

**ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE  
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

**APRIL 11, 2019  
4:59 PM**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Senator Gary Stevens, Chair  
Representative Louise Stutes, Vice Chair  
Senator John Coghill  
Senator Mia Costello  
Senator Cathy Giessel  
Senator Lyman Hoffman  
Senator Bert Stedman  
Representative Bryce Edgmon  
Representative Neal Foster  
Representative DeLena Johnson  
Representative Chuck Kopp  
Representative Steve Thompson  
Representative Tammie Wilson

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Senator Natasha von Imhof

**OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT**

**AGENDA**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES  
RATIFICATION OF CHARITY EVENTS  
COMMITTEE BUSINESS  
CONTRACT APPROVALS

**SPEAKER REGISTER**

Jessica Geary, Executive Director, Legislative Affairs Agency  
JC Kestel, Procurement Officer, Legislative Affairs Agency  
Wayne Jensen, President, Jensen Yorba Lott Architects

[5:00:25 PM](#)

**I. Call to Order**

CHAIR STEVENS called the Legislative Council meeting to order at 5:00pm in the Senate Finance Committee Room. Present at the call were: Senators Coghill, Costello, Giessel, Hoffman, Stedman, Stevens; Representatives Edgmon, Foster, Johnson, Kopp, Stutes Thompson, Wilson. Senator von Imhof was absent.

13 members present.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

**a. February 25, 2019**

[5:01:35 PM](#)

VICE-CHAIR STUTES moved and asked unanimous consent that Legislative Council approve the minutes dated February 25, 2019 as presented.

CHAIR STEVENS asked if there were any corrections or additions? Seeing no objections, the minutes are approved.

**III. Ratification of Charity Events**

**a. 19th Annual Thanksgiving in March**

**b. 56th Annual Legislative Skits**

[5:02:12 PM](#)

VICE-CHAIR STUTES moved and asked unanimous consent that Legislative Council ratify the Chair's sanctioning of the following charitable events per AS 24.60.080 (a)(2)(B): the 19th Annual Thanksgiving in March and the 56th Annual Legislative Skits.

CHAIR STEVENS objected for purposes of discussion. He reminded members of this process—my office reviewed these applications, sanctioned these events, and verified they are 501(c)(3) organizations. Is there any discussion?

SENATOR COSTELLO asked is it possible to share with the committee what charities receive the benefits from these fundraisers?

CHAIR STEVENS asked Jessica Geary to please respond.

JESSICA GEARY, Executive Director, Legislative Affairs Agency, said for Thanksgiving in March the proceeds go to the Southeast Alaska Foodbank and for the Legislative Skits the proceeds go to Big Brothers Big Sisters and AWARE.

SENATOR COSTELLO replied thank you.

CHAIR STEVENS asked if there was further discussion. Seeing none, he removed his objection and those events were ratified.

#### **IV. Committee Business**

##### **a. Legislative Council Travel and Per Diem Policy Amendment**

[5:04:04 PM](#)

VICE-CHAIR STUTES moved and asked that Legislative Council approve the amendment to the Legislative Council Travel and Per Diem Policy.

CHAIR STEVENS objected for purposes of discussion. There is information on this item in your meeting packet. The Per Diem Office Allowance Subcommittee met on March 28, 2019, and recommends the policy amendment before you. What this amendment does is keep the daily per diem rate capped at \$302 per day for the remainder of the year, so when the rate jumps to \$322 per day—which will occur on April 16—the per diem will not increase. However, if Federal per diem were to go down anytime during the year, so will the per diem. This amendment sets the rate in January of every year for the entire year. He asked if there is any discussion. Seeing none, Chair Stevens removed his objection.

A roll call vote was taken.

YAYS: Senators Coghill, Costello, Giessel, Hoffman, Stedman; Representatives Edgmon, Foster, Johnson, Kopp, Thompson, Wilson, Vice-Chair Stutes, Chair Stevens.

NAYS: None

The motion passed 13-0.

#### **V. Contract Approvals**

##### **a. RFP 625 Terry Miller Legislative Office Building Windows and Exterior Renovation**

[5:06:11 PM](#)

VICE-CHAIR STUTES moved and asked unanimous consent that Legislative Council go into Executive Session under Uniform Rule 22(B)(1), discussion of matters, the immediate knowledge of which would adversely affect the finances of a government unit and 22(B)(3), discussion of a matter that may, by law, be required to be confidential. I ask that the following individuals remain in the room: Jessica Geary; JC Kestel; John Cayce; Megan Wallace; Wayne Jensen; and any legislative staff working for Council members. We also welcome any Legislators who are not on Legislative Council to remain in the room.

