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LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, STATE OF ALASKA

Conference on Alaska's Future Frontiers

Saturday, December 8, 1979

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Reported by: Laurel G. Barefield

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ALPHA GROUP PROCEEDINGS

(December 8, 1979)

Room 1016

THE MODERATOR: When the rest of our group gets here so we at least have a quorum, well, then we can address ourselves to preparing the appropriate resolution for the remaining topics that we have under consideration in this conference. We'll just start there.

In this energy area, I know nothing, virtually nothing, about hydrogen cells. But people that I've talked with that know something about it are very enthusiastic about it. I don't know if there is anybody in our group that has been exposed to it or not, but the --

MR. ACKERMAN: I know when you have hydrogen welding you've got a problem when the cell cracks on you. Besides that, I don't know.

THE MODERATOR: Solar energy has a substantial potential in Western Alaska because we get substantial quantities of sunlight long, long hours of the day for six months of the year. And certainly in Northwestern Alaska, particularly at Wales on the Bering Strait, the wind blows there 95 percent of the time. That community is a sitting duck for redundancy wind generation throughout the

1 community, where when generators could be dumping heat into
2 the homes and heating the homes with wind energy and at the
3 same time keeping a battery plant charged to drive their
4 electric lights.

5 Anybody else?

6 MR. ACKERMAN: I agree with you. I think it's really
7 mandated to install some sort of alternative energy in
8 every community. I think it's the best investment we could
9 make into the future, and we've seen that in the Lower 48,
10 these type of projects. I think also we need to look at
11 our tide power. You know, we have terrific tides in the
12 State, and we should have either a wind power, tide power
13 or solar power or geothermal power or hydrogen-type
14 situation everywhere. I don't think we need look at the
15 economics. I think we have to look at the future, what the
16 future benefit is going to be to our State.

17 THE MODERATOR: Looking at the economics shouldn't
18 pose much of a problem. Motor gas -- the last word I got
19 was \$2.90 a gallon in Paris. And up home it's already a
20 dollar and a half a gallon. So we're going to be keeping
21 up with the Joneses here overnight.

22 MR. ACKERMAN: Well, I think anything is going to
23 improve the standard of living. And lower the cost and
24 preserve our oil for other things is really essential at
25 this time.

1 THE MODERATOR: With the substantial tides that we
2 have, 36-foot tides and this region, Kachemak Bay -- and on
3 the tidal generation is a sitting duck. It could be
4 extremely successful.

5 MR. ACKERMAN: I think we have to look at the benefits
6 of, you know, our tidal potential and our transportation at
7 the same time in crossways that we're talking about so we
8 tie the area together just a little bit. This is just
9 really, you know, a dual benefit thing that we could
10 achieve down here. And our tide power really hasn't been
11 researched enough to where it doesn't have some of the
12 large drawbacks of a hydro project.

13 THE MODERATOR: These wind generators and units that
14 are available I regard as entirely too expensive, and I'm
15 satisfied in my own mind that we should be able to buy
16 component parts and assemble wind generation units
17 substantially cheaper than we purchased them on the market.
18 I'm thinking in terms of solid-state or brushless
19 generators that can be manufactured by Reliance Electric
20 Company or any other large electric matcher in substantial
21 mass production quantities. And then the propellers for
22 driving the mechanism are available through manufacturers
23 of aircraft propellers. They're already set up with the
24 plant to mass-produce those propellers.

25 The towers do not have to be highly sophisticated

1 towers at all. In fact, the more practical they are the
2 better. Towers can be built right in the small communities
3 out of empty gas drums welded together, and you don't have
4 to be a certified welder to weld those gas drums together
5 to make a pole.

6 And set those tarren on the inside and outside so
7 they won't deteriorate and use those for towers and just
8 merely mount the wind generator on the empty gas drum pole
9 for the wind generator tower. At the same time you can
10 develop a ladder that -- right on those drums that you can
11 climb up and down that gas drum pole to get access to your
12 wind generation unit for maintenance purposes.

13 THE MODERATOR: Good morning, Mr. Dahl.

14 MR. DAHL: Good morning. I apologize for my tardiness.

15 THE MODERATOR: Last night when we closed we were in
16 the area of considering submitting a resolution urging the
17 State to establish a comprehensive program regulating our
18 lakes.

19 Is that substantially correct, where we were when
20 we closed?

21 MS. BENNETT: I don't agree we were in the process of
22 establishing resolutions to the effect. I think they were
23 just introduced.

24 THE MODERATOR: But we're in the process of input.

25 MS. BENNETT: Talking about it, right.

1 THE MODERATOR: With a viewpoint to the resolution
2 with the area -- addressing ourselves to the lakes of
3 Alaska.

4 MS. BENNETT: Right.

5 THE MODERATOR: In order to protect the habitat and
6 the environment. There are tremendous human pressures on
7 the habitat in the environment in these lakes out across
8 that sit in the flats up here in particular.

9 MS. BENNETT: I just don't see how we can regulate
10 something like that. It just sounds -- you know, we've
11 just been discussing earlier the difficulty with Fish and
12 Game and that kind of thing. It's that kind of regulation.

13 THE MODERATOR: Oh, yes, but it must come. It must
14 happen. And it has to be -- people have to be educated to
15 realize that it's to their benefit to -- in the final
16 analysis it's their benefit to discipline ourselves in the
17 manner in which we conduct ourselves in this environment.

18 MS. BENNETT: I definitely agree with you there. We
19 need to talk about education and discipline. That's
20 definitely true. I'm just thinking about a State agency
21 trying to regulate something like that. It's extremely
22 difficult.

23 THE MODERATOR: It can be handled very well.

24 MR. ACKERMAN: I think this could be probably
25 controversial and something we haven't discussed too much.

1 we went through our Law and Justice. We haven't had a
2 resolution on that. I think our Land and our Energy --
3 particularly our Energy -- that we do need to develop a
4 resolution.

5 MS. BENNETT: Yes.

6 MR. ACKERMAN: Probably we might defer this item to
7 the last, you know, if we have time.

8 MR. DALL: I would like that.

9 MS. BENNETT: I agree with that.

10 THE MODERATOR: All right, fine. We've had our
11 round-table discussion in the area of Law and Justice. We
12 should be able to proceed to address ourselves to the
13 development of a resolution in the Law and Justice area.

14 MR. ACKERMAN: I think, just to comment -- I'm not
15 going to make a motion, but I think that, you know, from
16 what we had that we can double our system. We have the
17 physical plant, you know. There's no reason why we can't
18 use it and we can't double-shift it. Of course, with that
19 you'd have twice as many judges, we could hear twice as
20 many cases. And there's no reason for our buildings to sit
21 empty 16 hours a day. I think it's something we need to
22 look at. Our second shift could take care of our civil
23 matters. It can take care of our traffic violations and
24 things like that. And I think it would be a tremendous
25 benefit and service to the people. I think they could

1 better afford justice. But our civil case backload is just
2 tremendous. I had an insurance claim that had to go to
3 small claims court, and it took six months to the small
4 claims court. This is a ridiculous situation. And the
5 purpose of the small claims court was for, you know -- for
6 a speedy resolution of some of these things. And I think
7 we should look at that type of recommendation at this time.

8 THE MODERATOR: The heavy burden of civil cases in the
9 State in the area of insurance claim controversy results in --
10 my way of thinking -- a lot of that results in the fact
11 that the State Department of Commerce, Insurance Division
12 has been and is very weak. When I have insurance claims I
13 automatically turn it over to an attorney that handles
14 insurance cases. It's automatic. We don't go around with
15 the adjustors. We just turn it over to our attorney and
16 let them work with our attorney. We don't even fool with
17 it. That's how bad it is because we've ended up having to
18 take legal action so many times that now it's just become
19 automatic. Fireman's Fund in Oregon controvert claims boom,
20 boom, boom, on Workmen's Comp right and left. Very
21 arbitrary and capricious in that area of endeavor. It's
22 almost virtually automatic that they'll controvert claims.
23 The Industrial Indemnity Company here in Alaska, when they
24 have a Workmen's Comp claim -- they drag their feet on
25 payment of the claim, even though the insurance is in force,

1 the premiums are paid, the whole shot.

2 We had an employee who got a broken leg, and it
3 was a month before he got a Workmen's Comp check. He laid
4 in the hospital down here in Anchorage, and his family's up
5 home and nothing coming in. And I have to use this as a
6 yardstick. The only claim we had had in 25 years. That's
7 what happened.

8 Then the underwriter went over to the hospital,
9 and here the guy is in a hospital bed and they waived a
10 \$5,000 check under his nose for 100 percent settlement, and
11 he took it. Where he could have been on compensation
12 during his total recovery period at \$200 a week for a year
13 and a half.

14 MR. ACKERMAN: I'd like to -- our union has instituted
15 prepaid legal just for the reasons that you speak of, the
16 trouble with the insurance and also the automobile
17 violations.

