

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
SENATE LABOR AND COMMERCE STANDING COMMITTEE

March 17, 2016

1:41 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Senator Mia Costello, Chair
Senator Cathy Giessel, Vice Chair
Senator Kevin Meyer
Senator Gary Stevens

MEMBERS ABSENT

Senator Johnny Ellis

COMMITTEE CALENDAR

CONFIRMATION HEARINGS

Board of Veterinary Examiners
Rachel Katherine Berngartt
Hal Geiger
James Hagee

HEARD AND HELD

Board of Marital and Family Therapy
Dorothea Goddard-Aguero

HEARD AND HELD

Board of Psychologists & Psychological Associate Examiners
Allen Lee Levy
Joel Wieman

HEARD AND HELD

Alaska Labor Relations Agency
Jean Marie Ward, Public Seat

HEARD AND HELD

Workers' Compensation Board

Bradley Austin
Sarah Louise LaFave
Amy Margaret Steele

HEARD AND HELD

Board of Barbers and Hairdressers

Michelle Sue Black
Willie Mae Canady

HEARD AND HELD

Board of Certified Direct-Entry Midwives

Deborah L. Schneider
Kathryn Marie Roberts

HEARD AND HELD

Board of Chiropractic Examiners

Jeffrey Ralph Reinharddt

HEARD AND HELD

Board of Dental Examiners

Michael P. Moriarty

HEARD AND HELD

Board of Examiners in Optometry

Pamela M. Steffes

HEARD AND HELD

Board of Massage Therapists

Ron Gibbs

HEARD AND HELD

Board of Nursing

Jennifer Marie Stukey

HEARD AND HELD

Board of Pharmacy

Richard Alexander Holt
Phil Dean Sanders

HEARD AND HELD

Board of Public Accountancy
Karen Brewer-Tarver

HEARD AND HELD

Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers, & Land Surveyors
Frederick W. Wallis
Catherine Mary Fritz
Colin Maynard

HEARD AND HELD

Fisherman's Fund Advisory & Appeals Council
Renee Weddle Alward

HEARD AND HELD

Occupational Safety & Health Review Board
Keith James Montgomery

HEARD AND HELD

Physical Therapy & Occupational Therapy Board
Mari-Margaret Celeste Tydingco
Ruth Anne Kostik

HEARD AND HELD

Workers' Compensation Appeals Commission
James N. Rhodes

HEARD AND HELD

PREVIOUS COMMITTEE ACTION

No previous action to record

WITNESS REGISTER

JAMES HAGEE, DVM, Appointee
Board of Veterinary Examiners
Chugiak, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified as appointee to the Board of Veterinary Examiners.

RACHEL KATHERINE BERNGARTT, DVM, Appointee
Board of Veterinary Examiners
Juneau, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified as appointee to the Board of
Veterinary Examiners.

HAL GEIGER, Appointee
Board of Veterinary Medicine
Juneau, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified as appointee to the Board of
Veterinary Examiners.

DOROTHEA GODDARD-AGUERO, Appointee
Board of Marital and Family Therapy

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified as appointee to the Board of
Marital and Family Therapy.

ALLEN LEE LEVY, Appointee
Board of Psychologists & Psychological Associate Examiners
Anchorage, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified as appointee to the Board of
Psychologists & Psychological Associate Examiners.

JOEL WIEMAN, PhD, Appointee
Board of Psychologists & Psychological Associate Examiners
Anchorage, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified as appointee to the Board of
Psychologists & Psychological Associate Examiners.

JEAN MARIE WARD, Appointee
Alaska Labor Relations Agency
Eagle River

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified as appointee to the Alaska Labor
Relations Agency.

BRADLEY AUSTIN, Appointee
Workers' Compensation Board
Labor seat
Juneau, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified as appointee to the Workers'
Compensation Board.

SARAH LAFAVE, Appointee
Workers' Compensation Board
Fairbanks, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified as appointee to the Workers' Compensation Board.