CHAIR STEVENS asked if there was objection to the motion. Hearing none, Council will go into Executive Session.

[5:07:05 PM](#)

Council went into Executive Session.

[5:18:31 PM](#)

Council came out of Executive Session.

[5:18:35 PM](#)

VICE-CHAIR STUTES moved that Legislative Council approve the award of RFP 625 to F&W Construction Company for a total contract price of \$1,769,794 out of existing capital funds.

CHAIR STEVENS objected for purposes of discussion. For the public's knowledge, JC Kestel, will you please explain this project?

JC KESTEL, Procurement Officer, Legislative Affairs Agency, replied through the Chair that on February 1, 2019, the Agency issued RFP 625 to solicit proposals for siding and window exterior renovation on the Terry Miller Building.

On March 11, 2019, two proposals had been received—one from Dawson Construction, LLC and one from F&W Construction Company. We had a Proposal Evaluation Committee (PEC) evaluate both proposals. After the evaluation, it was determined that F&W Construction Company was the successful offeror. Their bid price was \$1,769,794.

The PEC recommends award of RFP 625 to F&W Construction Company.

CHAIR STEVENS asked if there was further discussion.

REPRESENTATIVE THOMPSON asked about the timeline, specifically the start and completion dates.

MR. KESTEL replied that, if approved, the project would start at the beginning of June with an estimated completion by October 31, 2019.

CHAIR STEVENS asked if there is any discussion. Seeing none, he removed his objection.

A roll call vote was taken.

YAYS: Senators Coghill, Costello, Giessel, Hoffman, Stedman; Representatives Edgmon, Foster, Johnson, Kopp, Thompson, Wilson, Vice-Chair Stutes, Chair Stevens.

NAYS: None

The motion passed 13-0.

CHAIR STEVENS noted there is one more issue, which is to appoint a Capitol Art Subcommittee. If anyone is interested in serving on that subcommittee, please let me know. Senator Coghill has been instrumental in finding a project for our consideration and is here to explain.

SENATOR COGHILL said to celebrate and honor Alaska's sixtieth year of Statehood, he is considering a life-size bust of Alaska's first State Governor William Egan.

Senator Coghill began research into appearance and cost, then located a local artist willing and perhaps able to produce the piece. The artist, son of Elizabeth Peratrovich, has sculpted a bust already in the Capitol and provided Senator Coghill a preliminary estimate.

Senator Coghill spoke with Chair Stevens and expressed that, as Rules Chair, he would like to proceed with this project. Senator Stevens suggested he propose the idea to Legislative Council.

He continued that Governor Egan served us well for decades, and while the main road in the Capital is named for him, it seems appropriate to display Alaska's first Governor at the Capitol's front entrance with a plaque honoring him this sixtieth year of Statehood.

Senator Coghill said retired Senator Dennis Egan seemed quite excited about this possible project. He secured photos and

began further research on bronzing, etc. The general estimate is just less than \$20,000.

Senator Coghill concluded this is something he wants to do and appreciates having Legislative Council part of it.

CHAIR STEVENS thanked Senator Coghill for moving ahead and finding out so much information. He also spoke about this project with Senator Dennis Egan who thinks it is a wonderful thing for his father. Chair Stevens asked architect Wayne Jensen to please come forward and share his thoughts.

WAYNE JENSEN, of Jensen Yorba Lott Architects noted he was one of the co-chairs for the construction of the William Seward statue in the plaza across from the Capitol—which is much larger and more expensive than a bust. It is a great idea and tribute to memorialize in bronze. The bust of Senator Bob Bartlett on the Capitol's second floor was well done and adding another bust would be very appropriate.

CHAIR STEVENS asked if there were questions.

SENATOR COSTELLO thanked Senator Coghill for bringing this forward. She stated it would be appropriate to have text associated with the bust and update the Capitol walking tour for visitors. She asked who would write the explanatory text, would Legislative Council review, and what would that process be?

CHAIR STEVENS responded that the goal is to appoint a committee to look into this; the Council is not making any commitment today. The text would be discussed and brought before Council before anything occurs.

Any member interested in serving on that committee, please let me know. Chair Stevens appointed himself, Senator Coghill, Senator Stedman, Wayne Jensen, Representative Wilson, and Representative Kopp.

This will be interesting to explore and evaluate the possibilities.

## **VI. Adjourn**

CHAIR STEVENS noted if there is nothing further to come before the Committee at this time, we are adjourned.

[5:27:05 PM](#)