BYLAWS OF THE
ESKIMO WALRUS COMMISSION

Article I. NAME
The name of this organization is the Eskimo Walrus Commission (hereinafter “Commission”).

Article II. PURPOSE
The Commission is composed of representatives of walrus-hunting communities of Alaska (“Commissioners”), established for the following purposes:

A. To encourage self-regulation of walrus hunting and management of walrus stock by Alaska Natives who use and need walrus to survive;
B. To provide education, outreach, and information to the public;
C. To ensure maximum beneficial and efficient use of walrus;
D. To represent the walrus hunting communities in reviewing and commenting on statutory or regulatory changes or resource development which may affect walrus, including but not limited to the Endangered Species Act, and the Marine Mammal Protection Act;
E. To involve walrus hunters and users of walrus products in decisions affecting the walrus population;
F. To be involved in scientific, biological and other research programs; and to encourage the government of the United States of America to cooperate with other nations in studies, enforcement, and other involvement in marine mammals management.

Article III. MEMBERS

Section 1. Villages. Commissioners shall be individuals selected by the following walrus hunting communities, one per village: Gambell, Savoonga, Wales, Shishmaref, Diomede, King Island, Nome, Barrow, Wainwright, Togiak, Kwigillingok, Mekoryuk, Kotzebue, Brevig Mission, Kivalina, Stebbs, Unalakleet, Point Hope, and Pt. Lay.
Section 2. Selection. Commissioners shall be selected and removed in a manner to be determined by the Tribal Council of each member village.
Section 3. Voting. Each Commissioner shall have one vote. Each member village shall designate an alternate Commissioner to act in the absence of the regular Commissioner. Each alternate shall vote at meetings in the absence of the regular Commissioner, but shall not be eligible to hold office.
Section 4. Addition of members. Upon request from the Tribal
Council of an Alaska Native Village, the Commission may consent to the seating of new members on the Commission. A new member may be seated upon a majority vote of the members present and eligible to vote.

Section 5. Reporting. Each Commissioner is expected to provide his/her Tribal Council regular reports of Commission activities and issues.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

Section 1. Commission Officers shall include a Chair and a Vice-Chair. The Commission may decide to establish other Officer seats from time to time as necessary. Commission Officers shall be chosen by election of the Commission during a Commission meeting by majority vote of the Commission.

Section 2. Term. Each Officer shall serve for a two-year term following initial terms after adoption of these Bylaws, as provided in Article VI, Section 2. Officers may serve for consecutive terms.

Section 3. Vacancies of Officers. Vacancies of officers by death, resignation, removal from the Commission by a village, removal from office by the Commission, or for other reasons shall be filled temporarily by appointment of the Executive Committee until the next full Commission meeting. The vacancy shall be filled by election of the Commission at the regular meeting of the Commission immediately following the vacancy.

Section 4. Removal of Officers. Officers may be removed for good cause by a 2/3 vote of the Commissioners present at a meeting in which a quorum is present.

Section 5. Powers of Officers.

A. The Chair shall have the following powers:
   1) To call and preside at all meetings of the Commission and Executive Committee;
   2) To speak on behalf of the Commission;
   3) To authorize public statements of Commission positions;
   4) To sign documents on behalf of the Commission;
   5) To perform other duties of the office as prescribed by the Commission or Executive Committee from time to time.

B. The Vice-Chair shall have the following powers:
   1) In the absence of the Chair or in the event of his/her inability or refusal to act, the Vice-Chair shall perform the duties of the Chair;
   2) To perform other duties as prescribed by the Chair, the Commission or the Executive Committee from time to time.

C. Other officers shall perform such duties as may from time to time be assigned by the Chair, the Commission, or the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE V. MEETINGS
Section 1. **Scheduling Meetings.** Meetings shall be called by the Chair at times and places convenient to the Commissioners. Meetings shall be preceded by adequate advance notice, which shall at a minimum be one month in advance of such meetings.