AMY STEELE, Appointee
Workers' Compensation Board
Anchorage, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified as appointee to the Workers' Compensation Board.

WILLIE MAE CANADY, Appointee
Board of Barbers and Hairdressers
Anchorage, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified as appointee to the Board of Barbers and Hairdressers.

MICHELLE SUE BLACK, Appointee
Board of Barbers and Hairdressers
Anchorage, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified as appointee to the Board of Barbers and Hairdressers

DEBORAH L. SCHNEIDER, Appointee
Board of Certified Direct-Entry Midwives
Wasilla, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified as appointee to the Board of Certified Direct-Entry Midwives.

KATHRYN MARIE ROBERTS, Appointee
Board of Certified Direct-Entry Midwives
Anchorage, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified as appointee to the Board of Certified Direct-Entry Midwives.

JEFFREY RALPH REINHARDDT, DC, Appointee
Board of Chiropractic Examiners
Sitka, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified as appointee to the Board of Chiropractic Examiners.

MICHAEL P. MORIARTY, DDS, Appointee
Board of Dental Examiners
Seward, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified as appointee to the Board of Dental Examiners.

PAMELA M. STEFFES, OD, Appointee
Board of Examiners in Optometry

Sitka, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified as appointee to the Board of Examiners in Optometry.

RON GIBBS, Appointee

Board of Massage Therapists - rural seat

Kodiak, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified as appointee to the Board of Massage Therapists.

JENNIFER MARIE STUKEY, Appointee

Board of Nursing

Wasilla, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified as appointee to the Board of Nursing.

RICHARD ALEXANDER HOLT, RPH, Appointee

Board of Pharmacy

Wasilla, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified as appointee to the Board of Pharmacy.

PHIL DEAN SANDERS, Appointee

Board of Pharmacy

Soldotna, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified as appointee to the Board of Pharmacy.

KAREN BREWER-TARVER, Appointee

Board of Public Accountancy

Juneau, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified as appointee to the Board of Public Accountancy.

CATHERINE MARY FRITZ, Appointee

Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers, & Land Surveyors Juneau, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified as appointee to the Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers, & Land Surveyors.

COLIN MAYNARD, Appointee

Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers, & Land Surveyors

Anchorage, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified as appointee to the Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers, & Land Surveyors.

FREDERICK W. WALLIS, Appointee
Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers, & Land
Surveyors
Healy, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified as appointee to the Board of
Registration for Architects, Engineers, & Land Surveyors.

RENEE WEDDLE ALWARD, Appointee
Fisherman's Fund Advisory & Appeals Council
Homer, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified as appointee to the Fisherman's
Fund Advisory & Appeals Council.

KEITH MONGOMERY, Appointee, Occupational Safety and Health
Review Board, labor seat
Anchorage, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified as appointee to the Occupational
Safety and Health Review Board.

RUTH KOSTIK, Appointee
Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board, public member
Juneau, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified as appointee to the Physical
Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board.

MARI-MARGARET (CELESTE) TYDINGCO, Appointee
Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board
Sitka, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified as appointee to the Physical
Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board.

JAMES RHODES, Appointee
Workers' Compensation Appeals Commission
Ketchikan, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified as appointee to the Workers'
Compensation Appeals Commission.

ACTION NARRATIVE

[1:41:39 PM](#)

CHAIR MIA COSTELLO called the Senate Labor and Commerce Standing
Committee meeting to order at 1:41 p.m. Present at the call to
order were Senators Giessel, Meyer, and Chair Costello. Senator
Stevens arrived during the course of the meeting.

Confirmation Hearings

[1:42:01 PM](#)

CHAIR COSTELLO announced the business before the committee today is to review governor appointments for positions on boards and commissions. She stated her intention to hear from each of the nominees and forward the names in one batch at some later date, if the committee so wishes.