18 THE MODERATOR: These are the sort of things, Mr.
19 Ackerman, that cause the civil cases to pile up.

20 MR. ACKERMAN: Yes, that's right.

21 THE MODERATOR: Just an as an example.

22 MR. ACKERMAN: I agree with that, but now I think by
23 double-shifting our physical facility, you know, increasing
24 our judges and doubling our staff in using this facility
25 twice as long, we can take care of this backlog and

1 possibly, if we can get rid of the backlog, we won't have
2 so many of them. When we hit a time of -- you know, where
3 we in our schools -- it's a common thing to double-shift
4 our schools and use them when we can't build something fast
5 enough to take care of the need. We double-shift it.

6 We should do the same with our courts, and
7 possibly it will change the insurance company's attitudes
8 towards this. And if we do this, maybe we won't have the
9 case load in the future. I think at this time, since that
10 is their attitude, that the best thing we can do is
11 double-shift our physical plant and put on twice as many
12 judges and staff and take care of these things.

13 And I think if we do it on a second shift, it's
14 going to be a lot handier to the public. They're not going
15 to have to take off time from work, and justice is going to
16 be available. For the working man it's hard to take the
17 time off to appear in court. It's also hard to serve on a
18 jury.

19 THE MODERATOR: That's right.

20 MR. ACKERMAN: And your compensation for serving on a
21 jury -- if you're stuck on a jury for 30 days, it's
22 devastating. \$20 a day. You just can't --

23 THE MODERATOR: You end up on food stamps.

24 MR. ACKERMAN: That's a tough thing.

25 THE MODERATOR: That's right.

1 MR. ACKERMAN: You don't end up on food stamps. You
2 just do without.

3 THE MODERATOR: You make some very valid points, Mr.
4 Ackerman.

5 MR. DAHL: I'm working on a resolution that will cover
6 those two. Would you discuss, while I'm doing it, the
7 issue of improving efficiency of bush justice so that I can
8 get some language? Would you try to recall the kind of
9 discussion we had a couple days ago.

10 MR. ACKERMAN: I think the big thing in starting the
11 Fish and Game -- that's where most of our problems are.
12 And if we had, you know, procedures that didn't disqualify
13 qualified Alaskans from doing this.... And if we had a
14 people that had a vested interest in our game protection
15 and management, we would have a lot better bush justice for
16 a start. I think we all, when you look at the Fish and
17 Game man, tell you to do something, you know, what you
18 should be able to do. You've got a new law every year.
19 Every year. I have no idea --

20 THE MODERATOR: That's right.

21 MR. ACKERMAN: What the communicating regulations are.
22 I'd be afraid to go hunting now just because of what I've
23 done in the past, you know, 20 or 30 years. I'd be afraid
24 to go out and do -- whether I was in a right district or
25 closed district. Moose season changes every year. It's

1 risky to do this.

2 And I think we need people that understand that
3 we've had changes in our management, you know, and when
4 you've done something for years and years, you learn
5 something for twenty years, to unlearn it is something you
6 don't do. It's second nature. You have to have people to
7 understand this problem. And I think that the Alaska
8 resident has a vested interest in our Fish and Game
9 management, and I think he's the one that should be doing --
10 he's the best qualified to do it.

11 THE MODERATOR: In the area of bush justice, number
12 one, we need ongoing village policemen training, and they
13 need to be better paid. We've had -- the quality of our
14 village policemen, since it is a relatively new program --
15 the quality of village policemen is very poor by and large.
16 So, consequently, the populous -- the community recognizes
17 that they're not disposed to cooperate and respect the
18 village policemen in the community. This is the way I'm
19 coming from.

20 How do you feel about it Georgianna?

21 MS. ANASOGAK: I agree with you. Currently our
22 village policemen is funded under the CETA programs, and
23 one of the CETA regulations state no employee can be
24 employed more than one year.

25 Now, we have a perfectly qualified village

1 policeman -- ex-policeman. He's gone -- he was employed on
2 the Police Department, Nome Police Department, for a number
3 of years. Then gone to several village policemen training
4 courses, and now he's not eligible to be a policeman
5 because of the CETA regulations.

6 MR. DAHL: Excuse me. He's not eligible to be a
7 policeman using CETA money.

8 THE MODERATOR: Right.

9 MS. ANASOGAK: That's right. And then the village
10 does not have enough money to pay him properly. I mean, to
11 give him enough salary for him to take the job.

12 THE MODERATOR: Does White Mountain have a retail
13 sales tax?

14 MS. ANASOGAK: I don't know. I'm not from White
15 Mountain.

16 THE MODERATOR: No, no, I mean Koyuk.

17 MS. ANASOGAK: Yes.

18 THE MODERATOR: They have a retail sales tax. How
19 much is it?

20 MS. ANASOGAK: It's 2 percent.

21 THE MODERATOR: They could go to 3, and that would
22 help to pay for village services.

23 MR. ACKERMAN: I'd like to talk about the CETA funds.
24 These are federal funds, and they're not entirely federal
25 funds. You have State participation. And I think that the

1 amount of paperwork that's involved in CETA funds and the
2 Federal requirements that they put on that the State is
3 better off directly funding the CETA program.

4 THE MODERATOR: Forget it.

5 MS. BENNETT: Can't forget it. It's put a lot of
6 people to work in our area.

7 THE MODERATOR: Not the red tape. We can't forget the
8 red tape because we can't cope with it in the village.
9 That's why I say forget it.

10 MR. ACKERMAN: It's not only the villages. We have a
11 large problem in the Fairbanks area with the CETA. Federal
12 restrictions and the amount of paperwork that you do --

13 THE MODERATOR: It's monumental.

14 MR. ACKERMAN: I think the State should directly fund
15 the CETA program. That would take care of the prior
16 problem about being able to pay a policeman. You wouldn't
17 necessarily have to have a year limit on the program. But
18 where it's really affected us -- our program is -- we
19 trained 300 Alaskans, turned them out as qualified
20 pipefitters. We'll have 2,000 pipefitters working in the
21 next year out of our area. And a large majority of the
22 people that came in and upgraded our trades was with the
23 CETA assistance. They wouldn't have been able to afford
24 that they could sit down and go to school for four months,
25 and that's the minimal amount of time to get a person on

1 the job. I mean, you barely get them enough to get safety
2 on the job. We have a four-year ongoing training program.
3 And CETA will get them on the job -- this will allow them
4 to be able to take off the time, you know, to update his
5 occupation. And we assume everything after that, and he
6 does, too. And he does, you know, for the next three years.

7 But getting CETA funds now is next to impossible.
8 It's next to impossible to qualify the issue we took in
9 872, our apprentice program. We really should be looking
10 at training many people in this pipeline, welder helpers
11 and things like that.

12 THE MODERATOR: Let's get back to this Law and Justice
13 thing, right directly into it, okay? We're running out of
14 time, Mr. Ackerman.

15 MR. DAHL: Mr. Moderator, I have a suggested
16 resolution.

17 THE MODERATOR: Go ahead.

18 MR. DAHL: One, that the Alaska court system be
19 expanded as follows: a, increase the number of judges in
20 order to expedite the civil and criminal calendar; b,
21 maximize the use of existing facilities beyond the normal
22 working day to improve the convenience to juries and civil
23 litigants; c, improve the magistrate system in villages
24 through better communication, using appropriate technology,
25 with the presiding judge. That's awkward. It should be a

1 better communication with a presiding judge using
2 appropriate technology.

3 THE MODERATOR: Question. What does the body think
4 about having initially fewer village magistrates but train
5 them -- have them so they can travel as circuit riders and
6 cover several villages in lieu of one village? Fewer of
7 them but a better quality.

8 MR. DAHL: Mr. Chairman, I'm not prepared to make that
9 recommendation. I think that given our time constraints
10 what we're called to do as a group, what we're constrained
11 to do, I think, because of time and energy is to give some
12 broad guidelines to the legislature that will set some
13 policies -- I hear what you're saying. I think this
14 language would cover that. Let me read it again

15 THE MODERATOR: All right.

16 MR. DAHL: Improve the magistrate system in villages
17 through better communication with the presiding judge using
18 appropriate technology.

19 If the legislature wants to take that to mean:
20 "Let's have a traveling magistrate that goes from Sheldon's
21 Point to Lockanuk to Onilak," they could do that. They
22 wouldn't be kept from doing that by the language of this
23 resolution. If they want to maintain the present system of
24 having a local person residing in the village acting as
25 village magistrate, they could do that also. But that's a

1 decision that takes a good bit more discussion than we have
2 time to handle right now.

3 MR. ACKERMAN: Mr. --

4 THE MODERATOR: I'll go. I'm amenable.

5 MR. DAHL: Number two, let me just say one -- let me
6 finish the resolution and then I'll move it's adoption for
7 discussion. Two, provide increased funds to villages for
8 police training and support.

9 THE MODERATOR: Would that be in the area of revenue
10 sharing?

11 MR. ACKERMAN: Not necessarily.

12 THE MODERATOR: It could be.

13 MR. DAHL: It could be in the area of revenue sharing
14 as this lady was talking. It occurred to me that one of
15 the problems that we have with municipalities -- with
16 smaller municipalities is they have to hire policemen. It
17 seems to me that there may be a better way to do that. And
18 that is to have a -- to have the State participate in some
19 way with the villages, either through actual administrative
20 control or through training or through providing funds for
21 salaries and so forth with the villages to provide not a
22 trooper but a village policeman in that village. Maybe
23 that provides too much control with the State criminal
24 justice system.

