot, AAHPA Executive Secretary at 7 Maksoutoff Street, Sitka, AK 99835 or email to aahpa@gci.net. If you have any questions, email or call Kim at 907-747-7677.

**Board & member comments** - Jean asked if anyone had heard how Glo Wollen of Petersburg was doing since the recent loss of her husband and Kim told him she had sent flowers from the group with condolences. Jean also thanked Marty Owen for his services to AAHPA over the years after congratulating him on his retirement. Marty noted that he has been proud to be a member of the organization and been a part of seeing it grow and develop into a very professional group. He also commended Kim on her work with him in his position as Treasurer over the years. Bryan also thanked Marty for his service wishing him the best. Stan also thanked Marty and reported that he is hoping to get his clean harbor certification in May or June now that ANB harbor is completed. Steve related that a spouse of a person working on the Petersburg dock upgrade has been being supportive to Glo Wollen via the church. He also reported first cruise ship on Monday, Berths I & II are done and drive down float should be done by end of May. Carl reported he attended the PCC Conference in Newport, Oregon – their 40th year anniversary this year. Juneau will be hosting their fall conference of 2015. Keynote address was from Chip Hanover (hydroplane racer from the Seattle area) that was quite entertaining. He has new Harbormaster, Dave Borg, a former USCG civilian employee. They also had their first cruise ship last Saturday from the Asian market that was supposed to Kodiak but bad weather diverted it to Juneau. He is also busy with a lot of projects including a $3 million dollar parking lot adjacent to the cruise ship docks. Bid opening next week for Aurora Harbor and awarded a $53 million dollar cruise ship dock project to Manson construction of Seattle. Carl then thanked Marty for his service and asked when is done and who would be replacing him? Marty responded his last day is May 9th and that he was happy to announce that Lon White would be promoted into his position after serving 32 years for Kodiak Harbor system. Carl noted that Lon is also President of PCC and is doing a great job with that organization. Kim told Marty that she would miss him and asked if he was going to come to the Ketchikan anyway and said he thought it is doubtful but maybe. Marty will be announcing his retirement and Lon White’s promotion to the entire AAHPA group soon.

On a final note, be sure to visit our website at [www.alaskaharbors.org](http://www.alaskaharbors.org). All member info is listed under the MEMBER tab on the home page. All members are encouraged to explore the site and please support our sustaining members whenever possible.

*Kim*