

ALASKA LEGISLATURE SPECIAL COMMITTEE / SUBJECT FILES 86 / 2

837 SCOMM30 : CONFERENCE ON ALASKA'S FUTURE FRONTIERS 1979

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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LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, STATE OF ALASKA

Conference on Alaska's Future Frontiers

Thursday, December 6, 1979

Sheraton Anchorage Hotel

Anchorage, Alaska

Legislative Council Library
Agency
611

Reported by: Pamela Rozycki, CSR

BETA GROUP PROCEEDINGS

(December 6, 1979, 10:00 a.m.)

MR. VAN DOREN: Ladies and gentlemen, I would like to begin. I think probably the best thing is grab a cup of coffee first and then we can get started. If you don't have any. I guess everybody has enough. My name is Guy Van Doren. I will be your facilitator for the next two and a half days. Before the afternoon session, we will have chosen a group leader from among you, and the group leader or leaders as the case may be, and I will, will be working together with you to help us smoothly arrive at the conclusions that we are going to be working on. As you can see by the agenda, and some people have talked about this, this is a very unstructured type of a meeting. We purposely set it up that way because this is your conference. This is not our conference. It's not a conference run by the Legislature or run by the Administration. It is your conference to be run by you with us here to help you and to work with you and advise you.

As we go through the general categories, we will be discussing this afternoon, we will be discussing direct services. Tomorrow we will be discussing finances in the

1 morning, and then in the afternoon we will be discussing
2 resources. The five major broad subjects, including
3 transportation and education, they will now be joined in
4 under direct services.

5 As we go into the general subjects, we will be
6 using the authors of the papers of the booklets you will
7 receive. Also, we have some supplements for you to hand
8 out today. We will be going through, and we are hoping
9 that you will base some of your discussion on the papers.
10 The authors will be available as resource persons to come
11 in and talk to us if we desire. We also will be soliciting
12 your ideas on the general subjects and exactly what you
13 would like to see happen in the future of Alaska. Each of
14 the recommendations that come out of this group we will be
15 filling out in a short form with the general area of the
16 category, specific recommendations of this group, the major
17 factors or considerations leading to why we came to these
18 conclusions.

19 We will try to work out a financial impact, both
20 for fiscal year 1981 and projected for the next ten years.
21 Each of these recommendations will be gathered together
22 from all five of the groups that are working, and we will
23 come together on Saturday and each group will submit a
24 report.

25 After the conference is over, the recommendations

1 from each of the groups will be tabulated, put into book
2 form, along with papers, and will be utilized for
3 distribution to the Legislature, to the Administration and
4 for future action on them.

5 This morning, I would like to start out with
6 introductions. We are all going to be a group. We are all
7 going to be working together for the next two and a half
8 days. Some of it will be some long hours and some long
9 discussion, and I think it would be a good way to start for
10 us to get to know each other. You will be in this group
11 throughout the whole time. The staff will remain the same
12 throughout the whole time. And the more friendly we are,
13 the better we are going to get along.

14 First of all, I would like to introduce the staff
15 that will be working with you. We have a staff of three
16 people who have just gone through the internship program
17 with the Legislature. They will be working with the
18 Legislature during the up coming session. These people are
19 here to help you, to serve you. All staff are identified
20 by the orange cards, whether it's our people -- if you need
21 to utilize the other people if we are not around then we
22 will have somebody else help you.

23 First of all in the back of the room next to the
24 coffee pot is Sandy Bradley and she is from Juneau. And
25 why don't you tell us about yourself?

1 MS. BRADLEY: I am going to be working with Freeman
2 from the Legislature. I am originally from Ketchikan and
3 moved to Juneau about three years ago, so I am an Alaskan.

4 MR. VAN DOREN: Okay, and next I would like to
5 introduce Elana Peeley.

6 MS. PEELEY: My name is Elana Peeley and I am from
7 Bethel. And I am not sure who I will be working with.

8 MR. VAN DOREN: And the next individual that will be
9 assisting us is Jay and I will ask him to stand up and
10 pronounce his name and tell you a little bit about himself.

11 MR. PENEKAS: My last name is Penekas. I am from
12 Anchorage now and lived in Juneau and hopefully you guys
13 will be working for us.

14 MR. VAN DOREN: Okay, I am going to sit down for a
15 minute. And I would like to start with the right side of
16 the table. What I would like to do, I would like to keep
17 this informal. This is an informal session today. This
18 morning is definitely going to be informal. I would like
19 to you stand up and say a little bit about yourself, and if
20 you have an idea, if you would like to express an idea of
21 what you want out of the conference or what you see about
22 the conference or any ideas that you have brought into the
23 conference, we would like you to share those with us now.
24 We want you to be open. We want you to feel for the next
25 two and a half days we are all family. So anything you

1 would like to say, but definitely your name and where you
2 are from and your interest in the convention and I will
3 start out from my right hand side.

4 MS. DAVIS: Since I have to open it up first I will
5 just introduce myself. I am Bettye Davis and I live here
6 in Anchorage. I would like to see things come out of this
7 conference, but since I was caught cold, I am going to pass
8 on that.

9 MR. DESILIO: I am Steve Delisio. I am an attorney in
10 Anchorage. I lived in Fairbanks for about eight years and
11 have been here that long as well. I was with the Brookings
12 seminar as a delegate.

