

HB

663



Official Business

# Alaska State Legislature

## House of Representatives

Committee on

Community & Regional Affairs

Pouch V  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

### BILL WORK SHEET

BILL NUMBER HB 663

RE Appropriation / Tyonik / Art Eskow

Received from \_\_\_\_\_  
Referred to Finnice

Fiscal Note \_\_\_\_\_  
LAA Legal Contact Request

#### CONTACTS:

Sponsor: Malone



# NATIVE VILLAGE OF TYONEK, ALASKA



INCORPORATED  
TYONEK, ALASKA 99682

MANAGEMENT OFFICE  
1675 "C" STREET -- ROOM 246  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501

January 17, 1980

Rep. Hugh Malone  
State Representative  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Rep. Malone:

I believe some time ago I talked to you about a film we have of Tyonek.

The film has everything in it from Old Village to New one. Everything a villager did in the past are recreated, from weaving baskets to Indian Chief doing the war dance. We need in excess of \$80,000.00 to finish the film.

To finish the film we must, (1) Film a Tyonek shooting a moose and every family head going to get their share.

(2) Beluga Hunt.

(3) The first Oil Company on Tyonek lands and its effect on the Tyoneks and finally narrating the film.

We would appreciate anything you can do for us to get this very important and historic film completed.

Sincerely,

  
Emil McCord Sr.

EM/ab

c.c. Attorney Clark Gruening  
Carol Hodge  
Village File

TYONEK HISTORY FILM PROJECT

Sometime back the NVP council gave Emil McCord the assignment of coordinating the efforts to search for funding and to revive the completion of this film project started in 1966. Frank Brink was employed by the Village council to make a film to depict the history of our tribe. He worked for about 4 years and shot over 20,000 feet of film. His wife, Jo, made all the costumes, did all the research of the anthropology and history of the ancient times of our people. About five years ago Frank had worked and got a commitment from NEC to produce a one-hour documentary for Public Service TV to be televised nationwide. A proposal had been written to obtain the funding and Tyonek was required to put up \$10,000 as matching seed money. Apparently, the Village did not have the money to spend at that time and the project fell through.

With the hard work and interest of Emil McCord, Sr, this project was been revived. Emil coordinated the efforts of several people here in Anchorage, including myself, and Frank Brink was notified to come to Alaska with some work footage and a budget to get the project started again. Communicating with Emil, I arranged with Carroll Hodge, Channel 7, KAKM, to have a showing at my house on Sunday, October 22nd. I had called the public affairs people of ARCO, Sohio/BP, Xerox, and others who may be able to contribute. The showing lasted from 3p.m. until 7 p.m. That next day Arco called to apologise for not showing up. None of the other companies came.

I met with Gary Holthaus, Alaska Humanities Forum, Thursday Nov. 2, and got the materials to submit a grant proposal. Gary was confident that we would be successful, providing we can get \$30,000 from the private sector. That way Ak Humanities Forum might be able to match that plus give us an outright grant of \$27,000 to bring us up to the \$87,330.00 we need to finish the project.

I want to apologise to Emil for the misunderstanding of the film storage. Frank had indicated that several letters were written to the council in the past giving instructions as to how to store the film. Apparently that letter is in the files somewhere and had never been paid attention to. Nevertheless, it was the request of Frank (who has the knowledge and concern of the film) to get the film from KAKM and hold it until he arranged proper storage. The showing of the two reels of the original film cannot be checked for damage until Frank can get it to a laboratory. Just running the film on a regular projector can damage the film for use later. When I retrieved the film from KAKM it was just sitting out in one of the outside rooms where anyone could get to it and the temperature was not as Frank said it should be. Because of the importance and value of this original film, Frank is very concerned that it

be cared for properly so that the footage not be lost. In viewing two reels of work footage, already nearly a dozen people who were living are now dead. This film cannot be replaced, therefore, for that alone it is irreplaceable.

Frank is going to check on the cost of storage in a special vault in Hollywood with a company that does this type of storage and will let me know what the cost will be and whether we should store it there.

