



Alaska State Legislature Legislative Council Minutes

MAY 21, 2014
10:00 AM

MEMBERS PRESENT

Representative Mike Hawker, Chair
Representative Mike Chenault
Representative Craig Johnson
Representative Lance Pruitt
Senator Kevin Meyer

MEMBERS ON TELECONFERENCE

Senator Peter Micciche, Vice Chair
Representative Max Gruenberg
Senator John Coghill
Senator Mike Dunleavy
Senator Dennis Egan
Senator Charlie Huggins
Senator Gary Stevens

MEMBERS ABSENT

Representative Bill Stoltze
Representative Peggy Wilson

AGENDA

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

SPEAKER REGISTER

Pam Varni, Executive Director, Legislative Affairs Agency
Tina Strong, Procurement Officer, Legislative Affairs Agency (via
teleconference)
Jessica Geary, Finance Director, Legislative Affairs Agency (via
teleconference)

[10:05:44 AM](#)

I. CHAIR MIKE HAWKER called the Legislative Council meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. in room 105 of the Anchorage Legislative Office Building located at 733 W 4th Avenue. Present at the call were Representatives Hawker, Chenault, Johnson and Pruitt, and Senator Meyer; available via teleconference were Senators Huggins, Coghill, Egan, Stevens, and Micciche. Representative Gruenberg stated he was present via teleconference for Item II: Approval of Minutes and then, after some technical difficulties, re-joined prior to Item III: Ratification of a Charitable Event.

Representatives Stoltze and P. Wilson were absent.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. March 17, 2014

b. April 3, 2014

CHAIR HAWKER, with Vice Chair Micciche's concurrence, asked Senator Meyer to read the motions since the Vice Chair was participating via teleconference.

[10:07:48 AM](#)

SENATOR MEYER moved the minutes from the Legislative Council meetings on March 17, 2014 and April 3, 2014 be approved as presented.

The motion passed with no objections.

III. RATIFICATION OF CHARITABLE EVENTS

CHAIR HAWKER stated that his staff verified that the Coal Classic Golf Tournament met the statutory requirements to hold a certified charity event and is a 501(c)(3) in good standing. This event was previously sanctioned by the Chair and must be ratified by Legislative Council.

[10:08:38 AM](#)

SENATOR MEYER moved Legislative Council ratify the 22nd Annual Coal Classic Golf Tournament, benefitting Alaska Resource Education, which was previously sanctioned by the Legislative Council Chair in accordance with AS 24.60.080(a)(2)(b).

CHAIR HAWKER stated that a roll call vote was necessary when passing motions since some members were on teleconference, and noted for the record that the motion to pass the minutes had passed unanimously with a quorum, but that there would be roll call votes from this point forward. He also stated that Representative Gruenberg was present via teleconference.

A roll call vote was taken.

YEAS: Chenault, Gruenberg, Johnson, Pruitt, Huggins, Coghill,
Dunleavy, Egan, Meyer, Stevens, Micciche, Hawker

NAYS: None

The motion passed 12-0.

IV. CONTRACT APPROVALS

- a. Bethel Office Lease**
- b. Kenai Office Lease**
- c. Office of Victims' Rights Lease**
- d. Anchorage LIO Security**

CHAIR HAWKER said that Council would first hear about the three office space leases prior to any motions and asked Pam Varni to speak to those items.

PAM VARNI, Executive Director of the Legislative Affairs Agency, stated that the first lease before Council is the Bethel Office Space Renewal No. 5 with Tunista, Inc., and is for the period of July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015.

CHAIR HAWKER interrupted to note that the documents regarding these items had been provided in each member's packet for this meeting.

Ms. Varni continued with the Kenai Office Space Lease Renewal with the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities for the time period of July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015, noting that it was a reduction in rent from last year in that it's based on administrative costs and improvements to the building.

The next lease before Council was the Office of Victims' Rights Renewal No. 2 with L92, LLC, and was also for the time period of July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015.

VICE CHAIR MICCICHE said that the reduction is 50% for Kenai from last year, and asked if we have any control over the costs and keeping it down or is it specifically operating costs.

MS. VARNI responded that it is based on DOTPF's expenditures for the year on their personnel and maintenance. They have made a number of improvements on roofing and windows, etc., and she did work with the Commissioner in prior years to try to see how we could maintain a more level amount from year to year, but the costs go up and down based on the maintenance that they do. She said we have sufficient funds and do budget for this lease and we

have available capital funds if it goes up due to maintenance improvements.

10:14:31 AM

SENATOR MEYER moved Legislative Council authorize the chairman to approve a one-year renewal of the existing lease agreement for the Bethel Legislative Information Office and District Legislators' Offices for a cost of \$57,432.84 with Tunista, Inc.

CHAIR HAWKER said that the roll would now be called by Juli Lucky of his staff to ensure Representative Gruenberg could hear the call.

A roll call vote was taken.

YEAS: Chenault, Huggins, Coghill, Dunleavy, Egan, Johnson, Meyer, Pruitt, Stevens, Gruenberg, Micciche, Hawker

NAYS: None

The motion passed 12-0.

10:16:23 AM

SENATOR MEYER moved Legislative Council authorize the chairman to approve a one-year renewal of the existing lease agreement for the Kenai Legislative Information Office and District Legislators' Offices for a cost of \$51,982.64 with the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities.