Section 2. **Quorum/Meetings.** A quorum for meetings shall require the presence (physical or telephonic) of at least 51% of Commissioners. A majority vote of the Commissioners present at a meeting shall be required for Commission action. The Commission shall have the power to act without a meeting on urgent matters by telephone poll on a specific question. A majority vote of the Commission shall be required for Commission action without a meeting, except where a 2/3 majority vote is required as provided herein. If the Commission takes action without a meeting, each Commissioner must be contacted or unable to be contacted before such action is taken.

Section 3. **Attendance at Meetings.** Commissioners are expected to attend all duly called meetings of the Commission, unless excused. Commissioners shall not attend Commission meetings under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances. A Commissioner suspected of being under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance will be required to leave the meeting. The decision whether to require a Commissioner to leave a Commission meeting for being under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances is at the call of the Chair. Repeated violations of this Section may result in a moratorium on the Commissioner serving on the Commission, in which case a letter will be sent to the Commissioner’s Tribal Council requesting that they appoint another representative to the Commission.

**ARTICLE VI. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Section 1. **Composition.** The Executive Committee shall consist of the Chair and Vice-Chair and three At-Large Commissioners. The Executive Committee Chair and Vice-Chair seats shall be selected by the Commission as provided in Article IV, Section 1. The three At-Large seats shall also be chosen by election of the Commission during a Commission meeting by majority vote of the Commission.

Section 2. **Term Lengths.** The initial term lengths of the Executive Committee seats upon adoption of these Bylaws shall be staggered as follows:

- Chair: one year
- At-Large Seat (A): one year
- At-Large Seat (B): one year
- Vice-Chair: two years
- At-Large Seat (C): two years

The term lengths for all Executive Committee seats following the initial terms shall be for two years.
Section 3. **Powers.** The Executive Committee shall have and exercise all power and authority of the full body of the Commission to act on behalf of the Commission, except for the following:

1) Electing, appointing or removing an Officer of the Commission or a member of the Executive Committee.

2) Amending, altering or repealing these Bylaws.

3) Dissolving the Commission or merging or consolidating the Commission with another entity.

4) Authorizing the sale, lease or encumbrance of all or substantially all of the Commission’s property or assets.

5) Amending, altering or repealing any resolution of the full body of the Commission which by its terms states that it shall not be amended, altered or repealed by the Executive Committee.

Section 4. **Quorum/Meetings.** A quorum for Executive Committee meetings shall require the presence (physical or telephonic) of three out of the five Executive Committee members. A majority vote of the members of the Executive Committee present at a meeting shall be required for Committee action. The Executive Committee shall have the power to act without a meeting on urgent matters by telephone poll on a specific question. A majority vote of the Committee shall be required for Committee action without a meeting. If the Committee takes action without a meeting, each member of the Committee must be contacted or unable to be contacted before such action is taken. The Executive Committee shall present its meeting minutes to the Commission for approval at the following Commission meeting.

**ARTICLE VII. POLICY STATEMENTS**

Any Commissioners or any approved advisor to the Commission may make public statements regarding issues on which the Commission has taken a position, so long as the content of the statement has been reviewed and approved in advance by the Chair or the Chair’s designee. If the Chair is unavailable to approve statements, the Vice-Chair may do so.

**ARTICLE VIII. ADOPTION AND AMENDMENT**

These Bylaws shall become effective when passed by a vote of a majority of the Commissioners present at a duly convened meeting at which a quorum is present. Amendments to these Bylaws shall be effective if adopted by a vote of the majority of the Commissioners present at a duly convened meeting at which a quorum is present and the members of the Commission received notice that proposed amendments would be considered at the meeting. Such notice must be mailed at least thirty days before the meeting at which the amendments are adopted, and a copy of the proposed amendments must be attached to the notice. Any notice required to be given, if waived, must be waived in writing by each member in attendance at the
meeting at which action is taken without the required notice.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing Bylaws of the Eskimo Walrus Commission were adopted at a duly convened meeting of the Commission at which a quorum was present this 31st day of July 2014, by a vote of 12 in favor, 0 opposed and 0 abstaining.

Charles D. Beower
Chairman