25 THE MODERATOR: Well, our --

1 MR. DANL: Our present system is a disaster.

2 THE MODERATOR: Our village policemen work very well
3 with the troopers. I think it's a team effort. And I
4 believe the village policemen program can be strengthened
5 by an increase in that area of the revenue sharing program.
6 Revenue sharing -- the formula should be rewritten. It
7 should be upgraded to keep abreast of inflation.

8 MR. ACKERMAN: Mr. Chairman?

9 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Ackerman.

10 MR. ACKERMAN: I think -- you know, there is talk all
11 over the State, and there is in our area particularly with
12 Jack Crandall. Maybe these federal funds cost us too much
13 money and they are too restrictive. The cost of the
14 administration of the CETA funds is -- you know, it's just
15 enormous in the amount of people it takes to do it and
16 amount of paperwork you have.

17 So I think if the State were to look at directly
18 funding the CETA itself we could get out underneath from
19 these bureaucracies. Maybe we're not going to get so much
20 federal funds, but if we do get it and have the people
21 familiar with the structure -- they know about the
22 procedure -- and everyone's aware of the need there of the
23 CETA program, and the State has to look at picking this
24 thing up themselves.

25 THE MODERATOR: That's true.

1 MR. ACKERMAN: We're not going to be getting the
2 Federal funds we've been getting.

3 THE MODERATOR: These Federal fund matching programs
4 are so abundant that, if you had the ability to get through
5 the red tape, you could match yourselves broke.

6 MR. ACKERMAN: Well, I think the CETA is really a fine
7 program. I'd say it's expanded the opportunities.
8 People would never have had the opportunity if it hadn't
9 been for the CETA programs.

10 THE MODERATOR: That's right.

11 MR. ACKERMAN: It is a good program. Basically, it
12 was, but there's been so many more restrictions, Federal
13 revisions and so much more paper put onto it that the State
14 has to look at funding it directly themselves, I think.
15 And by that we wouldn't have a year restriction on the
16 policemen. You know, because a lot of times you go in, and
17 if you're in business and you get a CETA employee, you've
18 brought the employee in, you've trained him, you've
19 increased your business, you've increased your income, and
20 you might get to the point that you go ahead and, you know,
21 assume it yourself if you're a small business and you've
22 increased it. You've got it started yourself and you need
23 an employee and everything. But municipal services
24 operating under the CETA grant -- you know, you're just not
25 doing that. So you have an ongoing need. And a one-year

1 restriction is too restrictive.

2 THE MODERATOR: We've taken some CETA people in our
3 businesses, but there's too much red tape.

4 MR. DAHL: Mr. Chairman, let me modify, given the
5 discussion, No. 2 of this resolution, then, to reflect what's
6 happening. I feel a considerable time pressure, and we've
7 got a lot to do.

8 Provide increased funds to villages for police
9 training and support, considering state participation in
10 the management and support of the CETA program.

11 MR. ACKERMAN: Oh, I think that's fantastic.

12 MS. BENNETT: Would you mind reading it just once more?

13 MR. DAHL: I'll read the whole thing.

14 MS. BENNETT: Well, I was really concerned with that
15 last one. I want to hear it once more.

16 MR. DAHL: Provide increased funds to villages for
17 police training and support, considering State
18 participation in the management and support of the CETA
19 program.

20 THE MODERATOR: 100 percent funding of the CETA
21 program. Full funding.

22 MR. ACKERMAN: Well, I --

23 MR. DAHL: Are you moving to amend my resolution, Mr.
24 Chairman?

25 MR. ACKERMAN: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to point out one

1 thing. All of our dialogue, you know, is a part of the
2 resolution when this is going to be considered, and I don't
3 think it necessarily has to be in the resolution as long as
4 we've said it. And I think we're getting it on the floor
5 at our conference that the resolution that is present is
6 appropriate. It speaks to it. We have a dialogue to back
7 it up that knows what we're talking about.

8 MR. DAHL: Is that a second?

9 MR. ACKERMAN: Yes, definitely.

10 THE MODERATOR: Proceed, Mr. Dahl.

11 MR. DAHL: Question.

12 THE MODERATOR: Do I hear a motion?

13 MR. DAHL: Motion is made.

14 THE MODERATOR: Second?

15 MR. ACKERMAN: Yes.

16 THE MODERATOR: Those in favor indicate by saying aye.

17 (Indicating.)

18 Aye.

19 THE MODERATOR: Those opposed.

20 (No response.)

21 THE MODERATOR: Let the record show a unanimous vote
22 by the entire Alpha Committee.

23 MR. DAHL: Learning masses.

24 THE MODERATOR: Okay. We've taken care of -- we're in
25 order through Education, Transportation, Law and Justice,

1 Communication and finances. Oil and Gas Policy. In the
2 area of fisheries we haven't arrived as far as the
3 fisheries marketing, economics, bottom fish development and
4 Alaskan fisheries. The resolution covering Subparagraph 1,
5 fisheries Marketing in Japan. Paragraph 2, Bottomfish
6 Development. No. 3, Alaska fisheries, Paragraph 3, a
7 three-pronged subtitle under our resolution or subparagraph.
8 I'd like to see us -- see the State and independent
9 marketing agencies exert a substantial domestic thrust on
10 marketing of Alaskan fish products, particularly into the
11 Midwest away from the seacoast. Minnesota and Wisconsin
12 and North and South Dakota, Nebraska, Wyoming, Iowa,
13 Missouri, et cetera. Those people back there are fish
14 eaters when they can get the fish, besides just catfish off
15 the Missouri River.

16 MR. DAHL: Mr. Chairman?

17 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Dahl.

18 MR. DAHL: I think we're operating -- I see reflected
19 here an interesting philosophy, and that is that we use the
20 revenue from nonrenewable resources, that is oil, to
21 support renegotiable resources, that is fish. Include in
22 that non -- or in that renewable resource development
23 timber -- what other renewable resources do we have?

24 MR. ACKERMAN: Energy.

25 MS. BENNETT: And tourism and other resources as well.

1 THE MODERATOR: We should be using the nonrenewable
2 resource revenues to develop our nonrenewable resource
3 potential. Economic base.

4 MR. DAHL: And I think with that as a basis of what
5 we're doing -- keep talking. I'll try to perhaps....

6 THE MODERATOR: That's good business. Take these
7 substantial windfall revenues from a nonrenewable resource
8 to build an ongoing viable economy from our renewable
9 resources.

10 MR. ACKERMAN: I think we're mandated to do this in
11 all areas. I think that it's a good investment in the
12 future. It's creating jobs and income, is a better
13 distribution of wealth, of giving people money. And that's
14 a lot of what's been talking about, something that will
15 perpetuate itself. And we have to consider that, you know,
16 developing our renewable resources, our fisheries, our
17 timber, our agriculture, tourism, but especially our
18 alternative energy sources. And I think we should, you
19 know, have a high priority in these areas, and I don't
20 think that economic feasibility is a question that we have
21 to worry about. I think you could consider it an
22 investment in the future.

23 We had a flood control project in Fairbanks that
24 four engineers put in. We had hydrogen source available to
25 us. The four engineers decided it was economically

1 unfeasible. So we don't do it. It could have been
2 incorporated for next to nothing. The source at that time
3 was 10 cents a kilowatt hour. If we could lower our rates
4 to 10 cents an hour throughout the state, why -- places
5 we're paying 40 cents an hour --

6 THE MODERATOR: Right.

7 MR. ACKERMAN: -- it would have been beneficial at
8 this time. We're approaching 10 cents an hour for power.
9 So we can't -- I don't think we have -- we can afford to
10 look at things that are just economic. That's one of the
11 reasons we're doing this ourselves rather than the Federal
12 regulations that are adopted in the Lower 48, more than
13 they are our needs, is important.

14 I think that we have to put special attention on
15 our renewable energy resources. I think every community
16 should have some sort of alternative energy, whether it's
17 wind power, solar power, hydro power, tide power. Our
18 hydrogen cells we were talking about earlier -- every
19 community should have one.

20 THE MODERATOR: While Mr. Dahl is sweating over this
21 fisheries resolution and getting it in final form we could
22 skip to Agriculture. I am somewhat guilty of having tunnel
23 vision where agriculture is concerned. I was an Iowa farm
24 boy, and I think in vast acreages of croplands that are
25 extremely highly productive under extremely favorable

25
1 conditions. And it's the breadbasket of America, the
2 Midwest. And when I compare that -- use that for a
3 yardstick to our agriculture potential in Alaska my
4 thinking becomes very confused. I can't comprehend in my
5 own mind -- and I'm short, and I feel inadequate -- I feel
6 that I just couldn't be able to get it in focus how
7 agriculture will really be of any real essence in Alaska
8 compared to what it is in the Midwest.

