

**ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE  
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

**MARCH 12, 2025  
5:15 PM**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Representative Sara Hannan, Chair  
Senator Gary Stevens, Vice Chair  
Representative Ashley Carrick  
Representative Bryce Edgmon  
Representative Chuck Kopp  
Representative Mike Prax  
Representative Calvin Schrage  
Representative Louise Stutes  
Senator Matt Claman  
Senator Cathy Giessel  
Senator Elvi Gray-Jackson  
Senator Jesse Kiehl

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Representative Donna Mears (alternate)  
Senator Lyman Hoffman  
Senator Bert Stedman  
Senator Löki Tobin (alternate)

**OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT**

Senator James Kaufman

**AGENDA**

APPROVAL OF AGENDA  
APPROVAL OF MINUTES  
SANCTIONING OF CHARITABLE EVENTS  
EXECUTIVE SESSION

**SPEAKER REGISTER**

Megan Wallace, Legislative Affairs Agency (LAA), Legal  
Services Chief Counsel

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

5:18:32 PM

CHAIR HANNAN called the Legislative Council meeting to order at 5:18pm on Wednesday, March 12, 2025, in Room 532 (Senate Finance) of the State Capitol. Present at the call were Representatives Carrick, Edgmon, Prax, Schrage, Hannan; Senators Claman, Giessel, Gray-Jackson, Kiehl, Stevens.

Ten members present.

Representative Kopp joined the meeting at 5:22pm.  
Representative Stutes joined the meeting at 5:32pm.

**II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

5:20:06 PM

VICE CHAIR STEVENS moved and asked unanimous consent that Legislative Council approve the agenda as presented.

The motion passed without objection.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**a. February 12, 2025, Minutes**

5:20:29 PM

VICE CHAIR STEVENS moved and asked unanimous consent that Legislative Council approve the minutes dated February 12, 2025, as presented.

The minutes were approved without objection.

**IV. SANCTIONING OF CHARITABLE EVENTS**

- 1. Kenai River Junior Classic - August 5-6, 2025**
- 2. Ted Stevens Kenai River Classic - August 20-22, 2025**
- 3. Kenai River Women's Classic - September 11-13, 2025**

5:20:56 PM

VICE CHAIR STEVENS moved and asked unanimous consent that Legislative Council ratify the Chair's sanctioning of the following charitable events per AS 24.60.080(a)(2)(B):

1. Kenai River Junior Classic - August 5 - 6, 2025
2. Ted Stevens Kenai River Classic - August 20 - 22, 2025
3. Kenai River Women's Classic - September 11 - 13, 2025

CHAIR HANNAN objected for the purpose of discussion and stated that the 501(c)(3) status of the Kenai River Sportfishing Association had been verified.

There was no discussion. Chair Hannan removed her objection and the sanctioning of the three charitable events were ratified.

**V. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**a. Consideration of an Appeal in Legislative Council v. Attorney General Treg Taylor, et al.**

CHAIR HANNAN stated that Legislative Council would go into Executive Session for a briefing and consideration of an appeal to the State Supreme Court following the Superior Court's February 18 decision in the Legislative Council versus State Department of Law litigation.

5:22:21 PM

VICE CHAIR STEVENS moved that the Legislative Council go into Executive Session under Uniform Rule 22(B)(1), discussion of matters, the immediate knowledge of which would adversely affect the finances of a government unit and 22(B)(3), discussion of a matter that may, by law, be required to be confidential. The following people may remain in the room or on-line for the Executive Session: Whitney Brown, Jessica Geary, Santé Lesh, Megan Wallace, Emily Nauman, any legislators not on Legislative Council, and any staff of Legislative Council members.

5:23:20 PM

Council went into Executive Session.

6:08:27 PM

Council came out of Executive Session.

A roll call vote was taken to establish a quorum.

Present at the call were Representatives Carrick, Edgmon, Kopp, Prax, Schrage, Stutes, Hannan; Senators Claman, Giessel, Gray-Jackson, Kiehl, Stevens.

Twelve members present.

6:09:52 PM

VICE CHAIR STEVENS moved that Legislative Council authorize the appeal of the superior court's decision in *Legislative Council v. Taylor, et al*, Case No. 3AN-24-04218 CI and approve an amendment to the existing contract with Stoel Rives, dated August 22, 2024, and amended February 14, 2025, to increase the contract amount by \$120,000 for a total amount not to

**-DRAFT-**

exceed \$230,000, for legal services, litigation, and appeal costs.

CHAIR HANNAN objected for the purpose of discussion and asked Megan Wallace to speak to this item.

MEGAN WALLACE, Legislative Affairs Agency (LAA) Legal Services Chief Counsel, stated that the motion before the committee today pertains to the case of the Alaska Legislative Council versus Attorney General Treg Taylor concerning appropriations made by the legislature in FY21 and FY22 for legal contracts related to the interpretation of the *Janus v. American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees* decision. She explained that on February 18, 2025, the Anchorage Superior Court ruled the lawsuit moot and granted the Attorney General's motion for summary judgment, effectively dismissing the case. The motion will decide whether to appeal the case to the Alaska Supreme Court and whether to increase the funding for outside counsel, currently Stoel Rives, to continue the litigation.

CHAIR HANNAN removed her objection.

REPRESENTATIVE KOPP asked for a roll call vote.

[6:12:04 PM](#)

YEAS: Representatives Carrick, Edgmon, Prax, Schrage, Stutes, Hannan; Senators Claman, Giessel, Gray-Jackson, Kiehl, Stevens

NAYS: Representative Kopp

The motion passed 11-1.

## **VI. ADJORNMENT**

There being no further business before the committee, the Legislative Council meeting was adjourned at 6:13pm.

[6:13:48 PM](#)