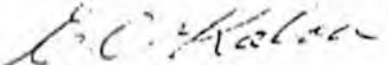
Today, Nov 9, 1978, I met with ARCO, Tom Brennan, Public Affairs, and showed the two reels of work footage Frank left with me. I wrote a new budget, as per Frank's figures and a cover letter with a summary and narrative of the film. This was given to Mr. Brennan and he is to call me back a week from next Monday to let me know what ARCO may be willing to contribute. (See attached packet).

The next step is to contact others, EXXON, XEROX, the Cook Inlet Historical Society, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and others to seek funding. This will take alot of effort and time on my part. Frank also left some instructions for me to write up some information he needs and to look for an anthropologist. I have contacted Rosita Worl and she is going to contact some others and meet with me soon to discuss the project.

All the funding from the private sector must be committed before we submit the one to the Alaska Humanities Forum by Jan 1, 1978. If we are successful in getting \$30,000 committed from the private sector, then the Humanities Forum proposal will have a better chance of success.

In regards to the above work that is involved with getting all the pieces together, I will need to use the Anchorage office typewriter, telephone, and stationery. Already I have had a run-in with Bob McGlosion about this. I want to make it clear that much of what the Village council requires me to do will require me to use the above things mentioned. I do not have the proper typewriter at home to write the business letters, contracts, etc., that must be done in a business-like manner. If I cannot have use of the Anchorage office then everything will have to be sent to the Village for your secretary to do the typing. This will slow things down and make it difficult to operate properly. I will not do the work if this permission is not granted. It is only because of my desire to help Tyonek that I do alot of what I do, and, without bragging, I do the work well. I would like an immediate reply to straighten out this matter, as there is much work to be done and it needs to be done as quickly as possible.

Respectfully submitted,



Esther O. Kaloa  
Business Consultant

I wish to produce a one hour documentary film tracing three periods in the history of the tiny (200 member) tribe of Tyonek Indians who live of the west shore of Cook Inlet in Alaska.

The first period will trace the roots and rituals of this ancient Athabascan tribe.

The second period will reveal the effects of the tribe's first contact with foreign cultures-Russian (1796-1867) and American (1867 to the present).

The third period will document the catastrophic impact of oil exploration of the Tyonek Reservation and the instant inheritance of approximately sixteen million dollars. It will further show how members of the tribe attempted to cope with the monumental physical and psychological changes in their struggle for cultural survival.

#### Brief History

In 1963, oil exploration accelerated throughout Alaska with three areas coming under intense investigation. They were the North Slope, the Kenai Peninsula, and the Cook Inlet Basin. As a part of the Cook Inlet exploration, the Panamerican Petroleum Oil Co., (late Amco) obtained United States government approval to do exploratory drilling on the Tyonek Reservation.

The tribal council met , and from tribal records determined that the oil company might have no authority to encroach upon

the reservation without approval of the Tyonek people and compensation to tribe.

At that historic meeting, the tribe voted to seek legal advice to determine their position in the matter. A prominent Alaskan attorney Stanley McCutcheol volunteered his services to represent the tribe. He obtained an injunction against Panamerican Petroleum Oil Company, and after a year's legal battle, the oil company was required to pay lease monies to the Tyonek tribe versus other government agencies. Subsequent to this action the Pan American Oil Company paid Tyonek approximately fourteen million dollars for oil and gas lease rights on the reservation.

Prior to 1963, the Tyonek's depended mostly on fishing, hunting and trapping for survival. Tribal tales confirm periods of starvation during several winters when moose and fish take was down. At those times some tribal members either became seriously ill or died. Most affluent Alaskans were ignorant of Tyonek needs or ignored them. However, there are accounts of emergency food supplies being sent to Tyonek village by concerned citizens. This will reveal the status of the tribe when it was the recipient of 14 million dollars.