9 Mr. Dahl.

10 MR. DAHL: I think we've been really lax in creativity
11 in this area. There was an article in the Agroborealis,
12 the magazine of the University of Alaska extension service.
13 Some time ago they talked about a wild rice experiment that
14 didn't work very well done near Fairbanks. I'm from
15 Northern Minnesota. Wild rice is just that. It grows wild.
16 It has become a tremendously lucrative commercial crop for
17 Indians in the area. Price has increased from 50 cents a
18 pound not very many years ago to something like \$5 or \$10 a
19 pound --

20 THE MODERATOR: Right.

21 MR. DAHL: -- on the market.

22 THE MODERATOR: Gourmet food.

23 MR. DAHL: It's tremendous, the market. As I looked
24 at the potential of the area of the Yukon-Kuskokwim-Delta
25 there's room there for a cash crop because the area is

1 ideal. Water all over the place. It's the kind of thing
2 that could be raised as a cash crop. Nobody's thumping
3 that drum, and I'm not going to do it alone, but it's just
4 one area, one area of thinking that we haven't even
5 explored.

6 The Delta Barley project, certainly, is a
7 creative use of State effort to improve our agriculture
8 capability. I think we need to -- we need to do more
9 because the problem -- again, if we talk about problem
10 analysis, the problem is not so much the effective and
11 creative use of land, although that is a part of the
12 problem.

13 The problem is that it costs more than it should
14 to feed our people. And as native people are moving away
15 from subsistence food, from traditional foods that are part
16 of their culture that have sustained them well over many
17 years, the risk is they move to the less nutritious white man's
18 food that comes in boxes and cans with all the nutrition
19 taken out of it. And not only is that nutritionally
20 deficient it's very expensive. It requires a cash supply
21 that is not presently available under the present work
22 standards that we have. So it seems to me that we've --
23 that it's critical that we move toward the development of a
24 food supply in this state, that we do it with dispatch and
25 creativity in providing sufficient funding so that our

1 people can be fed better. We're not doing that now.

2 MS. BENNETT: Well, there is a program that's just
3 begun this year. I believe it's under the auspices of
4 Tanana chiefs. They have picked up on that problem. There
5 have been people in the villages this summer doing
6 gardening projects and things like that. Now, that's a
7 really direct food source, I mean a garden in the villages.
8 That makes more sense as a food supply than huge fields of
9 grain. I think that the -- when we're talking about the
10 Delta Barley projects and all you're talking about
11 marketable agriculture for cash, not as a food supply. And
12 that seems more realistic to me than to think we're going
13 to have large farms and be a breadbasket for our own people,
14 and in a direct way it's cash. I think except for
15 gardening projects. Truck gardening is very important, but
16 when we're talking about when you were comparing with Iowa --
17 we're talking about rape seed to sell to Japan, not as
18 something for food.

19 THE MODERATOR: I'm guilty of having tunnel vision
20 when I think about agriculture when applied to Alaska.

21 MR. DAHL: Mr. Chairman?

22 THE MODERATOR: Yes.

23 MR. DAHL: You think about the historic cultural shift,
24 though, with that. You're moving people that are
25 traditionally hunters and gatherers and making them farmers.

1 Now, the Hebrews did that, and Cane ended up killing Abel
2 over it. But --

3 MS. BENNETT: But a lot of that shift has already
4 taken place. People in the villages are already eating,
5 you know -- importing Coca-Cola and all. So the only thing
6 to do now is to try to make it better. It's already
7 happened. I think it should --

8 THE MODERATOR: That's happened a long time ago.

9 MS. BENNETT: That's what I'm saying. I think Mr.
10 Dahl is saying we're trying to prevent that happening, and
11 I think it's already happening.

12 MR. DAHL: I don't know that we need to prevent it,
13 but I think we need to be alert that we're not just saying,
14 "All right, folks, there's a piece of ground. Make a
15 garden." We're talking about a major cultural shift, and
16 we need to be alert and sensitive to the cultural struggles
17 that we're encouraging here in moving people from being
18 hunters and gatherers to farmers.

19 MR. ACKERMAN: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to, you know --
20 at this time we're -- you know, I think we need to take a
21 closer look at our technology that we have available to us
22 in this area. And we went to the dinner, we listened to
23 Buckminster Fuller. You know, the geodesic dome -- we
24 could control the environment where we want to do these
25 things in our agriculture. And I think we have to consider

1 this technology and develop it a little bit. It has a
2 tremendous potential. We should be able to do anything
3 anywhere the Alaska.

4 THE MODERATOR: hydroponics gardening can do
5 substantially well in communities the size of Anchorage.
6 We have that -- look at that heat going out over there,
7 that powerhouse. (Indicating.) That scavenger heat could
8 be used in a hydroponic heat house. They have the
9 powerhouse. They could have a hydroponic greenhouse there.
10 We could go on and on. At our own powerhouse we could
11 operate a hydroponic greenhouse.

12 MR. ACKERMAN: I think that our geodesic structure
13 could probably do this. I've done. It's cheap and light.
14 You don't have to bring a lot of stuff in and, yes, you
15 could do this. And I think this was something Buckminster
16 Fuller was talking about. They're talking about doing a
17 whole city under one. Surely we could put up a small dome
18 and do hydroponic gardening around the state. And I think
19 this appropriate technology should be developed in the
20 agricultural field.

21 MS. BENNETT: I think that that is happening already.
22 In Fairbanks, as a prime example, of the uses of the waste
23 heat with pipes under the ground and things like that, that
24 that's really going forward already.

25 THE MODERATOR: That's been almost Alaska when the

1 commercial company started in Fairbanks when --

2 MS. BENNETT: So is hydropower and everything. I'm
3 talking about more interest and going forward. I'm not
4 saying it's existing.

5 MR. ACKERMAN: This is all a private and individual
6 basis? You know, but I think the State, you know, is --

7 MS. BENNETT: But it's being funded -- a lot of new
8 projects that were funded in energy research were in that
9 area also.

10 MR. ACKERMAN: We should emphasize the appropriate
11 technology and agricultural field, that we develop it more
12 and expand it. It's fine. In Fairbanks we have another
13 need that when you get out of Fairbanks there's not the
14 capability to do. You know, the State should be looking at
15 it. We're obligated to do that.

16 THE MODERATOR: In the State's land policies dealing
17 with getting State lands in the hands of the residents of
18 the State -- it's very, very controversial. Their policy
19 leaves an awful lot to be desired, and I'm convinced that
20 it's been very detrimental to the development of an economy
21 from the lands. Particularly in the area of agriculture.

22 I think that we need far more liberal land policy
23 in the disposition of State lands. And when Texas was
24 settled there were no State lands or federal lands after
25 the Texas lands were disposed of. It was all in private

1 hands including the King Ranch in South Texas, the largest
2 jet ranch in the nation. And they came in with property
3 tax, the State did, and the people made the land productive.
4 They had to make it productive or the taxes would -- the
5 tax foreclosures would take the land from the people. And
6 if the State or the Federal Government needed land, they
7 had to buy it from individuals. That isn't the case in
8 Alaska. 2 percent of the lands -- not more than 2 percent
9 of it is in the private sector.

10 MR. ACHEKMAN: I think we should stress, you know,
11 land policies, you know, that meet the needs of the people,
12 and a lot better one than we've had. A lot of people are
13 aware of the problems we've had with our land policy. I
14 think I certainly support that. I don't think we have time
15 to get into the land thing here. Everyone's aware of the
16 problem of meeting the immediate needs of the people in the
17 State.

18 THE MODERATOR: The Interior Department addressed that,
19 and before the settlement act ever surfaced through land
20 allotments where people made application up to 160 acres.
21 The native peoples of Alaska. They had fishing sites,
22 campsites, hunting areas, berry picking areas, the whole
23 shot, that could be transferred to the individual's
24 families on application. That was a -- really, a good
25 approach.

1 MS. ANASOGAK: Mr. Chairman --

2 THE MODERATOR: Mrs. Anasogak.

3 MS. ANASOGAK: It seems to me when you're talking
4 about the native lifestyle when our parents and their
5 parents were living or when they were allowed to live the
6 way they have for years and years, for centuries, that has
7 changed because of the rules and regulations by the Fish
8 and Game and other agencies. We're prevented from living
9 the lifestyle we traditionally did. And now it seems to me
10 that we're trying to create something to take that place.
11 Like we're talking about agriculture, something that the
12 natives had not done before. They tried to introduce that,
13 too, to the natives. And I could understand, and I could
14 see the benefit of it, and yet I could see the other side
15 of the coin, too.

16 MS. BENNETT: So do you mean you do or you don't favor
17 the gardening projects and things like that?

18 MS. ANASOGAK: Personally?

19 MS. BENNETT: Yes. Do you feel divided yourself about
20 that?

21 MS. ANASOGAK: Uh-huh. Because I -- even now I
22 sometimes wish that I had lived a hundred years ago so that
23 I wouldn't be -- I wouldn't have been faced with this
24 problem. And yet, you know, in order to progress you need
25 to think about these things, and you need to face them.

1 And a lot of the people are not ready for that.

2 Mr. DAHL: Bob, Mr. Alexie --

3 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Alexie.

4 Mr. ALEXIE: Mr. Chairman, I've been wanting to see
5 this gardening build up again because when the first white
6 man came to my area they had a lot of planting, turnips and --

7 Mr. DAHL: Potatoes?

8 Mr. ALEXIE: Potatoes, tomatoes, and like my mother
9 and the other people who are on '60s -- they tell us that
10 we're too lazy. "You guys -- youngsters are lazy." They
11 said, "These things are fresh vegetables," what we planted
12 some years ago back in end of '50s. I think some lady came
13 in and started a pourage club. So I and the others were
14 planting turnips and cabbage, lettuce, anything that can
15 grow.

