



Alaska State Legislature Legislative Council Minutes

APRIL 2, 2009

The Legislative Council meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Representative John Harris, Chairman, in the Senate Finance Committee Room and via teleconference.

1. ROLL CALL

The roll was taken. In attendance were Council members: Representatives Harris, Chenault, Coghill, Gatto, Stoltze, Wilson, and Guttentberg; Senators Davis, Ellis and Stevens. Absent members: Senators Hoffman, Olson and Stedman. Staff present: Varni, Bitney, Carpenter, Clothier, Cook, Gullufsen, Ibesate, Lesh, Schofield, and Strong.

Other Legislators present: Senators McGuire and Wielechowski

2. APPROVAL OF MARCH 17, 2009 MINUTES

Senator Davis moved that Legislative Council approve the minutes of the March 17, 2009, Legislative Council meeting as presented.

The motion passed with no objections.

3. NORTH POLE OFFICE SPACE RFP #480

Senator Davis moved that Legislative Council go into Executive Session per Uniform Rule 22(b)(1) and (3) discussion of matters, the immediate knowledge of which would adversely affect the finances of a government unit and discussion of a matter that may, by law, be required to be confidential. She asked that the following staff remain in the room to answer questions: Pam Varni, Tam Cook, Tina Strong, and Curt Clothier.

The Council went into Executive Session.

The Council came out of Executive Session at 5:10 p.m.

Representative Coghill moved that Legislative Council award RFP #480 to Christ Tabernacle Ministries, Inc., operating as North Pole Worship, in the amount of \$34,290 for North Pole office space for the term of one year and; that Legislative Affairs continue to seek out potential new office space in that area.

The motion passed with no objections.

4. GOLDSTEIN LEASE RENEWAL APPROVAL

Pam Varni explained that the Goldstein lease is for storage space in Juneau. We currently have the option for a one year renewal, and the Legislature really utilizes this space. Ms. Varni asked that the Council approve the current renewal option. She went on to advise that there are a couple renewals left under the current lease agreement.

Discussion followed.

Senator Davis moved that Legislative Council approve the FY 10 lease renewal with Goldstein Improvement Company for \$34,340.64.

The motion passed with no objections.

5. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SUBCOMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Chairman Harris noted that in the past we have had a subcommittee that has advised Legislative Council on information technology improvements as well as other technology issues.

He named the following individuals to the 2009 Information Technology Subcommittee:

Rep. John Harris, Chair
John Bitney
Josh Appleby
Don Burrell
Jake Carpenter
Curtis Clothier
Debbie Grundmann
Aurora Hauke
Tim Lamkin
Joel Lounsbury
Julie Lucky
Ryan Makinster
Katrina Matheny
Rynnieva Moss
Shay Wilson

Chairman Harris told Council members that any are welcome to participate.

No action was required on this item.

6. VIDEO STREAMING

Chair Harris stated that Senator French issued a press release regarding a proposal to install streaming video in each committee room. Chairman Harris brought this issue before the Council

for discussion and for members to consider making an investment in engaging an outside expert/firm to scope out a project of this magnitude.

Discussion followed.

Senator Davis moved that Legislative Council look into the feasibility of video streaming in all of the Capitol committee rooms by hiring an expert/firm to recommend the best possible products and design to meet our needs within our budget/resources. This contract should not exceed \$20,000 and will come from LIO funds.

Discussion followed.

The motion passed with no objections.

7. ENERGY POLICY DISCUSSION

Chairman Harris advised members that he received a letter from Senator Lesil McGuire in addition to the memorandum from the co-chairs of the Joint Resources Committee regarding a proposal to hire an energy policy consultant to help the Legislature craft a comprehensive statewide energy policy for Alaska. Chairman Harris noted that both documents are in member packets.

Senator Lesil McGuire thanked the Council for considering the possibility of hiring an energy consultant to assist in crafting an energy policy for the state. The Senator stated that while time is of the essence in developing a policy over the interim in order to have a workable plan to introduce next session, she is not requesting a vote at this time. Senator McGuire asked Legislative Council members to consider the item for a possible future motion.

Discussion followed.

Chairman Harris appointed a subcommittee of Legislative Council to discuss this issue, to try to figure out if there is a way forward in partnership with the Administration, and to come back to the Council with a recommendation. The members of the subcommittee shall be Representatives Guttenberg, Johnson, Neuman, Millett, Edgmon and Chenault, and Senators Huggins, Ellis, Stevens, McGuire and Wielechowski.

The meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.