

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
SENATE RULES COMMITTEE
January 30, 2001
11:45 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Senator Drue Pearce, Chair
Senator John Cowdery, Vice Chair
Senator Randy Phillips
Senator Johnny Ellis

MEMBERS ABSENT

Senator Gene Therriault (Excused absence)

COMMITTEE CALENDAR

APPROVAL OF CONTRACTS

ACTION NARRATIVE

TAPE 01-1, SIDE A

Number 001

CHAIRMAN DRUE PEARCE called the Senate Rules Committee meeting to order at 11:45 p.m. Present were Senators Cowdery, Phillips, Ellis and Pearce.

CHAIR PEARCE announced that two professional service contracts are before the committee for approval. The first contract is with Mr. Patrick Coughlin to work with the Senate Resources Committee on oil and gas issues that might come before the Legislature. Mr. Coughlin will work on issues surrounding the possibility of commercializing Alaska North Slope gas - not only on a natural gas pipeline, but also on questions dealing with all commercialization projects and other business that pertains to oil and gas that comes before the Senate Resources Committee.

SENATOR ELLIS asked if any work product by Mr. Coughlin will be available to all members of the Senate on an equal basis.

CHAIR PEARCE said it is her expectation that all information will be available to members of the Senate. There may be some work product that contains confidential material so Senators would have to keep that information confidential. That will be determined by the laws of Alaska and the information being made available. She

repeated that it is her expectation that all members of the Senate Resources Committee who want to be a party to anything would have access and that other members of the Legislature will have that access if they so desire.

SENATOR COWDERY moved to approve the contract with Mr. Coughlin.

There being no objection, CHAIR PEARCE announced that Mr. Coughlin's contract was approved.

CHAIR PEARCE informed committee members that the second contract before the committee is with Emil Notti. Mr. Notti will work with both the House and Senate under the direction of Mr. Ted Popely, the Majority counsel, through the Speaker of the House and Senate President. Mr. Notti will be working on relationships within the Native community, state and federal government officials and industry leaders.

SENATOR ELLIS noted that he plans to support the approval of this contract but he does not necessarily represent the views of the Minority Caucus.

SENATOR COWDERY moved to approve the contract with Emil Notti.

There being no objection, CHAIR PEARCE announced the contract was approved. With no further business to come before the committee, she adjourned the meeting at 11:48 a.m.