16 Well, they were growing but only once we had a
17 flood and everything had been destroyed. You know, we had
18 the chinook wind. And that was the time I quit, you know.

19 And now I'm beginning to ask myself: "Why did I quit?"
20 You know, because I would have developed some kind of a
21 good soil.

22 Right now it will be a little hard for me to
23 start because I'll start something new. And I don't have
24 any experience like my mother. If she died, who is going
25 to direct us? Maybe somebody from Idaho. And every day we

1 used to haul the slime of the fish guts, everything, to the
2 garden and pour it.

3 THE MODERATOR: Nitrogen.

4 MR. ALLALE: Uh-huh. And in wintertime they used to
5 tell us to gather the waste of the dogs and in springtime
6 pour it, you know, mix it with the soil. And everything
7 grew so good. Now just a few people are beginning to start,
8 even down where my wife came from because there was one
9 white man who used to grow these potatoes and turnips. And
10 their ladies used then for cooking.

11 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Dahl, we're ready to double back
12 to your masterpiece.

13 MR. DAHL: Well, Mr. Chairman, I don't know if I've
14 covered everything, but let's try this: Alpha Group
15 recommends that the legislature adopt a policy of using
16 revenue from nonrenewable resource development to improve
17 the economic viability of renewable resource development
18 with a view toward: One, providing technical assistance to
19 industry at State cost to improve planning, quality control
20 and marketing; two, providing creative funding programs
21 through loans and grants paid back through employment or
22 tax forgiveness, equipment provided to locally-owned fish
23 processors and fishermen by lease or lease purchase.
24 That's obviously poorly punctuated, but the idea in the
25 second one, I think, is -- and I would move, Mr. Chairman,

1 for its adoption. Second, second, second.

2 THE MODERATOR: It's been moved and seconded.

3 Discussion?

4 MR. DAHL: The idea of the second one -- Let me read
5 again to refresh your memory. It's still early.

6 "Providing creative funding programs through loans and
7 grants paid back through employment or tax forgiveness and
8 equipment provided to locally-owned fish processors and
9 fishermen by lease or lease purchase."

10 We've already talked in our deliberations about
11 the State being the owner of equipment and leasing that
12 equipment to -- we're talking about air taxi operators, to
13 improve their capital position and provide better service
14 in the bush. There's no reason why the State could not use
15 its vast resources to assist local fishermen and fish
16 processors in doing that very same thing.

17 THE MODERATOR: That's right.

18 MR. DAHL: And it would seem to me to be a good
19 investment for the state rather than have the -- a cannery,
20 for example, that needs to shift its entire emphasis, or a
21 good part of its emphasis -- I'm thinking particularly
22 about Mountain Village on the Yukon -- from a single-line
23 line cannery to a flash processing operation of freezing
24 the fish cold.

25 THE MODERATOR: Sharp freeze.

1 necessary for planning, equipment purchase and marketing
2 assistance so that the job is not done piecemeal.

3 It's not done as funds are available. It's done in a
4 comprehensively way, and it could be a very fine little
5 fish processor, and the State could be paid back its
6 investment through several ways. I'm thinking not only of
7 direct payback of cash with interest, the traditional
8 loan pay back approach, but the State has an income tax.
9 And without getting into whether it ought to continue that
10 income tax -- that's another issue that's too big for us at
11 this point. But there would be no reason why the State
12 couldn't say "for every dollar you pay to an employee we
13 will forgive you a proportionate amount of -- on your lease
14 directly or on the -- well, for every dollar you pay in
15 taxes we will forgive you a proportionate amount on your --
16 on your lease so that " -- I don't have any --

17 (Discussion off the record)

18 MR. DAHL: We've talked about that with student loans
19 where you give a student money and pays that back by coming
20 back to the state and working. Why can't that same
21 principal be used for capital development?

22 MR. FISHER: You mean getting a vested interest in the
23 establishment that's initially financed by the State by
24 those persons who are working in it gradually getting a
25 piece of the equity ending up owning the cannery?

1 MR. DAHL: That's not what I was thinking of. But,
2 for example, the cannery itself is required to pay taxes on
3 its profits, on its income. Why not forgive a portion of
4 those taxes -- why not -- no, excuse me. That's not what I
5 mean. Why not take the amount of taxes that they pay and
6 use that to forgive the lease that they owe to the State.
7 If they don't make any money there's -- that lease could be
8 an ongoing debt. But that's not a terrible burden because
9 the creditor is the State and not some bank that's going to
10 come foreclose.

11 THE MODERATOR: Are you talking about the raw fish tax?

12 MR. DAHL: I was not talking about the raw fish tax.
13 I was talk about the corporate income tax.

14 MR. ACKERMAN: I think one thing we should consider in
15 this areas is the State doing it in cooperation with the
16 regional corporations. We talked about this earlier, and
17 this is an excellent example. I think it would be much
18 more responsive to have -- and practical to have regional --
19 you know, input into this process.

20 MR. DAHL: I agree with you. What I don't want to get
21 into, Mr. Chairman -- because again the burden -- terrible
22 burden of time, is getting too specific.

23 THE MODERATOR: Uh-huh. The overview --

24 MR. DAHL: What I'm trying to see here is a means of
25 creative funding and creative payback of capital -- of

1 loans for capital projects. That's simply not been tried.

2 THE MODERATOR: Like the Shepard cannery at Mountain
3 villages. Instead of putting high quality Yukon King in a
4 can, sharp freeze it and compound the value of that fish if
5 in the retail market a thousand fold.

6 MR. ACKERMAN: Would you object to --

7 THE MODERATOR: And fund projects through innovative
8 funding to the industry to upgrade the processing
9 techniques.

10 MR. DAHL: Exactly. But do it comprehensively so that
11 you aren't dealing -- so you don't deal with the cannery
12 without dealing with the fishermen.

13 THE MODERATOR: Right.

14 MR. DAHL: If you're talking about quality control
15 you've got to have quality control from the minute that
16 fish gets out of the water.

17 THE MODERATOR: That's right. It starts right there.

18 MR. ACKERMAN: Would it take away from it too much if
19 we put in "cooperation with the native regional
20 corporations? " I think that would speak to something we're
21 trying to develop in this areas. I think.

22 MR. FISHER: Yes, that would be a good idea.

23 MR. ACKERMAN: Responsive to the problem. I think
24 that's excellent.

25 MR. FISHER: I could foresee that you could actually

1 get a piece of the equity, you know. People working in
2 there if they could kind of figure out the corporations so
3 that the forgiveness -- they would own a piece of it and if
4 the State would forgive payment, that's what such money was
5 for. That's what Mike Bradner suggested. We've never done
6 this before. We ought to give it a try.

7 MR. ACKERMAN: I think if we do it in cooperation with
8 regional corporations and we combine the assets of the
9 State with the regional corporations it's going to be to
10 everybody's benefit, and I think, you know, we'll achieve
11 what we want to do.

12 MR. FISHER: You know, the regional corporations are
13 the thing we think about first, but we don't want to forget
14 about the villages corporations.

15 MR. ACKERMAN: The corporations, that's right. But
16 this is -- we're going to have destruction -- I imagine it
17 would be developed. We have the input we want to involve
18 the region. We move from the state into regions and then
19 into villages. The closer you get to the people the more
20 responsive you're going to be to the needs.

21 MR. DAIL: Shall I read the resolution again, Mr.
22 Chairman?

23 THE MODERATOR: Please do.

24 MR. DAIL: Alpha Group recommends that the legislature
25 adopt the policy of using revenue from nonrenewable

1 resource development to improve the economic viability of
2 renewable resource development with a view toward: One,
3 providing technical assistance to industry at State cost,
4 to improve planning, quality control and marketing; two,
5 providing creative funding programs through loans and
6 grants paid back through employment or tax forgiveness and
7 equipment provided to locally owned fish processors and
8 fishermen by lease or lease purchase in cooperation with
9 native corporations and other sources of private revenue.

10 MR. STUMP: I think you're making a real problem on
11 that when you're limiting that kind of activity through
12 your wording there to just the fisheries. There's a lot of
13 other activities renewable resources.

14 THE MODERATOR: We're dealing with the fisheries
15 section at this time. That's why we're addressing
16 ourselves to this specifically.

17 MR. DAHL: I agree with you, and I have not dealt with
18 timber, if that's your specific concern.

19 MR. STUMP: Well, there's timber, there's mining,
20 there's --

21 MR. DAHL: I know.

22 MR. ACKERMAN: Well, I think --

23 MR. DAHL: Now, mining is different. Mining is a
24 nonrenewable resource.

25 MR. STUMP: That's kind of a rhetorical thing.

1 MR. DAHL: We're talking about using revenue from
2 nonrenewable resources to support renewable resources that
3 have been underfunded through the years. And timber
4 certainly is one.

5 MR. ACKERMAN: I think, you know, we can develop this
6 in the dialogue. I don't think we're going to get it all
7 in resolution. We're not going to get a resolution
8 covering every areas. But I think if we make a clear
9 record that this is our intent. This should also be, you
10 know, applied in the timber, the agriculture, you know,
11 industries. It will be a matter of record. It's going to
12 be -- we are going to have a verbatim transcript, and it
13 will be used just as much as the actual resolutions. We
14 have to stay brief if we're going to have resolutions at
15 all.