Board of Veterinary Examiners

[1:43:19 PM](#)

CHAIR COSTELLO asked James Hagee to tell the committee about his interest in serving on the Board of Veterinary Examiners.

[1:43:36 PM](#)

JAMES HAGEE, DVM, Appointee, Board of Veterinary Examiners, said he lives in Chugiak and has been a veterinarian for 44 years. The governor asked him to serve another term and he is pleased to do so to work toward getting better services in rural areas through lay and traveling veterinarians. Improving those services was his goal when he was first appointed to the board four years ago and the job isn't finished.

CHAIR COSTELLO thanked Mr. Hagee for his past service and interest in continuing to serve. She asked Rachel Bergartt to tell the committee about her interest in serving on the Board of Veterinary Examiners.

[1:45:32 PM](#)

RACHEL KATHERINE BERNGARTT, DVM, Appointee, Board of Veterinary Examiners, said she has been a veterinarian in Alaska since 2002. She has been involved in a number of different facets of veterinary including private practice, nonprofits, and government work. Her broad background and diverse interests factor into her goal of bringing the many different perspectives of individuals and clients to the board. She opined that there is no better way to get things done than to participate in government.

CHAIR COSTELLO commented that her background is impressive.

SENATOR GIESSEL asked if the Board of Veterinary Medicine was her first choice.

DR. BERNGARTT said yes, but she also would be happy to serve on the other boards she listed on her application.

CHAIR COSTELLO thanked Dr. Bergartt for her time. She asked Hal Geiger to tell the committee his interest in serving on the Board of Veterinary Medicine.

[1:47:46 PM](#)

HAL GEIGER, Appointee, Board of Veterinary Medicine, said he has lived in Juneau since 1982 and retired in 2007 from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game where he served as a biometrician and biologist. He currently has a business that is involved in bio-statistical consulting. He's had a long-time interest in veterinary issues and has been around veterinary issues in the capacity of biometrics, coauthoring papers on veterinary pathology, and anesthesia of fishes. This board seemed to be a good fit.

SENATOR GIESSEL noted his first choice was the State Medical Board.

MR. GEIGER said he believes that the Board of Veterinary Examiners is a better fit and would be his first choice.

Board of Marital and Family Therapy

[1:50:18 PM](#)

CHAIR COSTELLO asked Dorothea Goddard-Aguero to express her interest in serving on the Board of Marital and Family Therapy.

[1:50:43 PM](#)

DOROTHEA GODDARD-AGUERO, Appointee, Board of Marital and Family Therapy, said she has been practicing law for 25 years and was asked by some marriage and family therapists if she would consider serving on this board. Since 2008 she has worked with a team of mental health professionals offering legal services to divorcing couples as a form of alternative dispute resolution. There is a lot of crossover between these two professions. Also, marriage and family therapists are changing the services they offer and she could help write the new regulations. She was honored to be asked to serve and believes she would have a lot to offer the board.

CHAIR COSTELLO noted she had been a volunteer mediator for the Alaska Court System.

SENATOR GIESSEL opined that Ms. Goddard-Aguero would be an asset to the board.

CHAIR COSTELLO thanked Ms. Goddard-Aguero for her willingness to serve.

Board of Psychologists & Psychological Associate Examiners

[1:53:33 PM](#)

CHAIR COSTELLO asked Allen Levy to express his interest in continuing to serve on the Board of Psychologists & Psychological Associate Examiners.

ALLEN LEE LEVY, Appointee, Board of Psychologists & Psychological Associate Examiners, said he's a lifelong Alaskan and has been a practicing psychologist since 2001. The profession and life as an Alaskan has offered him a lot and he'd like an opportunity to give something back. During the past four years the board has enacted regulation changes and made improvements and he'd like to continue that work. Currently he is chair and believes it's important he continue to serve in order to provide stability and continuity. He noted that he has been working with Senator Giessel on legislation to improve public safety regarding the practice of psychology and he'd like to continue that work.

