

# Hollis Community Council Minutes

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

## MEETING TIME, LOCATION AND ACCESS:

**ALL meetings are held at** (*unless otherwise detailed on meeting notices*):

- 7:00 PM the Second (2nd) Tuesday of Every Month
- the **Hollis Volunteer Fire Department Meeting Room**

**MEMBERSHIP:** ALL Hollis Community Residents

## INDIVIDUALS PRESENT:

- Board Members Present: Carly Eddy, Pam Cheney, Jay Balcolm, Paul Cunningham, Hank Rambosek, Arthur Martin
- Board Members Absent: Dominic Hoy
- HCC Members/Visitors Present: Dinah Rieves, Kurt Cheney, Thomas Hardin, Donna Halvorsen, Linda Holt, Gary Holt, Jessica Hughes, Ron Curtis, Sandy Curtis, April Hoy
- Online/Telephone Present:

## MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

**By:** Hank

**Time:** 07:02 PM

## Approval of minutes from prior meeting:

- Motion to Approve: Pam
- Seconded: Arthur
- Discussion: Carly forgot to type meeting called to order and time.
- Vote:
  - All in favor: 15
  - No: 0
- Abstained: 0

- 1 **READING OF CORRESPONDENCE:** Hank received an email from the auditor. The Hollis Community Council is in good standing with the State of Alaska.
  
- 2 **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Hank, Jay, Cody, some mine folks, and Ron all got together to replace a washed out culvert on the Harris River Road. Yesterday, January 12, they replaced the culvert with one of the culverts behind the fire hall. That is the purpose of the culverts stored at the fire hall, there are two culverts left, and an inventory should be kept.

### 3 **STANDING COMMITTEES:**

#### 1 **Finance Committee:**

**Chair: Dominic Hoy. Committee Members: Ron Curtis, Dan Sharp**

- 1 **Checking account Balance:** \$207,023.98
- 2 **VFD/EMS account Balance:** \$14,572.63
- 3 **Cemetery account balance:** \$4,270.18

#### 4 **Other Finance Business:**

#### 2 **Annual Fire Department Fundraiser:**

**Chair-** Sandy Curtis

- *Report/Update:* The fundraiser will be held on May 2, any interested volunteers contact Sandy.

#### 3 **Hollis Library:**

**Chair-** Danika

- *Report/Update:* See attached notes from Lisa Cates.

#### 4 **Hollis School:**

**Chair:** Lisa Cates

- *Report/Update:* See attached notes from Lisa Cates.

## **5 Fourth of July Celebration:**

**Chair-** Ron Curtis

- *Report/Update:* The 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration is usually held on the Saturday before or after the date of the 4<sup>th</sup>. This year, the 4<sup>th</sup> of July is on a Saturday. Ron is seeking input on what day to hold the community celebration. Volunteers for the committee are needed also, contact Ron if interested.

## **6 Thanksgiving Celebration:**

**Chair-** Lisa Cates

*Report/Update:* No report.

## **7 Cemetery Committee:**

**Chair:** Sandra Nessett

**Committee Members:** Brian Hallstrom, Tom Harden, Gary Holt

- *Report/Update:* There is a tree down at the cemetery.

## **8 Communications Committee:**

**Chair:** Jessica Hughes

**Committee Members:** Carly Eddy, Lisa Cates

- *Report/Update:* The box at the Hollis turnout is a better place to put information for non-community members. There should be a notice posted about how to get put on the HCC email list. Volunteers are needed for the communications committee.

## **9 ByLaws Committee:**

**Chair:** Hank

**Committee Members:**

Tom Harden, Gary Holt, Pam Cheney, Donna Halvorsen, Tia Nardini

- *Report/Update:* No report. No meeting was held this month.
- Anyone interested in attending can come to the meeting, it is held the first Saturday of each month, 4:00 PM at the fire hall.

## **4 APPOINTED COMMITTEES:**

**1 Harbor Committee:**

**Chair:** Ron Curtis

**Committee Members:** Oliver Lewis, Robert Fithian

- *Report/Update:* No Report.
- This committee shall be dismantled and removed from future minutes and agendas.

5 **WORK GROUPS:** None to report

**6 DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

1 **EMS:** Sandy Curtis

2 **Vehicles:** No Report

3 **Emergency Calls since last meeting:** None as of this year.

4 **EMS Training (Third Tuesday, Monthly):** No training next week.

- *Other Report/Update:*

- For the year 2025, the Hollis Volunteer EMS responded to 17 EMS calls. Half of the calls EMS responded to resulted in the person being taken off island to a higher level of care.

