

March 24, 2022

Ms. Marit Carlson-Van Dort
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Mr. John Jensen
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Israel Payton
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Gerad Godfrey
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Glenn Haight
Executive Director, Alaska Board of Fisheries
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Dear Chair Carlson-Van Dort, Vice Chair Jensen, Members Payton, Wood, Mitchell and Godfrey, and Executive Director Haight:

At the Board's upcoming March 26-April 2, 2022, meeting, the Board will consider Proposal 282, which seeks reductions in Area M salmon fisheries for the alleged benefit of the early run of Chignik-bound sockeye salmon. Proposal 282 was submitted as ACR 7 by Don Bumpus, the Vice President of the Chignik Regional Aquaculture Association ("CRAA"). CRAA's Mission Statement says that CRAA "strongly opposes all interception fisheries that target directly or indirectly on Chignik bound salmon."¹

We request that Chair Carlson-Van Dort address the following questions in her mandatory Ethics Disclosure Statement for this meeting under Alaska Statutes 39.52.220 and 39.52.120(c):

1. According to her resume, from June 1992 to August 2005 Chair Carlson-Van Dort was a crewman on salmon seiners in Chignik, namely, the *F/V Aaron C*, *F/V Heidi Linea*, and *F/V Miss Marit*. Please address the following questions:
 - For whom was the *F/V Miss Marit* named? Is the *F/V Miss Marit* still permitted to fish in Chignik salmon fisheries?

¹ <https://chignikregional.com/mission-statement/>

- Who owned each of these seiners?
 - How did Chair Carlson-Van Dort secure employment on these seiners?
 - In addition to being an employee, what if any personal or financial relationship did Chair Carlson-Van Dort have with the owners of these seiners?
 - What if any continuing personal or financial interest does Chair Carlson-Van Dort have with these seiners and/or their owners?
2. According to Chair Carlson-Van Dort's May 4, 2020, email to then-Chair Reed Moriskey, Chair Carlson-Van Dort volunteered in a very limited capacity with the Chignik Intertribal Coalition beginning with a request from the Coalition for Chair Carlson-Van Dort to call into teleconference meetings in late June or early July of 2018 in response to increasing local concern about the failure of the early sockeye run return. Chair Carlson-Van Dort volunteered to assist with some outreach because of her experience working with state agencies and in government affairs. The Coalition also requested that Chair Carlson-Van Dort assist with press inquiries related to the run failure and associated economic impacts. According to her May 4, 2020, email, Chair Carlson-Van Dort's involvement with the Coalition ended in November 2018 and she never received payment for any of her time or the involvement she had with the Coalition. Please respond to the following questions:
- Who from the Coalition contacted Chair Carlson-Van Dort requesting her participation in the teleconference meetings?
 - Who from the Coalition did Chair Carlson-Van Dort work with during the course of her involvement with the Coalition?
 - Did Chair Carlson-Van Dort form any opinions regarding the nature or causes of the 2018 "run failure" from her involvement with the Chignik Intertribal Coalition? What opinions did she form?
 - What outreach did Chair Carlson-Van Dort assist with on behalf of the Coalition? Who did she contact and what information did she convey?
 - What press inquiries did Chair Carlson-Van Dort assist with on behalf of the Coalition? Please share copies of any press materials Chair Carlson-Van Dort assisted in preparing.
 - Why did Chair Carlson-Van Dort choose not to seek any payment for her involvement with the Coalition?