16 MS. BENNETT: Although, I don't agree with that, I
17 don't think the people will take the time, necessarily, to
18 read the full transcript. I agree that it's on record.
19 But this is what people will look at.

20 MR. ACKERMAN: I think the reason we are here having
21 the verbatim transcript is so the people--

22 MS. BENNETT: It's available, I agree with that.

23 MR. ACKERMAN: I don't think the general public is
24 going to read it but the Legislature is certainly going to
25 be looking at it, and you've opened the door and we've said

1 this is what we want to look at. We don't have the time to
2 draft a resolution, but this is something that we are
3 interested in and that should be explored, and I think that
4 it will be explored.

5 THE MODERATOR: When we were implementing State
6 government as a result of the constitutional convention and
7 writing law in the first State legislature and setting up
8 the departments we went back to the minutes of the meetings
9 of the constitutional convention. We researched the
10 minutes to dig in to see what the philosophies of the
11 delegates to the constitutional convention were. And this
12 very thing will be done by staff researchers and the
13 Legislature and the administration in dealing with the
14 resolutions that come out of this Future Frontiers
15 Conferences.

16 MR. ACKERMAN: I would move adoption of the resolution
17 at this time and emphasize that, you know, we are -- our
18 intent is clear on the record, that we don't -- we mean to
19 expand this into fisheries and-

20 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Ackerman, it's been moved and
21 seconded. I called, we had a discussion. I called for the
22 question. All those in favor signify by the customary aye.

23 (Indicating)

24 THE MODERATOR: And those not in favor by the
25 customary nay.

1 (No response.)

2 THE MODERATOR: Let the record reflect a unanimous
3 vote by the Alpha Committee.

4 MR. STUMP: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to propose a
5 resolution. The Alpha Group resolves that the State should
6 facilitate in every way possible development of Alaska's
7 vast timber resources in an expeditious, economically
8 feasible and ecologically responsible manner.

9 MR. ACKERMAN: Second.

10 MR. DAHL: Question.

11 MR. FISHER: Let's talk about that just a minute.

12 THE MODERATOR: Discussion?

13 MR. FISHER: When you talk about development you want
14 to talk about development and continuation or regeneration.
15 Because all we've done so far in forestry is develop for
16 harvest. We really just harvested. We haven't gone into
17 any of the rest of the spectrum of forest management. So
18 you ought to make some reference to that. All right. What
19 was your word? What was your language? Development?

20 MR. STUMP: That the State should facilitate in every
21 way possible development of Alaska's vast timber resources
22 in an expeditious, economically feasibility and
23 ecologically responsible manner.

24 MR. FISHER: All right. Let's put "development and
25 continuation " in that very broad -- well, you can put

1 anything in there. And I would move that as an adoption
2 after "development and continuation " of Alaska's -- that's
3 my notion.

4 MR. ACKERMAN: Second the motion.

5 THE MODERATOR: I think Representative Fisher has -- I
6 think what you're alluding to here --

7 MR. DAHL: It's been a long time.

8 THE MODERATOR: -- is reforestation of every areas
9 that's harvested must be reforested.

10 MR. STUMP: That's a present part of the State for
11 Forest Practice Act.

12 MR. FISHER: That's required by the State Practices
13 Act. But what you need to do in something like this -- in
14 effect, what we're doing is raising the conscience of the
15 State. And all that's happened so far in foresting is
16 cutting.

17 MR. STUMP: Au contraire.

18 MR. FISHER: Well, I --

19 MR. STUMP: That's simply not true. I've worked
20 extensively with the State Agencies and with the State
21 Forest Practices Act. Look at what's happened in Haines.
22 Do you think that that's the activities of the State
23 agencies. And Haines has been one of only timber harvest.
24 I think it's just the absolute opposite.

25 MR. FISHER: Well, you're --

1 MR. STUMP: Not absolute but --

2 MR. FISHER: But it's not looked at as statewide. It
3 really isn't. There is not that awareness.

4 THE MODERATOR: It is not. It is not statewide.

5 MR. FISHER: And that's the only reason I was pointing --
6 don't hang up--

7 MR. ACKERMAN: As a layman, I hadn't been to Southeast
8 too much. I was on the Boundary Commission, we flew over
9 it. I was appalled. The clear cuts, the dead stuff --
10 every other tree was dead. Our forests are not harvested,
11 they're not maintained. Our beaches are littered with
12 the deadfall. There's trees on every -- I mean, it's just
13 miles and miles of it. It is really appalling to somebody
14 that doesn't live there all the time to see what we've done
15 with that.

16 THE MODERATOR: When you go down there it isn't
17 anything to be proud of.

18 MR. ACKERMAN: You know in Yakutat --

19 MR. FISHER: I didn't mean to put you --

20 MR. ACKERMAN: You look at that stuppage that waste.
21 You've taken pictures of the difference areas, Sitka,
22 Yakutat and around and I've taken my children up to
23 Thortyone we've looked at it. And to somebody that doesn't
24 live there and look at it every day what we've done with
25 our timber is appalling. You know. And we look at

1 stunning and it sits there -- you've got 10 inches. It
2 takes a hundred years to regenerate because we don't do it.

3 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Ackerman I'm reluctant to
4 interrupt. It's -- time is running out. We're going to
5 have to dispose of the rest resolutions. We're going to--

6 MR. FISHER: Let me withdraw my motion.

7 THE MODERATOR: We have to go in session at ten
8 o'clock.

9 MR. DAHL: I'd like to speak in favor of the
10 resolution. I think the resolution is carefully worded.

11 MR. FISHER: I withdraw my amendment.

12 MR. DAHL: He's talking about ecological
13 responsibility now. That means responsibility for the
14 entire environment and the relationship of living things
15 including man to that environment. He's talking about
16 development. I think that's a philosophy that this group
17 has supported in its discussion.

18 THE MODERATOR: Ask for the question.

19 MR. DAHL: Question.

20 MR. FISHER: Yes.

21 THE MODERATOR: All those in that favor indicate by
22 the customary aye.

23 (Indicating)

24 THE MODERATOR: And those opposed by the customary nay.

25 (No response.)

1 MR. FISHER: See, it wasn't as hard as you thought it
2 was going to be.

3 THE MODERATOR: Let the record reflect a unanimous
4 vote by the Alpha Committee.

5 MR. ACKERMAN: I'd like to get back to the energy
6 sources. I think we really need to look at it. I'm going
7 to state it again. It's going to be on the record a lot of
8 times. I think we have to have some sort of alternative
9 energy for every community in Alaska's, be it hydro, wind,
10 solar, geothermal, tide power or hydrogen cells, some type
11 of alternative energy be developed.

12 THE MODERATOR: I think that time's getting so short
13 that we should concentrate, prioritize the Energy section
14 now and then address ourselves to the remaining topics, if
15 there's time. Is there any objection to this, if we jump
16 to energy now, on part of any of the body?

17 (No response)

18 Let us proceed, then, to the Energy section.

19 MR. FISHER: What are we going to do? Are we going to
20 pass a resolution on alternative energy?

21 MS. BENNETT: We're going to talk about it.

22 THE MODERATOR: We're going to discuss the resolution
23 input first. We've touched on energy numerous times
24 throughout our discussions in other areas of our
25 deliberations, and I believe we're close enough now that we

1 can proceed to put the committee's resolution together.

2 That is the feeling of the body?

3 MR. ACKERMAN: That's it.

4 THE MODERATOR: That's the feeling?

5 MR. FISHER: Go? Yeah, let's go.

6 MS. BENNETT: We haven't heard from the people here
7 who live in the small villages. That's what we're talking
8 about.

9 MS. ANASOGAK: I agree with Mr. Ackerman. Something
10 has to be done to help the small villages because right now
11 in my own little villages fuel prices over the last year
12 have doubled. And it's -- it's something that has to be
13 resolved. We need -- that's why I said I agreed with Mr.
14 Ackerman.

15 MR. DAHL: Didn't we pass a resolution last night to
16 deal with the State use of oil and gas? I thought we did.

17 MR. STUMP: Yes, we did.

18 THE MODERATOR: Alternate --

19 MR. DAHL: Oh, yes.

20 MR. FISHER: That's not quick enough. We really ought
21 to have something next week.

22 THE MODERATOR: We needed it last year.

23 MR. ACKERMAN: We had hydro power -- you know, small
24 hydro power available to us in Fairbanks with the Chenani
25 Lakes Flood Control Project. With the Federal

1 participation in that project it wasn't economically
2 feasible to do it. If we had had power generation at 10
3 cents a kilowatt hour -- if you had 10 cents a kilowatt
4 hour in the bush it would be -- you usually pay 25 percent
5 of your current electric bill. 10 cents an hour, a
6 kilowatt hour, is a lot of money but not when you're paying
7 40 cents. And you'd have the chance of that going to 20
8 cents. That's what you're looking at, and I think that's
9 the best investment we could make in our future and our
10 future generations.