A roll call vote was taken.

YEAS: Huggins, Coghill, Dunleavy, Egan, Gruenberg, Johnson, Meyer, Pruitt, Stevens, Chenault, Micciche, Hawker

NAYS: None

The motion passed 12-0.

SENATOR MEYER said that it appears that the Bethel and Kenai office costs are about the same; it was his understanding that there are five Legislators in Kenai and wanted to know how many Legislators would be using the Bethel facility.

MS. VARNI said there were two Legislators using the Bethel facility.

SENATOR MEYER said he assumed that lease space in Bethel must cost more than in Kenai.

MS. VARNI said it was \$2.28 per square foot in Bethel but there wasn't a breakdown in square footage costs for Kenai.

SPEAKER CHENAULT interrupted to say that, using the annual cost of \$51,982.64 for 3,624 of square footage, it comes to roughly \$1.19 per square foot for Kenai office space. Last year, due to the work on the building, it would have been roughly \$2.40 a square foot.

SENATOR MEYER said that obviously the lease in Kenai is with DOT and asked who owned Tunista in Bethel.

MS. VARNI said that she understood Tunista to be owned by one of the Native corporations but she didn't know which one. She further noted that the Agency went out to bid for lease space in Bethel but that there weren't a lot of possibilities there.

SENATOR MEYER asked how many bid responses were received.

TINA STRONG, Procurement Officer for the Legislative Affairs Agency, put herself on record via teleconference.

CHAIR HAWKER noted that Council is being asked to exercise renewal options under the master lease, and that this was renewal number 5.

SENATOR MEYER said if this is the fifth renewal, we've had a lease with this Native corporation for some time, and thanked the Chair before moving to the next motion.

[10:20:45 AM](#)

SENATOR MEYER moved Legislative Council authorize the chairman to approve a one-year renewal of the existing lease agreement for the Office of Victims' Rights Office Space for a cost of \$53,596.44 with L92, LLC.

A roll call vote was taken.

YEAS: Dunleavy, Egan, Gruenberg, Johnson, Meyer, Pruitt, Stevens, Coghill, Huggins, Chenault, Micciche, Hawker

NAYS: None

The motion passed 12-0.

d. Anchorage LIO Security

CHAIR HAWKER said that this contract is for in-building security in Anchorage. We have been growing and expanding over the years;

it used to be a very small contract but now we have full-time security personnel. The proposal is for a \$45,000 contract for 11 months and, on the advice of Ms. Varni and at her request, would be a sole source procurement with our existing security contract. Doing an 11 month contract would allow Legislative Council and LAA to review future security requirements in the renovated LIO building and go out for a contract that is specific to that facility.

MS. VARNI agreed with the Chair's assessment and said she was available for any questions.

10:23:29 AM

SENATOR MEYER moved Legislative Council authorize the chairman to approve an 11-month contract renewal with Arrowdyne Security LLC, dba American Guard Services, to provide uniformed armed security at our Anchorage leased space in an amount not to exceed \$45,000, and also approve the accompanying Procurement Code Section .040 Exemptions Justification.

A roll call vote was taken.

YEAS: Egan, Gruenberg, Johnson, Meyer, Pruitt, Stevens, Chenault, Huggins, Coghill, Dunleavy, Micciche, Hawker

NAYS: None

The motion passed 12-0.

V. OTHER COMMITTEE BUSINESS

a. Late Travel Reimbursement Request: Senator Olson

CHAIR HAWKER, after asking if any staff from Senator Olson's office was present to speak to this item and receiving no response, said that Senator Olson had submitted a written travel request, which has been reviewed very carefully by Jessica Geary in Accounting.

JESSICA GEARY, Finance Manager for the Legislative Affairs Agency, put herself on record via teleconference.

CHAIR HAWKER asked that Ms. Geary give Council assurance that she has reviewed the contract, found all the documentation appropriate and adequate, and all that Council is really dealing with is the timeliness of the reporting. Ms. Geary agreed that was correct.

10:26:06 AM

SENATOR MEYER moved Legislative Council approve the following late travel and per diem claims for Senator Olson for travel commencing on the following dates:

1. July 24-26, 2013 from Golovin to Barrow
2. August 15-16, 2013 from Golovin to Unalakleet
3. September 5-13, 2013 from Anchorage to Barrow
4. November 18-21, 2014 from Barrow to Nome/Stebbins and Anchorage

A roll call vote was taken.

YEAS: Gruenberg, Johnson, Meyer, Pruitt, Stevens, Chenault, Huggins, Coghill, Dunleavy, Egan, Micciche, Hawker

NAYS: None

The motion passed 12-0.

SPEAKER CHENAULT asked if there was an Office of Victims' Rights (OVR) in the Thomas Stewart Building. Ms. Varni said there was not. He went on to say that he had read an article in a Juneau paper about someone being escorted out of the Stewart Building and he was concerned about having OVR in a building where the daycare was also located.

MS. VARNI said she had also read that article and believes the reporter got the buildings mixed up. She thought it was across the street in the Assembly Building and thought it was Public Advocacy. She reiterated that OVR is located in Anchorage and the only offices in the Thomas Stewart Building are House and Senate Records and the Chief Clerk's Office.

CHAIR HAWKER thanked everyone for attending the meeting. There being no further business before the committee, the Legislative Council meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

10:29:34 AM