

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, March 1, 2018

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Coastal Villages Region Fund Welcomes New Democratically-Elected Board Members

ANCHORAGE, AK – Coastal Villages Region Fund (CVRF) welcomes seven new members to the Board of Directors, congratulates an incumbent board member on his re-election, and expresses a heartfelt thanks to the outgoing members for their service to the company.

Coastal Villages Region Fund's Board of Directors, made up of one resident from each of CVRF's member communities, is a democratically elected body. One third of the twenty-member Board is elected by the residents of their communities every two years, with members serving six-year terms.

The most recent round of elections was held in late 2017, and all winners have been sworn in and formally seated on the CVRF Board of Directors as of this week:

- Eek: Carlie Beebe
- Hooper Bay: Sandra Tall-Lake
- Kongiganak: Jerry Ivon
- Kipnuk: George Chuckwuk (incumbent)
- Oscarville: Nicholai Steven
- Toksook Bay: Clarence Dull
- Mekoryuk: Albert Williams
- Nightmute: Clement George

"Serving on the CVRF Board of Directors is not easy," said CVRF Chairman Richard Jung from Napakiak. "Every Board member must work to understand the complexities of our business and balance the needs and wants of 20 communities and over 9,300 residents with the demands of operating large-scale fishing operations. We do not survive on grant funding – we must earn our economic independence by fishing for pollock, crab, cod, and other species in the Bering Sea."

The CVRF Board sets the overall strategy for Coastal's operations, and the staff carries out that strategy. The company operates a fleet of pollock, crab, and cod vessels that compete in the worldwide market. The earnings from those operations are then used to provide sustainable programs that encourage economic and human capital (people) development equitably in CVRF's 20 member communities.

"I am excited about the fork in the road that we have taken in the last couple years, to focus more heavily on the youngsters in our communities," said CVRF Vice Chairman Stephen Maxie, Jr. from Napaskiak. "It puts a smile on my face when I see crowds of kids heading to work for our summer Youth-to-Work program, and when I think about all the other opportunities that CVRF offers for the people of our region to find their own self-reliance. There is a renewed sense of hope out here based on our focus on fairness and equality."

The CVRF Board of Directors meets quarterly and is scheduled to hold its next meeting in April.

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Coastal Villages Region Fund (CVRF) is a 501(c)(4) Alaska non-profit corporation with 20 member communities located along the west coast of Alaska, from Scammon Bay to Platinum. It is one of six Community Development Quota (CDQ) groups granted fishing rights in the Bering Sea to foster sustainable and diversified local economies in western Alaska.

CVRF is dedicated to creating sensible, tangible, and long-term economic development opportunities that generate hope for the more than 9,300 residents of its communities. CVRF is governed by a Board of Directors consisting of one member elected from each community. It is the largest Alaskan-owned seafood company in history and the first CDQ group to own and control the vessels that harvest the vast majority of its CDQ allocations.

For more information, visit www.CoastalVillages.org and www.facebook.com/CoastalVillagesRegionFund.