



# Alaska State Legislature Legislative Council Minutes

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ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE  
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
APRIL 9, 2013  
8:00 AM

## **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Representative Mike Hawker, Chair  
Senator Peter Micciche, Vice Chair  
Representative Mike Chenault  
Representative Max Gruenberg  
Representative Craig Johnson  
Representative Lance Pruitt  
Representative Bill Stoltze  
Senator John Coghill  
Senator Dennis Egan  
Senator Charlie Huggins  
Senator Lesil McGuire  
Senator Kevin Meyer  
Senator Gary Stevens

## **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Representative Peggy Wilson

## **AGENDA**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES  
RATIFICATION OF CHARITY EVENTS  
CONTRACT APPROVALS  
OTHER COMMITTEE BUSINESS

## **SPEAKER REGISTER**

DON JOHNSTON, Building Manager, Legislative Affairs Agency  
PAM VARNI, Executive Director, Legislative Affairs Agency  
LAURA PIERRE, Staff to Senator Fairclough and Project Director  
for the Legislative Audit Remodel  
CURTIS CLOTHIER, Information Services Manager, Legislative  
Affairs Agency

8:03:44 AM

**I. CHAIR MIKE HAWKER** called the Legislative Council meeting to order at 8:03 a.m. in room 532 of the State Capitol. Present at the call were Representatives Hawker, Chenault, Pruitt and Stoltze; Senators Huggins, Coghill, Egan, McGuire, Meyer, Stevens and Micciche.

**II. APPROVAL OF MARCH 21, 2013 MINUTES**

VICE CHAIR MICCICHE moved that the minutes from the Legislative Council meeting on March 21, 2013 be approved as presented.

The minutes were approved with no objections.

Representative Johnson joined the meeting at this time.

**III. RATIFICATION OF CHARITY EVENTS**

VICE CHAIR MICCICHE moved that Legislative Council ratify the following charity events, which were previously sanctioned by the Legislative Council Chair in accordance with AS 24.60.080(a)(2)(b):

**(a) Midnight Sun Charity Shoot** benefitting the Outdoor Heritage Foundation of Alaska;

**(b) JACC Wine Tasting** benefitting the Juneau Arts and Humanities Council; and

**(c) 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Coal Classic Golf Tournament** benefitting Alaska Resource Education.

All of the events previously sanctioned by Chair Hawker were ratified with no objections.

**IV. CONTRACT APPROVALS**

**a. ITB 589: Capitol Stair Landing**

DON JOHNSTON, Building Manager for Legislative Affairs Agency, stated that this project is to renovate the Capitol stair landing in the courtyard to create a semi-enclosed designated smoking area away from the main entrance on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. In response to questions by Chair Hawker, Mr. Johnston stated that three bids were received and the project would be awarded to North Pacific Erectors, Inc., the bidder with the lowest total bid price, which he believes is in the best interest of the Agency if Legislative Council approves.

PAM VARNI, Executive Director of Legislative Affairs Agency, said in response to Representative Stoltze's question about the

funding source for this project that the Legislature has approximately \$16 million in available capital funds for projects that are authorized by Legislative Council.

CHAIR HAWKER noted that the money referred to by Ms. Varni is segregated into a number of subaccounts and allocations.

Ms. Varni clarified that there are some designated areas and part is set aside for the exterior repair, but there are other funds for technology and projects that are approved by Legislative Council.

Chair Hawker further noted that this information is included in monthly legislative expenditure statements in detail; and Ms. Varni confirmed that statement goes to every Legislative Council and Legislative Budget and Audit Committee member, and is available to all members if they would like it.

Mr. Johnston, in response to a question by Senator Coghill, said that all changes will be made to the existing landing and will not encroach on the parking lot.

The motion was approved with no objections.

Representative Gruenberg joined the meeting at this time.

**b. ITB 590: Alaska State Capitol Seismic Retrofit and Exterior Renovation Phase I**

[8:13:44 AM](#)

VICE CHAIR MICCICHE moved that Legislative Council approve the award of ITB 590: Alaska State Capitol Seismic Retrofit and Exterior Renovation, Phase I to Alaska Commercial Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$1,722,800.