- Does Chair Carlson-Van Dort have, or has she ever had, a professional or family relationship or involvement with any officer, director or employee of the Chignik Intertribal Coalition? If so, please describe that relationship or involvement.
3. According to her resume, Chair Carlson-Van Dort has been employed as the President and CEO of Far West, Inc. since December 2008. In her May 4, 2020, email to then-Chair Moriskey, Chair Carlson-Van Dort stated that Far West, Inc., is the Alaska Native Village Corporation formed under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act for Chignik Bay, Alaska, and that, to her knowledge, Far West, Inc., has never derived any revenue from the local fishing industry. In her email, Chair Carlson-Van Dort also stated that, while some Far West, Inc., shareholders live in Chignik Bay, most shareholders are located in Anchorage or Kodiak. Chair Carlson-Van Dort explained that it has been the practice of the Board of Directors to alternate the annual meeting location between Anchorage and Kodiak in order to reach the majority of their shareholders, and that an annual meeting had not been held in Chignik for over a decade. Chair Carlson-Van Dort further stated that Far West, Inc., owns properties in Chignik Bay, including a converted store, a kitchen and dining room, office space with apartments and a small house. According to Chair Carlson-Van Dort, these properties were developed before her tenure on the Board to provide housing and accommodations for workers brought into the village to construct a small boat harbor infrastructure project in 2001 and that the properties are not operational except for very limited rental of the house and an efficiency apartment primarily for guided sport hunters in the area. Chair Carlson-Van Dort also stated that Far West, Inc.'s revenue is primarily derived from federal contracting through the Small Business Association's 8(a) program and ANCSA 7(j) resource revenue sharing. Please respond to the following questions:
- Do any Far West, Inc., shareholders hold permits to fish in Chignik salmon fisheries? If so, approximately how many Far West, Inc., shareholders hold such permits?
 - Do any Far West, Inc., shareholders participate as crew in Chignik salmon fisheries? If so, approximately how many Far West, Inc., shareholders participate as crew in Chignik salmon fisheries?
 - Do any Far West, Inc., shareholders who live in Anchorage or Kodiak spend part to the year in Chignik? If so, approximately how many Far West, Inc., shareholders spend part of the year in Chignik?
 - Do any Far West, Inc., shareholders have parents, grandparents, aunts or uncles that lived in Chignik Bay? If so, approximately how many Far West, Inc., shareholders

have parents, grandparents, aunts or uncles that lived in Chignik Bay? What if any connection to Chignik Bay is required to be a Far West, Inc., shareholder?

- Is the small boat harbor infrastructure referenced in Chair Carlson-Van Dort's May 4, 2020, email still in use? What is the small boat harbor used for?
 - Does Far West, Inc., have any involvement with the Chignik Intertribal Coalition? Has Far West, Inc., ever provided funding in the form of a grant, loan or other funding to the Chignik Intertribal Coalition? If so, please identify what funding was provided and when.
 - Does Far West, Inc., have any involvement with the Chignik Regional Aquaculture Association? Has Far West, Inc., ever provided funding in the form of a grant, loan or other funding to the Chignik Regional Aquaculture Association? If so, please identify what funding was provided and when.
 - Has Far West, Inc., taken any action in response to reductions in fishing opportunities in Chignik in any year, either in the form of direct assistance or in assisting in obtaining assistance from others? If so, please describe what assistance Far West, Inc., has provided and when.
4. Does Chair Carlson-Van Dort have, or has she ever had, a personal or financial interest in or involvement with the Chignik Regional Aquaculture Association? Does Chair Carlson-Van Dort have, or has she ever had, a professional or family relationship or involvement with any officer, director or employee of the Chignik Regional Aquaculture Association? If so, please describe that relationship or involvement.
 5. Does Chair Carlson-Van Dort have, or has she ever had, a professional or family relationship or involvement with any person who submitted public comment in favor of Proposal 282? If so, please describe that relationship or involvement, including but not limited to Chair Carlson-Van Dort's relationship to the following individuals who submitted comments supporting Proposal 282: Aloys Kopun (PC017); Arlene Kopun (PC030); Axel A. Kopun (PC034); Axel S. Kopun (PC035); Ernie Carlson (PC181); Magda Kopun (PC341); Mylia Kopun (PC396); and Ronan Kopun (PC478).
 6. Does Chair Carlson-Van Dort have a personal or financial interest in any organization that submitted public comment in favor of Proposal 282? If so, please describe that interest.

Area M Seiners Association thanks you, Chair Carlson-Van Dort, for your continued service on the board. The intent of this letter is only to identify possible conflicts of interest in issues related to the Chignik fisheries.

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Sincerely,

Area M Seiners Association
Kiley Thompson, President,