SENATOR GIESSEL commented that Mr. Levy has been an engaged, committed member of the Board of Psychologists & Psychological Associate Examiners and she plans to support his reappointment.

CHAIR COSTELLO asked Joel Wieman to express his interest in continuing to serve on the Board of Psychologists & Psychological Associate Examiners.

[1:56:33 PM](#)

JOEL WIEMAN, PhD, Appointee, Board of Psychologists & Psychological Associate Examiners, said he has been licensed in Alaska since 1983. In the past he has been the secretary and president of the Alaska Psychological Association and was elected to be the representative to the American Psychological Association. He is currently in private practice in Anchorage and would like to continue the board work on legislation to protect the public.

SENATOR GIESSEL voiced support for the reappointment of Dr. Weiman. He is very committed and hard working.

Alaska Labor Relations Agency

CHAIR COSTELLO asked Jean Ward to express her interest in serving on the Alaska Labor Relations Agency.

JEAN MARIE WARD, Appointee, Alaska Labor Relations Agency, said she retired in 2014 after working for more than 36 years for the Department of Labor and Workforce Development, 23.5 of which she served as a neutral with the Alaska Labor Relations Agency. During that time she learned a lot about the Public Employment Relations Act and believes it would be beneficial to continue to use her knowledge to benefit the citizens of Alaska. She enjoyed her work with the agency and is very interested in this type of law.

CHAIR COSTELLO welcomed Senator Stevens to the committee.

Workers' Compensation Board

[1:59:24 PM](#)

CHAIR COSTELLO asked Bradley Austin to express his interest in continuing to serve on the Workers' Compensation Board.

BRADLEY AUSTIN, Appointee, Workers' Compensation Board, Labor seat, said he is the training coordinator/instructor for the Plumbers and Pipefitters in Juneau, and is one of the labor board members. The division asked if he would reapply and he would like to do so to continue working on the legislation that's going through the process along with the associated regulations.

CHAIR COSTELLO asked Sarah LaFave to express her interest in being reappointed to serve on the Workers' Compensation Board.

[2:00:31 PM](#)

SARAH LAFAVE, Appointee, Workers' Compensation Board, said she works for Exclusive Paving and University Ready Mix in Fairbanks. She has been on the board for about six years and initially was asked by then commissioner Bishop to fill a vacant position. She has enjoyed her time on the board and believes that regulation writing and adjudication of cases are equally important. She has a lot to offer the board having been involved with workers' compensation for many years.

CHAIR COSTELLO noted that in 2014 the Chamber of Commerce gave Ms. LaFave the Volunteer of the Year award.

[2:01:54 PM](#)

CHAIR COSTELLO asked Amy Steele to express her interest in continuing to serve on the Workers' Compensation Board.

[2:02:06 PM](#)

AMY STEELE, Appointee, Workers' Compensation Board, said she has been a member of the board since 2011 and is looking for a reappointment. She currently is the senior claims administrator for Chenega Corporation and is in charge of overseeing worker compensation claims for employees, helping them understand their benefits, and acting as a liaison with the insurance companies and adjusters. She has experience in all 50 states and has a lot to bring to the table.

Board of Barbers and Hairdressers

CHAIR COSTELLO asked Willie Canady to express her interest in serving on the Board of Barbers and Hairdressers.

[2:04:17 PM](#)

WILLIE MAE CANADY, Appointee, Board of Barbers and Hairdressers, said she has lived in Anchorage 25 years and been a hairdresser for most of that time. She instructed at a beauty school for 10 years and has been a proctor. She described her interest in giving back to the community and said that with her training and experience, she feels she would be an asset to the board.

CHAIR COSTELLO thanked Ms. Canady for her willingness to serve. She asked Michelle Black to express her interest in serving on the Board of Barbers and Hairdressers

[2:05:47 PM](#)

MICHELLE SUE BLACK, Appointee, Board of Barbers and Hairdressers, said she's a lifelong Alaskan and has been a hairdresser since 1989. She is a licensed hairdresser, instructor, barber and esthetician, and is working on a nail license. She feels she has a lot to contribute to the board.