CHAIR HAWKER objected for discussion and noted that this item entails the first phase of the exterior retrofit pursuant to the design and plan and bid contract to an architect to set up the bid documents that was approved and released by Legislative Council last December 2012.

MR. JOHNSTON confirmed this is the first of two phases for the exterior project. The work pertains to the crawl space area under the building and the portico. Phase I involves:

1. Removal and salvage of components to the portico at the main entrance of the building: beginning vertically from the granite portico slab up to the 2nd floor windows and horizontally from the east column to the west column, all sandstone and brick will

be removed to expose existing structural concrete. Selected components (sandstone and light fixtures) will be salvaged for reinstallation or used for information purposes to replicate and/or fabricate new replacements in Phase II. For example, the sandstone railings on the portico, if not salvageable, will be retained so they can be duplicated in Phase II to replicate the original construction of the building.

2. Structural work related to reinforcing the portico and preparation for future finish work: new concrete pilasters will be constructed where non-structural sandstone and brick was removed and mechanically fastened to existing structural concrete. The sandstone that is there now doesn't have any structural purpose and it's not mechanically fastened to the concrete - it's primarily just mortar standing up against the building. New concrete pilasters and existing marble columns will support new concrete lintel beams and slab, which will end up being the roof over the portico. Along with that work, the contractor will be core drilling a 4" hole down through the four columns, through the granite base and into existing concrete foundation to install steel reinforcing/pinning and pump-in grout. This is to tie all those columns together as they are currently stacked on top of each other with a small amount of marble resulting in the possibility of them toppling over. Installation of steel brackets and a beam around the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor windows outside the Lounge will be installed for temporary shoring. The temporary shoring is to support the brick façade above the portico, which will be removed in Phase II.

3. Column Stone Repair: injection of epoxy into the cracks of the columns will be performed to tie it all together; removal of stains; re-honing of aged and deteriorated surface to produce an even sheen; re-pointing of mortar joints; and application of water repellent.

4. Repair of concrete structural members in the crawl space: concrete columns, beams and floor joists have spalled concrete and corroded exposed steel reinforcing, requiring repair or replacement. Some of the steel is corroded enough that it will need to be cut out, replaced with new steel and recovered. Detailed information is in the construction documents.

5. Cleaning of existing storm drainage system and creating additional drainage for the crawl space: existing storm drains from the courtyard throughout the crawl space will be cleaned; new PVC and perforated pipe will be added to collect ground water and run off under the building and divert it to catch basins on the exterior of the building. There is quite a bit of water running under the building and there was never any drainage put

in place during the original construction. There were some French drains in the courtyard, which have been plugged up for quite some time - they are believed to be salvageable and just need to be cleaned.

6. Replacement of existing aging and deteriorating waste lines.

7. Removal of excess earth from the crawl space is required to perform the above work, primarily for access to expose the spalled concrete columns, beams and floor joists requiring repair, cleaning of the existing storm drain system, installation of additional drainage in the crawl space, and replacement of existing waste lines as well as proper grading for good water drainage.

The project completion date will be October 30, 2013. In response to a question by Chair Hawker, Mr. Johnston stated that Alaska Commercial Contractors, the lowest bidder for this project, is the right contractor at a good price. He said ACC has performed work for LAA in the past with more than satisfactory results.

Mr. Johnston, in response to a question by Vice Chair Micciche, said that the main entrance to the Capitol will be open as much as possible via a protective tunnel; when that route is unavailable, traffic will be rerouted to either the Main Street or Seward Street entrance.

The motion passed with no objections.

CHAIR HAWKER said it was just pointed out to him that a motion was never made for the previous item - **ITB 589: Capitol Stair Landing**. He asked Vice Chair Micciche to please make the motion.

8:23:10 AM

VICE CHAIR MICCICHE moved that Legislative Council approve the award of ITB 589: Capitol Stair Landing to North Pacific Erectors, Inc. in the amount of \$73,835.

The motion passed with no objections.

### **c. Legislative Audit Remodel: Change Order #2**

CHAIR HAWKER said that contractors had encountered ductwork that had asbestos overspray resulting in a change order for asbestos remediation in the amount of \$201,578.

