

Introduced: 02/18/25
Public Hearing: 05/20/25
Amended: 05/20/25
Adopted: 05/20/25

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 25-020**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY REMOVING PAT DANIELS FROM THE BIG LAKE ROAD SERVICE AREA 21 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

WHEREAS, under MSB 5.25.032, RSA 21 is a service area to provide construction, reconstruction and maintenance of roads, streets, sidewalks and related drainage facilities; and

WHEREAS, since 2022, RSA 21 board of supervisors has consisted of five members; and

WHEREAS, the current membership of RSA 21 is comprised of Pat Daniels, Terry Gorlick, Andrew Traxler, Garland Morrison, and Nate Suing; and

WHEREAS, as with all other road service area boards, the ONLY duties of RSA 21 board of supervisors are:

(1) After public hearing, recommend an annual budget to the manager; and

(2) Make recommendations to the manager and the assembly on building programs, equipment acquisition and disposal, administrative policies and procedures, contracts, maintenance needs, and other matters as the manager or the assembly may request; and

WHEREAS, the RSA 21 board is dysfunctional, frequently at odds with each other, internally combative, and provides average to poor service to the Assembly, Mayor, and Manager; and

WHEREAS, simultaneously, the RSA 21 board consumes a hugely disproportionate amount of time of the Borough Manager, Public Works Department, and Borough staff in general when compared to other RSA boards; and

WHEREAS, no other RSA advisory board has so much infighting, complaining, and dysfunction; and

WHEREAS, no other RSA advisory board takes up a large amount of staff time; and

WHEREAS, for an advisory board which takes up so much staff time, it might be justified if the Assembly and Manager were receiving advice which was of a better quality when compared to other RSA boards, but that is not the case; and

WHEREAS, Borough staff spends hours per month on RSA 21 board issues related to infighting and bickering and not related to advice to the Borough; and

WHEREAS, for board members who are not engaging in the conduct as often as others, or maybe not at all, they will not act to stop the bickering, infighting, and complaints to the Borough about other board members; and

WHEREAS, if any board member claims not to know of the conduct of other board members, this means that member is not engaged and aware of the board member's activities; and

WHEREAS, board members have used their title as board member and advocated directly to Borough staff for items, issues, changes, etc. without board concurrence; and

WHEREAS, members of the public have also contacted the Borough expressing their displeasure and concerns over the functioning of the RSA 21 board; and

WHEREAS, members of the public have also voiced their concerns to the Board about the conduct of meetings and the conduct of board members; and

WHEREAS, less members of the public currently attend board meetings in part because of the dysfunction of the board; and

WHEREAS, the drama, infighting, jockeying, and general dysfunction of the RSA 21 board are apparent at meetings, and are spilling over to social media; and

WHEREAS, removal here is not an issue of who is right and who is wrong, or whose ideas are better and whose ideas are worse; and

WHEREAS, the issue for removal is that the RSA 21 board is dysfunctional; and

WHEREAS, the Big Lake RSA Board of Supervisors was given 90 days before a public hearing on this resolution to fix their issues; and

WHEREAS, since the 90 day period has elapsed, four of the five board members have stopped engaging in activities and tactics

which were outlined in this resolution and information memorandum as being the basis for removal; and

WHEREAS, one member, Pat Daniels, has continued to erode trust in government, put his self interests above others, and refuses to stop engaging in the activities outlined in this resolution and information memorandum; and

WHEREAS, at the meeting of the RSA 21 Board of Supervisors in April 2025, members of the public presented concerns and questions about upgrading a road for maintenance; and

WHEREAS, thereafter instead of responding to the members of the public, Pat Daniels brought up discussions of budget and mill rates and voiced his displeasure about them; and

WHEREAS, Pat Daniels attitude and conduct during his discussions was so disruptive that members of the public left the meeting; and

WHEREAS, after members of the public left, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Road Maintenance Supervisor commented to the Board and everyone in the room, that it was the disruptive conduct that prompted members of the public to leave and it should not be that way; and

WHEREAS, Pat Daniels continues to sow discord, disrupt the business of the meetings, and lash out at others to the point where the public leaves meeting rather than participate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly finds that, for the reasons contained in the recitals of this resolution and the reasons in Information Memorandum No. 25-051, when taken as a whole, good cause exists to remove Pat Daniels from the Big Lake RSA 21 Board of Supervisors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly finds that the good cause to be stated with this resolution is the inordinate amount of Borough staff time consumed by Mr. Daniels with issues unrelated to the advice the board is to give, the corresponding lack of any better advice from the board, the repeated bickering and infighting by Mr. Daniels, the practice of Mr. Daniels advocating for positions or changes on an individual basis and not with board concurrence, the refusal of Mr. Daniels to stop these practices, complaints from the public about the board's functioning, all of the issues and discussions contained in the recitals of this resolution and the reasons in Information Memorandum No. 25-051, and the fact that since this resolution was introduced 90 days ago Mr. Daniels has not stopped his disruptive practices, has continued to erode trust in government, put his self interests above others, and refuses to stop engaging in the activities recited in this resolution and information memorandum to the point that members of the public do not attend, and/or leave meetings because of Mr. Daniels' conduct.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly removes Pat Daniels from the Big Lake RSA 21 Board of Supervisors and declares that seat immediately vacant.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly this 20 day of May, 2025.


EDNA DeVRIES, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:


LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

(SEAL)

YES: Hale, Nowers, Sumner, and Gamble
NO: Fonov and Bernier