CHAIR COSTELLO thanked Ms. Black for her interest in serving.

Board of Certified Direct-Entry Midwives

She asked Deborah Schneider to tell the committee her interest in continuing to serve on the five-member Board of Certified Direct-Entry Midwives.

[2:07:23 PM](#)

DEBORAH L. SCHNEIDER, Appointee, Board of Certified Direct-Entry Midwives, said she's a midwife in Wasilla and has been licensed for 15 years. She has a home birth and birth center practice and has served on the board for the past four years. She was recently appointed as chair and would like to continue work the board has been doing to improve midwifery care in Alaska.

CHAIR COSTELLO thanked Ms. Schneider for her interest in serving. She asked Kathryn Roberts to express her interest in filling a seat that expires in March 2017 on the Board of Certified Direct-Entry Midwives.

[2:08:23 PM](#)

KATHRYN MARIE ROBERTS, Appointee, Board of Certified Direct-Entry Midwives, said she's a certified nurse midwife and has been practicing in Alaska for two years. Initially she worked alongside direct-entry midwives and currently practices at the Alaska Native Medical Center. She still maintains relationships with those direct-entry midwives and believes it's important that nurse midwives and direct-entry midwives maintain those relationships to provide safety and good care for Alaskan women who want midwifery care. She noted that Alaska sets an example in the nation for midwifery care, particularly direct-entry. She is excited to be part of the profession.

CHAIR COSTELLO thanked Ms. Roberts for her willingness to serve.

Board of Chiropractic Examiners

CHAIR COSTELLO asked Jeffrey Reinhardt to express his interest in serving on the five-member Board of Chiropractic Examiners.

[2:10:26 PM](#)

JEFFREY RALPH REINHARDDT, DC, Appointee, Board of Chiropractic Examiners, said he's been a practicing chiropractic physician in excess of 30 years, the last five of which have been in Alaska. Colleagues encouraged him to apply for this position due to his diverse experience and time in practice. He looks forward to serving and ensuring that the profession provides services that protect the public.

CHAIR COSTELLO thanked Dr. Reinhardt for his interest in serving.

Board of Dental Examiners

CHAIR COSTELLO asked Michael Moriarty to express his interest in serving on the nine-member Board of Dental Examiners.

[2:12:39 PM](#)

MICHAEL P. MORIARTY, DDS, Appointee, Board of Dental Examiners, said he's been a general dentist in Seward since 1991. He has served the dental community on the state and national level through state societies and is currently on the Western Region Examining Board. The State Dental Society asked if they could put his name forward and he was honored to be considered. He would like to give back to the profession, help maintain it to the highest professional standard, and protect the public.

CHAIR COSTELLO thanked Dr. Moriarty for his commitment.

Board of Examiners in Optometry

CHAIR COSTELLO asked Pamela Steffes to express her interest in serving on the Board of Examiners in Optometry.

[2:13:43 PM](#)

PAMELA M. STEFFES, OD, Appointee, Board of Examiners in Optometry, said she works at the Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium (SEARHC) and has worked her entire career as a hospital-based optometrist. She travels for SEARHC to provide eye care to remote communities in Southeast. She enjoys caring for patients but also feels it's her responsibility to ensure the profession maintains the highest of standards. In the past she served on National Indian Health Service committees providing advice and consultation for federal service optometrists throughout the U.S. and developing position statements and recommendations that made their way to the Surgeon General. She also serves as an extern site for the education of optometry students. Ultimately, she is interested in serving because she is committed to public service both professionally and personally. Now that she has completed her national service, she would like the opportunity to work with the state board.

CHAIR COSTELLO commented that Dr. Steffes has an impressive resume.

Board of Massage Therapists

CHAIR COSTELLO asked Ron Gibbs to express his interest in continuing to serve on the Board of Massage Therapists.

