

1 CITY OF HOMER
2 HOMER, ALASKA

3 City Manager

4 RESOLUTION 14-073
5

6 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA,
7 EXPRESSING ITS SUPPORT FOR THE KACHEMAK BAY
8 RESEARCH RESERVE AND URGING THE GOVERNOR AND
9 DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME COMMISSIONER
10 CAMPBELL TO HIRE AN INTERIM ON-SITE DIRECTOR AND
11 EXPEDITE EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY A NEW STATE PARTNER.
12

13 WHEREAS, During the last Legislative session, the Homer City Council unanimously
14 adopted Resolution 14-30 expressing its support for the Kachemak Bay Research Reserve
15 (KBRR) and requesting continued financial and administrative support from the State of
16 Alaska; and
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18 WHEREAS, Resolution 14-030 described the substantial scientific, educational, and
19 economic benefits that KBRR brings to the State of Alaska and the City of Homer; and
20

21 WHEREAS, At the end of the Legislative session, a General Fund match for National
22 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) operations funding was restored in the
23 Capital Budget which gave KBRR a one-year reprieve to find a new State partner and secure
24 new matching funds; and
25

26 WHEREAS, Without a new State partner and new matching funds, KBRR will lose
27 approximately \$590,000 in NOAA operations funding; and
28

29 WHEREAS, The loss of NOAA funding will jeopardize all KBRR project funding
30 leveraged from other sources and its ability to secure new grants; a cascading sequence of
31 events that will probably force KBRR to close its doors; and
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33 WHEREAS, KBRR would be a real asset to a new State partner because it brings
34 additional funding, accomplished research staff, new research opportunities, established
35 partnerships with universities, state and federal agencies, and NGOs, and research and
36 educational facilities at the Islands and Ocean Visitor Center; located within the Kachemak Bay
37 and Fox River State Critical Habitat Area and the Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Reserve;
38 and

WHEREAS, The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), Sport Fish Division has served as the State partner and is taking the lead in finding a new State partner; and

WHEREAS, Sport Fish Division staff are very busy with their own programs and budget constraints and may not able to devote the time and resources necessary to make this issue a top priority; and

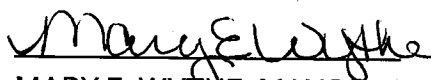
WHEREAS, A draft timeline of KBRR transition activities indicates that there are many complex and time consuming steps to be taken in the next year and that a new State partner needs to be identified as soon as possible in order for KBRR to achieve success and continue operations after this year; and

WHEREAS, The Kachemak Bay Research Reserve Community Council has concluded that a qualified, on-site, interim director is needed whose job is to focus solely on the KBRR transition to a new state partnership.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Homer City Council hereby expresses its support for the Kachemak Bay Research Reserve and urges the Governor and Commissioner Campbell to hire a qualified, interim, on-site director and expedite efforts to identify a new State partner.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Homer City Council this 23rd day of June, 2014.

CITY OF HOMER


MARY E. WYTHE, MAYOR

ATTEST:


JO JOHNSON, MMC, CITY CLERK

Fiscal Note: N/A