LAURA PIERRE, staff to Senator Fairclough and the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee, testified in her capacity as project director of the Legislative Audit remodel at the State Office

Building. She confirmed the total amount requested for this change order is \$201,578; the breakdown of which is \$74,961 for architect and engineering work, \$96,617 for removal and replacement of ductwork, and \$30,000 for contractor down time that is required while the remediation is being done.

8:26:00 AM

VICE CHAIR MICCICHE moved that Legislative Council approve change order #2 in the amount of \$201,578 for additional asbestos abatement and environmental monitoring on the Legislative Audit State Office Space Remodel Project RSA with the Department of Administration from existing legislative funds authorized by the Council Chair.

The motion to approve Change Order #2 for the Legislative Audit Remodel Project passed with no objections.

## **V. OTHER COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

### **a. Information Services 2013 Hardware Refresh Recommendations**

CHAIR HAWKER noted for members that this is a recurring item addressed by Legislative Council every year. The IT Subcommittee works with Information Services to review the Legislature's equipment status in each office and makes an annual request for the upgrading of equipment as necessary to maintain offices in all the legislative buildings and for all Legislators. Each member has a memo from Information Services containing the details of the request.

CURTIS CLOTHIER, Information Services Manager for Legislative Affairs Agency, said the 2013 Hardware Refresh request is in keeping with the *3 Year Plan* and has been reviewed and is supported by the IT Subcommittee. The request includes replacement of black and white and color printers, as well as purchasing some additional computer monitors that will be distributed through the Rules Chairs to the two bodies.

Chair Hawker said that while there are requests by Legislators and legislative staff for the latest technology available, he noted for the record that the focus is on replacing equipment when the utility is used up, not to fulfill a request for the latest and greatest. He asked Information Services to be judicious when replacing any particular equipment to ensure each piece's useful economic life has been fully utilized.

REPRESENTATIVE PRUITT asked why CPUs are being replaced with more CPUs rather than a laptop with a docking station which is easier

and less expensive to move, especially since they are moved multiple times a year.

Mr. Clothier said that, as in previous years, a survey will go out to each legislative office asking for their replacement preference. He said Information Services does explain the advantage of laptops. In the last five years, 75% of survey respondents wanted desktop computer replacements and 25% wanted laptop replacements. Perhaps with more iPads in our inventories, offices may get more comfortable with portable devices, but as it stands now, offices prefer desktop computers.

Chair Hawker said that he personally prefers installed desktop equipment and is uncomfortable with the Legislature providing individual Legislators with mobile technology and believes it ought to be confined to offices.

Mr. Clothier added that in terms of the age of the computers being replaced, industry standards are set at three to four years for replacing computers and laptops while the Legislature is on approximately a six year cycle. Some of the laptops slated to be replaced were originally purchased in 2007 and some of the black and white printers were purchased in 2001. The equipment is well-used and well-maintained; when the decision is made to replace a printer, it's because servicing it is no longer viable or an economic value.

[8:33:45 AM](#)

VICE CHAIR MICCICHE moved that Legislative Council approve the solicitation, award and expenditure not to exceed \$136,000 for the purchase of computers, printers and monitors.

The motion passed with no objection.

Chair Hawker said he has been following up with members about the Capitol security issue brought forward by Senator Stevens at the last meeting. In thinking about this issue, as well as from discussions with various members, he has determined that Capitol security is such a paramount issue that it belongs under the purview of leadership along with those who are interested in the matter. He said he was prepared to appoint a Capitol Security Subcommittee with the caveat that he has not spoken directly with every appointee. If there is any member appointed who is not interested in being on the subcommittee, said person(s) should contact his office. Unless there is objection, the following members are appointed to the Capitol Security Subcommittee:

Senator Stevens, Chair of the Subcommittee  
Representative Hawker, Chair of Legislative Council

Speaker Chenault  
Senate President Huggins  
Representative Johnson, Rules Chair  
Senator McGuire, Rules Chair  
Representative Gruenberg, Legislative Council Minority Member

There being no further business before the committee, the  
Legislative Council meeting was adjourned at 8:37 a.m.

[8:37:04 AM](#)