[2:15:23 PM](#)

RON GIBBS, Appointee, Board of Massage Therapists, rural seat, said he has lived in Kodiak for 37 years, 25 as a teacher and 12 as a massage therapist. This board was established last year and there's a lot to do between writing regulations and following the legislative changes. He was appointed as a rural representative and he'd like to continue with what he's been doing; it's an exciting process.

CHAIR COSTELLO thanked Mr. Gibbs for his interest in serving.

Board of Nursing

CHAIR COSTELLO asked Jennifer Stukey to express her interest in serving on the seven-member Board of Nursing.

[2:17:00 PM](#)

JENNIFER MARIE STUKEY, Appointee, Board of Nursing, said she has been a licensed practical nurse for nearly 16 years, 13 years of which have been spent working in a narcotics drug treatment center in Anchorage. She has also worked for the international Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities. Her specialties are detoxification, mostly heroin, and treatment of pregnant heroin addicts. She enjoys working with regulations and ensuring a high standard of care. She works with nurses at the hospital to ensure that her substance abuse patients are treated with dignity and respect. She wants to take her experience to the Board of Nursing to help improve patient care in other areas of Alaska.

CHAIR COSTELLO thanked Ms. Stukey for her passion and taking the time to make herself available.

Board of Pharmacy

CHAIR COSTELLO asked Richard Holt to express his interest in serving on the Board of Pharmacy.

[2:19:06 PM](#)

RICHARD ALEXANDER HOLT, RPH, Appointee, Board of Pharmacy, said he's been a practicing pharmacist in Alaska since 2011 and oversees the operations of nine pharmacies for a retail chain. He has a strong passion for patient care and compliance with regulations as it relates to pharmacy practice. He described recent legislation relating to pharmacy and expressed excitement about bringing his perspective to the Board of Pharmacy.

CHAIR COSTELLO thanked Dr. Holt for his commitment to service. She asked Phil Sanders to express his interest in serving on the Board of Pharmacy.

[2:20:17 PM](#)

PHIL DEAN SANDERS, Appointee, Board of Pharmacy, said he's been practicing pharmacy in Alaska since 1983. The state and profession have been good to him and his family and he looks forward to giving back some of that good will. He has been the director of pharmacy at Central Peninsula General Hospital for the past 19 years. He has enjoyed working with the board in the past and appreciates the opportunity to serve. He thanked the committee for its consideration.

CHAIR COSTELLO thanked Dr. Sanders for making himself available.

Board of Public Accountancy

CHAIR COSTELLO asked Karen Brewer-Tarver to express her interest in a reappointment to the seven-member Board of Public Accountancy.

[2:21:44 PM](#)

KAREN BREWER-TARVER, Appointee, Board of Public Accountancy, said she has been a certified public accountant (CPA) licensed in Alaska since 1999. She has been on the board for the past four years, one as chair. The board has been working on a comprehensive review of the statutes and regulations, comparing these to other licensing jurisdictions for CPAs. She hopes to continue this work. Being a CPA has been a good career choice and she wants to ensure that the profession upholds high standards for a CPA license.

CHAIR COSTELLO thanked Ms. Brewer-Tarver for her interest in serving on the Board of Public Accountancy.

Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers, & Land Surveyors

CHAIR COSTELLO asked Catherine Fritz to tell the committee her interest in serving on the 11-member Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers, & Land Surveyors.

[2:23:27 PM](#)

CATHERINE MARY FRITZ, Appointee, Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers, & Land Surveyors, said she is an architect who lives and practices in Juneau. She has a long

career in public service. She retired from the public sector several years ago and began work as a private consultant. A lot of her work has been in project management and she has experience working collaboratively with different disciplines. She believes her expertise will be valuable to the board and she looks forward to serving, if confirmed.

CHAIR COSTELLO thanked Ms. Fritz. She asked Colin Maynard to express his interest in serving on the Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers, & Land Surveyors.

