

# MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

350 East Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, Alaska 99645 - 907-861-8683

Michael Bowles, District 1  
Stephanie Nowers, District 2  
Dee McKee, District 3  
Maxwell Sumner, District 4  
Bill Gamble, District 5  
Dmitri Fonov, District 6  
Ron Bernier, District 7



Doug Glenn, District 1  
Richard Allen, District 2  
Brendan Carpenter, District 3  
Michael Collins, District 4  
Linn McCabe, District 5  
Ivan Fonov, District 6  
Curt Scoggin, District 7

## MEETING MINUTES

ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS

350 EAST DAHLIA AVENUE, PALMER

JOINT ASSEMBLY/PLANNING COMMISSION

6:00 PM

TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2026

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### I. CALL TO ORDER

The special meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on Tuesday, March 11, 2026, at the Borough Assembly Chambers, 350 E. Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Edna DeVries.

### II. ROLL CALL

**Present:** 6 - Assemblymember Michael Bowles, Assemblymember Stephanie Nowers, Assemblymember Dee McKee, Assemblymember Maxwell Sumner, Assemblymember Bill Gamble, and Assemblymember Ron Bernier

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember Dmitri Fonov

### PLANNING COMMISSION ROLL CALL

**Present:** 4 - Planning Commissioner Doug Glenn, Planning Commissioner Michael Collins, Planning Commissioner Ivan Fonov, and Planning Commissioner Curt Scoggin

**Excused:** 2 - Planning Commissioner Richard Allen and Planning Commissioner Brendan Carpenter

**Telephonic:** 1 - Planning Commission Chairperson Linn McCabe

### III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented without objection.

#### **IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Planning Commission Vice Chair Doug Glenn.

#### **V. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (Three Minutes Per Person.)**

The following persons spoke in support of Matanuska River Gravel Extraction: Simon Gillard and Steve Colligan.

The following person spoke to Waterbody Setbacks: Roy Davis.

The following person spoke in support of the Southern Route for Engstrom Road to Trunk Road Corridor and to the public process being used: Rod Hanson, North Lakes Community Council Chair.

The following person spoke to gravel and mining the Matanuska River: Steve Colligan.

The following person spoke in support of the Southern Route for Engstrom Road to Trunk Road Corridor and how it will effect their property: Greg Sindt.

#### **VI. ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

##### **A. Matanuska River Dredging/Erosion (Requested by Administration)**

###### **26-052** Matanuska River Dredging/Erosion Studies

Alex Strawn, Planning & Land Use Director, provided a report on Matanuska River dredging and erosion.

##### **B. Community Comprehensive Plans (Requested by Administration)**

###### **26-053** Community Comprehensive Plan Summary

Alex Strawn, Planning & Land Use Director, provided a report on Community Comprehensive Plans.

##### **C. Engstrom Road/Trunk Road Connector Route Study (Requested by Administration)**

###### **26-048** Engstrom Road to Trunk Road Corridor

Cole Branham, Project Management Division Manger, provided a report on the Engstrom Road to Trunk Road Corridor.

## **VII. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, PLANNING COMMISSION, AND STAFF COMMENT**

Planning Commissioner Scoggin spoke to zoning.

Planning Commissioner Collins spoke to growth of the Borough and Community Comprehensive Plans.

Planning Commissioner Fonov spoke to the effort that everyone put into the meeting.

Planning Commission Vice Chair Glenn spoke to Public Works long term planning and the need for the Borough to purchase land for the future.

Planning Commission Chairperson McCabe thanked staff for the presentations.

Assemblymember Gamble thanked staff for the presentations and spoke to Community Comprehensive Plans.

Assemblymember Bowles thanked staff for the presentations and spoke to community engagement and long range planning.

Assemblymember Sumner spoke to legislation regarding purchasing of rights-of-way and sewage. Noted plans to direct staff to investigate the septic installation process in the Borough and possibly taking over that responsibility from the State.

Assemblymember Bernier thanked everyone, spoke to long range planning, and said a prayer.

Assemblymember Nowers spoke to sewage, code compliance, growth in the Borough, and property rights. Proposed a referral form to be used internally between the Assembly and Planning Commission.

Mayor DeVries thanked the Planning Commissioners for attending and spoke to upcoming legislation. Opined the effects of choosing the Southern Route on Engstrom Road. Noted that the Assembly could expect more vetoes if they want to grow the government. Thanked staff for assisting members of the public.

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.