In an unprecedented action, the Tyonek Village Council determined that rather than divide the money per capita among the tribal members, they would establish a master family plan for the judicious use of the funds to provide adequate housing, health care, education and guaranteed employment for every adult who was able to work. The plan also included resource development,

old age assistance, and pensions. It further provided for investments for the future welfare of the tribe. No lump sums were given to any tribal member except an initial household fund of \$5000 for each family or household.

When the plan was completed, the old Tyonek village was systematically torn down. The village consisted of small one and two room log and clapboard cabins, where in some cabins ice often formed on the damp floors and parts of moose carcasses would hang down from the rafters. As many as eight people would bed down for the night in space no larger than twelve by twelve feet.

New prefabricated electrically heated houses were built. From that time on the Tyoneks were physically comfortable. However, there began a series of accidents and tragedies that involved alcohol, violent arguments, fatal shootings, fires, drownings. and with it all, a prevailing loneliness brought on by changes for which the culture was unprepared.

As the tribe struggled to adjust to a new way of life, some questionable investments were made, some money was misused and squandered in spite of all precautions. But perhaps, the saddest effect of all the deaths of a number of young bright people, still in their teens, whose own security may have been so threatened by cataclysmic change that they were unable to cope. However, there were values of better health and social services that did accrue.

valuable tribal traditions and a thrust to strengthen those which deal with family unity and pride. There is a strengthening of interest and devotion to their religious faith nurtured by the Russia Orthodox church, the major symbol of hope for release from the depression that has affected the lives of many Tyonek villagers since the change in their way of life. The church with its symbols and colorful ceremonies was the closest substitute for the ancient tribal rituals of thanksgiving, sacrifice and blessing.

For the Tyoneks the road back is long and precarious, but there is a feeling of hope and a growing sense of pride in a heritage once on the way to extinction.

This is the story of the Tyonek people I wish to explore on film. I am convinced that such an ethno-historical document on film could have a number of long-range benefits. The film could be used by other Native Americans like the Navajos who are faced with a decision regarding the development of shale oil resources on their reservation. Also, since the Tyonak people were involved in the largest native land claims settlement in American history (this is a part of the oil period of Tyonek nistory), their response and participation in the settlement would provide insights for many native groups contemplating the same experience.

to be provided by the Village

TRANSPORTATION

Round trip from Shreveport, Louisiana to Tyonek for two people-	\$1100.00
Round trips from Anchorage to Los Angeles (1)	376.00
Trips to Tyonek for four people (approx)	120.00

FOOD

Three people for six months, average \$350 per month	2100.00
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Lodging at Tyonek for six months, average for 3 people @ \$200.00 per month	1200.00
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Technical assistance (other than normal cooperation participation, interviews, etc.)

Reservation transportation (to include by vehicle, boat, etc.)

Mechanical-technical assistant

Scene reconstruction (from each period of Tyonek history, the primitive; the foreign influence; the coming of oil) It is difficult to accurately assess the many services to support and recreate scenes for shooting. This estimate of half-time equivalent services for six Tyonek people for six-months-to be paid by Tyonek village.)	21,000.00
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Archival slides and still photos of old village and people prior to 1966 (approximately 500 slides and 300 stills)*	550.00
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Archival footage (16mm color) old homes, people, village activities prior to 1966 (this also includes the tearing down of old homes and construction of new homes and new village activities from 1963 to 1966) estimated 5,000 feet at \$3.00 per foot*	15,000.00
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Total of Tyonek funds and services

\$41,446.00

\* Most of the above costs have already been expended or film shot, the costs of transportation, food and lodging will be needed ( \$5396.00), the \$21,000 for six people from Tyonek can be 000 if those people volunteer. The \$15,000 balance for archival film is that which is already shot, but not paid for. We may check with Frank to see if this cost is included in the \$87,000.00 budget.