[2:24:48 PM](#)

COLIN MAYNARD, Appointee, Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers, & Land Surveyors, said he is a licensed civil and structural engineer and has been involved in the activities of this board for about 25 years. He has been on the board for the past four years, currently as chair, and much of the work has centered on regulation projects. Some of these projects are continuing and the board has a sunset next year so he would like to continue the work.

CHAIR COSTELLO thanked Mr. Maynard for his leadership and interest in serving. She asked Frederick Wallis to express his interest in serving on the Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers, & Land Surveyors.

[2:25:46 PM](#)

FREDERICK W. WALLIS, Appointee, Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers, & Land Surveyors, said he is from Healy and a second generation mining engineer from the University of Alaska, Fairbanks. He was previously registered as an engineer in Canada and for the past 18 years he's been registered in Alaska. He would like to bring his experience with a diverse interest in mining to the board.

CHAIR COSTELLO thanked Mr. Wallis for his interest in serving the state.

Fisherman's Fund Advisory & Appeals Council

CHAIR COSTELLO asked Renee Alward to express her interest in serving on the six-member Fisherman's Fund Advisory & Appeals Council.

[2:27:05 PM](#)

RENEE WEDDLE ALWARD, Appointee, Fisherman's Fund Advisory & Appeals Council, said she has worked both with fishermen and in

the medical field and now has time to contribute to the industry to which her family is committed. She reviewed her experience and said she believes she would be an asset to the board.

CHAIR COSTELLO noted the letter of support for her appointment from the United Fishermen of Alaska. She thanked Ms. Alward for her interest in serving.

[2:29:00 PM](#)

At ease

Occupational Safety and Health Review Board

[2:29:16 PM](#)

CHAIR COSTELLO reconvened the meeting and asked Keith Montgomery to express his interest in serving on the Occupational Safety and Health Review Board.

KEITH MONGOMERY, Appointee, Occupational Safety and Health Review Board, labor seat, said he came to Alaska when he was in the Army and has lived here for 35 years. He has worked in many industries, the past 19 years in construction. He received a two-year degree from the University of Alaska, Anchorage and has taught many safety classes. He has an interest in making sure that Alaskans are as safe as possible and would like to be a member of the board.

CHAIR COSTELLO thanked Mr. Montgomery for his interest in serving.

Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board

CHAIR COSTELLO asked Ruth Kostik to express her interest in serving on the seven-member Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board.

RUTH KOSTIK, Appointee, Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board, public member, said she is the budget manager at the Department of Environmental Conservation. She was appointed in 2013 and has enjoyed her time on the board. She has a history of volunteering for nonprofits and public service is important to her.

CHAIR COSTELLO thanked Ms. Kostik for being willing to serve. She asked Mari-Margaret Tydingco to express her interest in serving on the Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board.

[2:32:36 PM](#)

MARI-MARGARET (CELESTE) TYDINGCO, Appointee, Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board, said she is an occupational therapist and believes in its benefits. She has had an opportunity to practice in a variety of settings, including villages. She recently returned from Africa where she practiced occupational therapy, but has also practiced in schools, hospitals, and private practice. She is continuing the long family history of volunteering to help make the place she lives a place she wants to live. She is eager to have an opportunity to serve the state in this capacity.

CHAIR COSTELLO thanked Ms. Tydingco for her commitment to service.

Workers' Compensation Appeals Commission

CHAIR COSTELLO asked James Rhodes to express his interest in serving on the Workers' Compensation Appeals Commission.

[2:34:16 PM](#)

JAMES RHODES, Appointee, Workers' Compensation Appeals Commission, Ketchikan, Alaska shared that he served on the commission as a former commissioner. He said the commission has value in reviewing board cases and potentially taking some of the load off the state supreme court.

CHAIR COSTELLO thanked Mr. Rhodes for being willing to serve and the Governor for the appointments to ensure that the positions are filled.

[2:35:59 PM](#)

There being no further business to come before the committee, Chair Costello adjourned the Senate Labor and Commerce Standing Committee meeting at 2:35 p.m.