11 These alternative sources are renewable. It's
12 not energy from a nonrenewable source, and they're going to
13 just perpetuate themselves. And I think that, you know, we
14 should support an alternative energy source for every
15 community in the State of Alaska's, be it hydro power, tide
16 power, wind power, solar power, geothermal power or
17 hydrogen cells. Some type of alternative energy source
18 needs to be developed. I feel we're mandated to out of our
19 nonrenewable resource funds.

20 THE MODERATOR: I feel that a resolution should
21 include direction on acquisition, selection of hydro sites.

22 MR. ACKERMAN: I think our dialogue should reflect
23 that -- I think for, you know, a broad comprehensive
24 resolution I'll state it in the form of a resolution. That
25 is: The State develop an alternative energy source for all --

1 THE MODERATOR: Every community.

2 MR. ACKERMAN: Every community in the State of Alaska --

3 MR. STUMP: Make that plural. "Sources."

4 MR. ACKERMAN: I was going to complete the resolutions --
5 not limited to hydro power, tide power, wind power, solar
6 power, geothermal power or hydrogen cells. And sites after
7 the inventory has been made of the resource, the renewable
8 resource sites should be selected and protected.

9 THE MODERATOR: We can divorce ourselves at least 20
10 percent from dependency on carbon fuels for power
11 generation.

12 MR. ACKERMAN: Could we have a second on the motion?

13 MR. DAHL: Second.

14 THE MODERATOR: It's been moved and seconded.
15 Discussion?

16 MR. ACKERMAN: I think this is the best investment we
17 could make in our future, and, like I say, it is something
18 that we saw in the Lower 48 where hydro power, which is
19 renewable power source, has stabilized the economy, and the
20 benefit has been, you know, to the people there and the
21 cost of living. And to -- I feel we're mandated to do that
22 with our renewable resource. Particularly when we consider
23 the energy crisis that we do have in the world. It's not
24 just in Alaska's and the United States. It's the world --

25 THE MODERATOR: Move the question? Did you -- may I

1 read what I have here so everyone agrees on what we're
2 saying. "The State develop an alternative energy," or
3 would you like "source" or "sources" for every community in
4 the State of Alaska's -- singular or plural?

5 MR. FISHER: Sources. Let's go plural.

6 MS. DUYACHAK: "For every community in the State of
7 Alaska's not limited to hydro power, wind, solar,
8 geothermal power or hydrogen cells and sites after an
9 inventory is made should be selected"?

10 MR. ACKERMAN: "Protected." I think after hydro power
11 there was tide power.

12 MS. DUYACHAK: Hydro, wind, solar -- "including but
13 not limited to hydro, tide, wind, solar, geothermal, and
14 hydrogen cells?

15 MR. ACKERMAN: Yes. Or hydrogen.

16 MS. DUYACHAK: Okay.

17 THE MODERATOR: All those in favor of the adoption of
18 the resolution before us signify by saying aye.

19 (Indicating)

20 THE MODERATOR: All those opposed to the adoption of
21 the resolution signify by saying Nay.

22 (No response.)

23 THE MODERATOR: Let the record reflect that the
24 resolution has been adopted unanimously.

25 MR. FISHER: Are we going to do anything on

1 conservation of energy?

2 MR. ACKERMAN: I think the record should reflect that,
3 you know -- I think this is one of the biggest areas of
4 conservation, developing alternative sources. You know,
5 technology. And we certainly should expand on it.

6 MR. FISHER: Okay. Why don't we leave it at that.
7 What's the next priority?

8 THE MODERATOR: In the areas now of tourism we've
9 really only begun to scratch the surface in Alaska. The
10 real potential of the tourism is that substantial part of
11 our economy. Irrelevant I think that we could certainly
12 take a page out of Hawaii's book. If it would make an
13 in-depth study of their techniques, their philosophies,
14 their innovation of professionalism of developing tourism
15 in Hawaii.

16 MR. DAHL: Waikiki would be nice to bring up here.

17 MR. FISHER: Hey, hey, hey.

18 MR. DAHL: It would be creative.

19 MR. ACKERMAN: I move that we put up a geodesic dome
20 and bring Waikiki over.

21 THE MODERATOR: We don't have time for that much
22 levity, really.

23 MR. ACKERMAN: Why should we have to go to Hawaii with
24 the technology we have now.

25 MR. STUMP: You mean we can bring it here?

1 THE MODERATOR: The tourism promotional techniques in
2 the manner which they cater their tourists and promote
3 their tourists.

4 MR. ACKERMAN: I'd like to say something on -- you
5 know, we look at tourism and the dollars that it brings in.
6 We talked about education and sending our children outside
7 to school. You know, this is -- the people in the United
8 States know less about Alaska than they know about foreign
9 countries. And the tourism does proceed most of the
10 education of the people of the United States.

11 And if we had a tourist industry 50 years ago, we
12 wouldn't be in the problem we're in with D-2 right now,
13 this thing that the Congress of the United States is
14 dictating to us through ignorance. You know, putting their
15 standards on us. That's what we're doing.

16 I think the tourist industry needs to be
17 developed for that main issue, for education of the people
18 of the United States and what Alaska is and Alaska's people
19 are. You know, more than -- I think that's a real fringe
20 benefit besides the dollars that we create. And we have to
21 look at that. But I think it's appalling that the people
22 in the United States know less about Alaska -- and they do --
23 they know less about Alaska than they do about most foreign
24 countries. When I went to school -- and I didn't finish
25 school because I couldn't -- you know, it had no

1 credibility to me. I came up here in 1945. I was supposed
2 to living in an igloo. And the people in the United States
3 still think we're living in igloos. I was one of the
4 fortunate few, I've seen an igloo. In bad weather that
5 hunters were in there, they put up an igloo in 20 minutes.
6 It was a temporary shelter on the ice. I feel very
7 fortunate to have see one, and it took a long time. But
8 the people in the United States think we lived igloos.
9 They wonder what kind of food we eat. So, I think the
10 tourist industry as an educational process, you know, for
11 the country is really valuable.

12 MR. STUMP: I really agree with you.

13 THE MODERATOR: Some in the United States think all
14 the people in Alaska are Eskimos. A young lad told me one
15 when I got up. I had come to his home as a guest and with
16 his father and got up in the morning and this youngster
17 said, "I know who you are, you're that Eskimo from Alaska.
18 And I had some kids come over and they wanted to see that
19 Eskimo from Alaska. They think all the people in Alaska
20 are Eskimos. These kids were around 10 years old.

21 MR. STUMP: I really agree tourism has a tremendous
22 potential for educating the rest of the people in the other
23 state of Alaska's problems. I think the state would be
24 missing a bet -- a good bet if they didn't capitalize on
25 that when these people were in the State and providing them

1 the kind of information to more fully understand the state
2 and its issues and problems. Unfortunately, there is for
3 the most part, a very small portion of the year in which
4 you have very many tourists. This is particularly true --
5 well, I think it's true throughout the entire state. And
6 as such they have a hard time comprehending what kind of
7 problems we have when we don't have 20 hours of sunlight
8 during the day and the sun is shining and it's nice.

9 I had wished that they would have had an interpretive
10 program, perhaps on the ferry system when Mr. Ackerman was
11 down there so he better understood the timber harvesting
12 process and understood what it was that was happening out
13 there. Granted, a shore cut areas is not a very pretty
14 site for sight for the first two years, but there are a lot
15 of things that have to be interpreted in many areas, not
16 just timber but in fisheries, harvesting and in various
17 other activities that we have throughout the state so that
18 people come away with a really accurate understanding of
19 what it is that Alaska -- that Alaskans go through living.

20 MR. ACKERMAN: I took my family down -- we spent a
21 couple of weeks down there, you know, so they would be
22 familiar with that. That's a different world, exterior
23 Alaska, than it is from the North Slope.

24 THE MODERATOR: It's time to knock it off. We're
25 going to have to go down --

1 MR. FISHER: We're not going to do anything on tourism?
2 have we done anything on land at all?

3 THE MODERATOR: We have to go in in seven minutes.

4 MR. BENNETT: I'd rather not do it than do it in haste.
5 too

6 MR. DALL: I would too. I agree.

7 THE MODERATOR: What?

8 MR. DALL: I don't think we should do it if we have to
9 do it in haste

10 MR. FISHER: Somebody else will cover it.

11 MR. DALL: Like talking about sin. You could say
12 you're against it.

13 MR. FISHER: You mean for tourism? Hey, now, wait.
14 They catch all the biggest fish. They keep us off the
15 beaches? I'm not quoting Alaska. I'm quoting Hawaii. I
16 was just there, and that's what the Hawaiians were saying.
17 So it's a mixed blessing.

18 MR. BENNETT: There's an awful lot to talk about.

19 THE MODERATOR: I don't think that we should treat
20 this in haste at all. We don't have time to be deliberate.
21 We don't have time to treat the lakes issue without doing
22 it in haste, so we'll have to let the lakes continue to go
23 to the dogs and the land go to the D-2 and the tourism go
24 to the Hawaiians. In summary.

25 MR. STUMP: I would like -- before we break or go down

1 there I would like to refer to the resolution on
2 transportation. And as it's typed up it's not as I
3 remember it being passed the other day. I think it's very
4 minor but very critical, dramatically, I think it's
5 critical in what the intent is. On paragraph No. 1, it
6 says "Expand and upgrade the Marine Highway system to the
7 entire State", and I believe that we had agreed that it
8 would be "throughout" the entire State.