ESTIMATED BUDGET ONE HOUR 16mm COLOR  
DOCUMENTARY FILM

15,000 ft. ECO raw film stock @ \$15.00 per 100 ft.	\$2250.00
Ten-1800 ft rolls 1/4" professional recording tape @ \$7.50 per roll	75.00
Laboratory Costs:	
processing 15,000 ft @ .10¢ per ft.	1500.00
conforming-350 cuts (estimate) @ \$2.50 per cut	875.00
sound selection and editing (lab pro- duction service) 50 hrs. @ \$35.00 per hr.	1750.00
Music (composing, performing, scoring, editing)	5000.00
Narration, recording, editing, (written, plus live interview)	2500.00
Special effects	1500.00
Titles and credits	800.00
Workprint (archival footage and new footage) 20,00 ft @ 18¢ per ft.	3600.00
Trial prints, two-2000 ft @ 36¢ per ft.	1440.00
Release prints, two 2000 ft @ 26¢ per ft.	1040.00
Miscellaneous reserves	5000.00
Contract fees:	
Producer, director, cameraman, editor narrator, composer-for 1 year	30,000.00
Asst. producer, still camera, research, interviewer, \$2500 per mo., -6 mos.*	15,000.00
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TOTAL ESTIMATED COST	\$87,330.00
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\* Anthropologist/sociologist to be hired in Alaska

November 9, 1978

Tom Brennan, Director  
Public Affairs  
Atlantic Richfield Company  
711 W 8th Avenue  
Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Dear Mr. Brennan,

As per our telephone conversations you will find attached a summary and narrative of the film tracing the history of the tribe of Tyonek.

It is the intent of the Native Village of Tyonek to find means to finish this film which was begun in 1966. Frank Brink, a well known man in his field of theater and film, was employed to produce and direct the movie. Due to the untimely death of Albert Kaloa, Jr, who played the main character of chief throughout the trilogy of the history of the tribe, continuation of the film making was stopped.

For several years an attempt to find funding sources to complete the film was unsuccessful. With the efforts of many interested parties the Alaska Humanities Forum has shown an interest to assist the Village to complete the film. They are willing to match funds allocated from the private sector, and also, to provide a grant.

With this possibility, the Native Village of Tyonek is now soliciting for funds from the private sector. The total amount budgeted to complete the filming amounts to approximately eighty-seven thousand dollars (\$87,000.00). We need to obtain thirty-thousand dollars (\$30,000.00) from the private sector. Tyonek has already invested thirty-eight thousand dollars and will provide board and room for the staff when the filming process begins again, and transportation.

Mr. Brink has negotiated with CBS to provide a one-hour documentation on Public Service TV. We hope this to be the main use of the film. There is enough subject matter in the film to produce a minimum of six (6) educational films. This is another market we have.

After seeing some of the footage we have to show, I am sure you will be as enthusiastic and excited as we are to finish this film. It is the most comprehensive film of this type ever made of a history of a people of Alaska and we are proud to be a part of that history. Would you assist us in a contribution, you will be given nationwide recognition if cur

Thank you for your interest.

Respectfully submitted,

*Esther O. Kalou*  
Esther O. Kalou  
Business Consultant  
Native Village of Tyonek



# NATIVE VILLAGE OF TYONEK, ALASKA



INCORPORATED  
TYONEK, ALASKA 99682

MANAGEMENT OFFICE  
1675 "C" STREET — ROOM 246  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501

March 20, 1980

Bill Parker  
Capitol, Room 104  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Representative Parker,

I am writing to request your support for House Bill No. 663 that was introduced by Representative Malone on February 4, 1980. The Bill seeks an \$80,000.00 appropriation for the Tyonek Native Village to complete a historical and cultural film of our village which is located on the west shore of Cook Inlet. The film, which was started several years ago using our own resources, traces the development of our culture and village from ancient times to the present. Although a portion of the film has already been completed we need additional funds to finalize this important documentary.

This film is not only of great importance to the people of Tyonek, but could be a valuable aid to all of the Native people of Alaska by providing an insight on the problems that we have faced and the methods that we have used to overcome these obstacles.

Your favorable consideration of support for this Bill will be deeply appreciated by all of our people.

Sincerely,

David Trenton,  
President