- Hollis EMS has received a grant for new battery operated jaws of life equipment. The existing equipment that the EMS has will be offered to other emergency departments on the island, if none of the other departments take the equipment, a bid process will begin.

- A new blivet was purchased in 2025 for water for firefighting. Water for firefighting is sourced from the creek behind the fire hall. There was discussion about possibly using Hank's holding pond to get water in case of fire. Hank requested that the needed equipment come down to his place and test if this would work.

2 **Fire Department:** Paul Randall

3 **Vehicles:** No Report.

4 **Emergency Calls since last meeting:** None.

5 **Fire Training (First Tuesday, Monthly):** No training next week.

- Other Report/Update:
- The gutters on the community fire hall building need to be replaced or removed. Rain water is spilling out of the gutters and splashing against the building, beginning to show signs of damage to the building.
- The exhaust port for the building heater needs to be cleaned out in heavy snow also. A discussion was started about the possibility of replacing the gutters.

## 7 POW Group Membership Reports:

### 1 East POW Advisory Board – John/Lewis

- *Report/Update:* No Report.

## VIII. CONTINUING BUSINESS:

### 1 Alaska Municipal League conference

- **Motions:** None
- **Discussion:** There was confusion about why this item was on the agenda. The AML meets once per year and this past November Hank went to the meeting. This item will be removed from the agenda

### 2 Zoom Meetings

- **Motions:** None
- **Discussion:** Jay had a report about the cost of several options for electronic meetings, free options as well as paid options.
- Free Zoom option allows 40 minutes of meeting time. A paid option is \$13 per month for up to 100 people in a meeting.
- Google Meets option allows one hour of free meeting time. The problem with Google Meets appears to be that the code for the electronic meeting must be sent out as the meeting is started. Paid options for Google Meets are \$3.50 for an option comparable to Zoom, or \$7 per month for a more robust plan.
- This is an ongoing discussion that will be on the agenda for next meeting. Jessica, April, and Jay will continue researching electronic meetings.

### **3 Starlink Account:**

- **Motions:** None.
- **Discussion:** There are continuing troubles with transfer of the Starlink account from a named individual to a business name. Ron suggested being logged into the Starlink wifi at its home base to be able to make changes to the account. This item will continue to be on the agenda.

## **IX. NEW BUSINESS:**

### **1 Sandy Curtis First Aid Class**

- **Motions:** Arthur made a motion to Approve funds not to exceed \$375, Jessica seconded the motion. Unanimous vote of yes, all 15 people present in favor.
- **Discussion:** See attached document.

### **2 Bylaw Changes Submitted for Membership approval**

- **Motions:** None
- **Discussion:** No comments were received about the proposed changes to the bylaws. There was confusion about where to send comments about changes. This item will remain on the agenda.

### **2 Maranda Hamme Southeast Mariculture Catalyst**

- **Motions:** None
- **Discussion:** This speaker did not show up. No action taken, item to be removed from agenda.

## **ADJOURNMENT:**

- 1 Motion to adjourn:** Hank, Pam seconded
- 2 Time adjourned:** 7:50 PM

*Next Hollis Community Council Meeting: February 10, 2026*

## **Hollis School Notes to share at 1.13.26 Community Council Meeting:**

### Academics:

The 2nd quarter, 1st semester of the 25-26 academic year ends this Friday. Report cards will be sent home next week and conferences are scheduled for February 11 & 12, 2026.

### Activities:

The Hollis archery team practices after school. They, along with their coaches Amanda Baker and Tom Harden, will be competing in their 2nd tournament of the year on Friday January 15, 2026.

### Personnel:

SISD has hired Cody Schwegel as our new part time maintenance person. Current priorities are getting water system in compliance so that we will have potable water as well as getting all of the HVAC and other systems operational and in good working order.

### Service Learning:

The Hollis Branch of the Hollis School student service project proving the Hollis Branch of the POW Food Bank is OPEN for our January 2025 Distribution.

Here is a link to our January 2026 Inventory and the amount available for this month for each [1.2026 Food Bank Info](#) household: [1.2026 Food Bank Inventory 1.13.26 -](#)

New applications required for 2026. Blank copies of the FY 2026 application are available at the Hollis Public Library and may also be accessed at the Hollis School. You can access the online copy here: [New FY26 Food Bank Form.pdf](#)

### Student Transportation:

Low attendance this month as no bus this and last week as no substitute. We have one applicant to support us when our driver is absent and we hope to have an interview sooner than later.