9 MS. BENNETT: That's right. That's right.

10 MR. STUMP: And I think that's important.

11 MR. FISHER: That's right.

12 MR. STUMP: And on Paragraph No. 5 it was "upgrade and
13 expand". And I believe we agreed that "community" was a
14 more --

15 MR. DAHL: Yes. I'm sorry. This was taken from my
16 notes, and I had not written that in. But that's correct.

17 MR. FISHER: That was it? "To the entire State," "throughout
18 the entire State"?

19 MR. DAHL: Yes, it should be "throughout the entire
20 State" and the "village" was replaced with "intercommunity
21 road system", is that the one?

22 MR. STUMP: Yes.

23 MR. FISHER: Which one was that?

24 MR. STUMP: No. 5.

25 MR. FISHER: That's supposed to be intercommunity. Oh,

1 I see.

2 42. DAHL: Yes, those -- we had agreed on that, and I
3 don't think any action of the body is necessary, but I
4 appreciate that.

5 43. DUYACHAK: Okay. I've changed my master copy, so
6 if each of you would like to change yours, everybody would
7 be correct.

8 THE MODERATOR: Okay. Where is it?

9 44. DUYACHAK: On the resolution regarding
10 transportation. It's --

11 THE MODERATOR: So. Under 5?

12 45. DUYACHAK: Right. On paragraph 1, "expand and
13 upgrade the Marines Highway System throughout the entire
14 State", replace the "to", the second to the last word in
15 the third line with "throughout."

16 THE MODERATOR: That's right.

17 46. DUYACHAK: And then in Paragraph 5. Upgrade and
18 expand intercommunity road systems. Replace "village" with
19 "intercommunity."

20 47. FISHER: And I've got a question to the staff.
21 Are we going to get names and addresses of all of the
22 participants? I may be suffering from the Stockholm
23 syndrome and I might want to actually look in on somebody
24 when I'm in some of these areas.

25 48. DUYACHAK: My understanding was a list like that

1 was going to be prepared for today. I haven't seen it yet.

2 MR. DAHL: What is the Stockholm Syndrome?

3 MR. FISHER: Well, the Stockholm Syndrome occurred
4 when there was a group in Stockholm -- I think it was
5 Stockholm -- that were trapped in a bank by a bunch of bank
6 robbers and after a while after being held hostage -- "Hey,
7 we've been hostages here. We ought to identify one
8 another." It was very facetious and very convoluted.

9 MR. ACKERMAN: I would really appreciate the
10 opportunity to participate in this group. I think a future
11 would be desired.

12 MR. FISHER: It would make a difference. I -- a
13 little bit of self interest involved in that -- get around
14 the state to some extent, and part of my activities should
15 include, you know, seeing you in the event I get an
16 opportunity and, you know, let you know what's going on.
17 Because we do -- I get involved.

18 MR. ACKERMAN: I would appreciate it.

19 MR. STUMP: Let's see if we can catch you the biggest
20 fish down in Ketchikan.

21 MR. FISHER: I'm more interested in berries, if it's
22 consumptive. I'm not really --

23 MR. ACKERMAN: You know, the first job--

24 MR. DAHL: Mr. Chairman, can we go off the record?
25 Are we through?

1 MS. BENNETT: Oh, we're still on?

2 THE MODERATOR: Let's go through these resolutions
3 some more in summary. Under the communications resolution
4 we have here: "Expand and upgrade communications servicing
5 facilities throughout Alaska." Either I didn't interpret
6 what we had in that draft copy or this isn't worded right
7 because we wanted total saturation. We say "throughout", I
8 fear that "throughout" might leave a loophole. It might be
9 throughout the state but might not be total saturation.
10 Expand and upgrade communications services and facilities --

11 MR. DAHL: "In every community". Is that better?

12 THE MODERATOR: "In every Alaskan community".

13 MR. DAHL: Taa-daa.

14 THE MODERATOR: "Along with special consideration to".
15 We could amend that right here and now.

16 MR. DAHL: What could be done?

17 MR. FISHER: Just change it.

18 MR. STUMP: Second.

19 MR. FISHER: Question.

20 THE MODERATOR: Question?

21 MR. DAHL: Question.

22 THE MODERATOR: Those in favor indicate by the
23 customary aye.

24 (Indicating)

25 THE MODERATOR: Those opposed by the customary nay.

1 (No response.)

2 THE MODERATOR: Okay. The ayes have it. Let the
3 record reflect the unanimous vote.

4 MR. STUMP: I think the single toll area is just bound
5 to run into an awful lot of trouble.

6 MR. DAHL: I think it's a creative idea. That single
7 toll area. I think that's a creative idea.

8 MR. FISHER: The APUC has been talking about it for
9 months, but every time they talk about it --

10 THE MODERATOR: I know.

11 MR. ACKERMAN: Well, you know, I --

12 THE MODERATOR: Let us proceed, please. It's time.
13 The financing resolution?

14 MR. FISHER: You mean you want to look at it and make
15 sure --

16 THE MODERATOR: An overview.

17 MR. FISHER: Make sure it's what it ought to be.

18 MR. DUYACHAK: These things have been typed several
19 times, so if you could just review them and make sure all
20 the corrections have been made.

21 THE MODERATOR: Let's move very rapidly, folks.

22 MR. FISHER: How are these things going to be
23 presented?

24 THE MODERATOR: We'll have to have a spokesman for the
25 Alpha group to present them on the floor, I believe. If

1 It all the time.

2 MR. ACKERMAN: Mr. Chairman, I don't mean to restrict
3 your mandate by doing it, but I believe the Alpha Group is
4 going to be the first group to comment, and I think, you
5 know, we ought to recognize the people that put this
6 conference together. I think it was an invaluable
7 conference. I know it was for me, and I have a better
8 understanding of the problems in the State, you know, and
9 to face other people. I think everybody in this room does.

10 We are all from different areas and with different
11 occupations and, you know, different lifestyles, and I
12 think in that sense we've all benefited tremendously and we
13 have a common goal, and that's, you know, a better
14 lifestyle for everybody. And I think that we have a better
15 chance of achieving just through participating in this
16 conference.

17 THE MODERATOR: I'm thankful that people from the bush
18 and small communities have had an opportunity to
19 participate. I'm very grateful for that.

20 MR. FISHER: I think the participation from rural
21 Alaska is heavier this one than it was in the last one.

22 MR. DAHL: I agree.

23 MR. FISHER: And there's something else that showed up.
24 In addition to that there's heavier participation of the
25 women. I've got a copy of the last attendance roster in

1 1969, and there's a lot more from the rural areas and a lot
2 more women. As a matter of fact, I think the Beta Group
3 has almost been -- well, they've got a woman chairman and I
4 think they've got a group of women that I'm sure somebody --
5 I know got Red Swanson sore but --

6 THE MODERATOR: I'm not a male chauvenist. I liberated
7 my wife the day I married her and she --

8 MR. FISHER: Wait a minute. You've got to be careful
9 with those, Bob.

10 MR. DAHL: Mr. Chairman, as long as we're talking
11 about that and as long as we're still on the record, let me
12 just state one nagging concern that I've had about
13 participation --

14 THE MODERATOR: Women?

15 MR. DAHL: No, not about women but about participation
16 in the conference. The '69 conference was marked by the
17 presence of traditional State leadership: Bob Atwood, Dan
18 Cuddy, Byron Mallott, many other names that were well
19 recognized in both the white and the native community. I
20 think a significant -- I think it's important that this
21 conference -- I'm saying that badly. I think that their
22 absence has affected this conference, and I'm a little bit
23 uneasy about it because I see that kind of leadership as
24 really a shadow legislature. I see the real effectiveness
25 of the traditional leadership in this state not

1 participating here diminishing the importance of this
2 conference, and I'm sorry about that. I think it -- we
3 would have been better off if they were here.

4 MR. STUMP: I would echo that.

5 THE MODERATOR: Not altogether.

6 MR. ACKERMAN: I'd like to really comment on this. I
7 think the people that are our leaders are doing what we
8 want them to do should be listening to what we are doing
9 and they are going to be listening to what we are doing.
10 I don't think they should have been here telling us what
11 they should be doing. I think we should be listening to
12 your attorneys. And I think that we are going to do that.
13 I think that their not being here hasn't told us what they
14 needed. We're telling them what we need.

15 MR. DAHL: I'm not talking about elective leadership.
16 I'm talking about the shadow leadership that hovers over
17 that--

18 MR. FISHER: He's talking about the bankers.

19 MR. ACKERMAN: I think when they look at the
20 transcript --

21 MR. DAHL: They never will.

22 MR. FISHER: We've already had a out-down. The
23 Anchorage Times already has an editorial.

24 MR. DAHL: Mr. Chairman. May we go off the record.

25 MS. BENNETT: Let's go off the record and discuss this.

1 THE MODERATOR: Adjourned.

2 MR. STUMP: Second.

3 MR. DAHL: Done.

4 (Whereupon, at 10:05 a.m. the proceedings were
5 adjourned.)

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