13 I think probably I could sum my aspirations for
14 this conference as I felt about the Brookings Conference
15 and that is to say that I think that what I would like to
16 see is a goal of creating opportunity for the people of our
17 State. It seems to me that with the great wealth, the
18 great opportunities that we have here in Alaska, there is
19 no reason why we should be victimized by the same kind of
20 problems that exist in the Lower 48 States which restrict
21 opportunity, restrict enterprise, restrict imagination,
22 restrict the ability of their human spirit it seems to me.
23 And it seems that Alaska has an opportunity to break free
24 of all of that or at least a great deal of it and I think
25 Alaska has the aid and means of doing so.

1 MS. GUESS: I am Carolyn Guess, I am from Anchorage
2 and lived here for 20 years. For the past four years I
3 have been a member of the Alaska Public Utilities
4 Commission. And with that opportunity has come a learning
5 process for me. And of particular interest to me is the
6 problem and the opportunities we face particularly in the
7 energy area. In my particular shop we are seeing daily
8 crises in energy.

9 We are seeing the escalating costs of diesel fuel
10 create insurmountable problems, particularly for the people
11 in rural Alaska. And I guess if I was to say what I would
12 like this conference, to focus on, I guess, it's however
13 each group decides to go that the word creativity be an
14 important word.

15 MR. FISON: My name is David Fison. I was here ten
16 years ago for the Brookings Institute and appreciate again
17 sharing in this. I have been an United Methodist pastor
18 for the last 30 years and the last 20 in Alaska I was in
19 various areas of the State. I have been currently in the
20 colleges in Anchorage, Anchorage Community College, Alaska
21 State University. I appreciate Mr. Merdes's education and
22 spiritual qualities because those are what I am interested
23 in, of course.

24 MR. CHARLEY: I am Walter Charley from
25 Glennallen, Copper River area. I have been with the Copper

1 River Natives Association for board members several years
2 and I just got released from it last month. Some young
3 fellow took my place.

4 My interest is a power, power resource, water
5 power relationship. And we have a -- we are going to have
6 to rebuild the village one of these years. We worked last
7 summer, we put a road in there, into the village. Now, we
8 are thinking that before we start rebuilding the village, I
9 would like to -- we would like to think about power
10 resource. We got water running down there. We got Sparks
11 Creek. And there is a place in Town Lake that runs the Old
12 Tunnel down through the underground which water still runs
13 through down there would make a pretty good power resource.

14 We wrote a letter to -- I had an engineer working
15 with me down there last summer, and I had the -- went down
16 to see this place, and we wrote a letter to Washington, D C
17 about this to see what kind of a help we could get in there.
18 And we haven't heard anything from the State yet.

19 MS. CROFT: My name is Toni Croft. I am a teacher
20 for the Anchorage Community College. And I have several
21 interests, but the primary one, I guess, would be in trying
22 to find some insights into the problems in post secondary
23 education and seeing if we can't improve what we are
24 getting from the community colleges and the University of
25 Alaska.

1 MR. GIBSON: I am Bob Gibson. I've lived in Alaska
2 for about 30 years continually. I have been in the
3 communications, sailing, in education. I am currently a
4 teacher in the division at the Kuskokwim Community College
5 in Bethel. I have got all sorts of things I am vitally
6 interested in here. I am an alternative energy nut. I am
7 interested in rural economic development and got some hot
8 ideas on transportation you will hear about those later.

9 What I was struck by today was a sense of
10 community here. I met a lady I have only known by
11 correspondence from Alaska, and I see people whose faces
12 are familiar to me. Hey, this is a whole integrated
13 independent community and I should like for my part to see
14 that governed and give direction to everything we do here.

15 MR. FAIRBANKS: My name is Grant Fairbanks. I live
16 in the Kuskokwim River near Steitmute. I am interested in
17 lots of things, farming, fishing, energy, ecology, and
18 that's about all I have to say.

19 MS. DICKSON: My name is Abi Dickson. I have lived
20 in Alaska for about 15 years. I used to live in Fairbanks.
21 And I lived in Kodiak. And I have to admit to myself that
22 I am a fringe person and now living in Unalaska out in the
23 Aleutians. I have been interested in Alaska for my entire
24 life. And I am on the City Council in Unalaska. One of
25 the things that I have been trying to emphasize out there,

1 we are an island community in the Aleutians. We are an
2 island community in Alaska. In trying to determine what
3 was the basic common denominator of all the people that
4 have moved into the Aleutians for whatever reason, there is
5 one basic common denominator in that we are at the time
6 this only people on the face of the earth that are living
7 out there. And I think that in Alaska we are the only
8 people living here, and it would be nice, as Bob says, we
9 are an integrated community, I would like to see that out
10 of this conference we become more integrated, emphasizing
11 our self-sufficiency needs in energy, in agricultural
12 pursuits, that we try and bring ourselves into focus as a
13 unit. We can't live happily after here. We can't live
14 happily after anywhere. Thank you.

15 MR. GAZEWAY: My name is H P Gazeway. I have lived
16 in Anchorage for the last year and a half. I am retired,
17 self-employed. I first came to Alaska in the early 1950s.
18 I lived in Palmer, was with the University U S D A. The
19 last 20 years I was in Juneau. My work mainly was
20 concerned with resource and program planning. I am here
21 mainly just because the reason which I came to Alaska,
22 which most of you came to Alaska. And I am interested in
23 government organization, particularly effectiveness and
24 efficiency, and I was attending the Brookings Conference in '69.
25 I don't know what I expect to come out of this one. In

1 this way I hope it to be much more successful in Alaska.
2 It's good to see so many people here that I have crossed
3 paths with previously.

4 MS. PATE: My name is Mary Jane Pate. I was born in
5 Rampart and lived in Alaska not by choice, because it's
6 home. I, too attended the Brookings ten years ago. And
7 because of my involvement as an officer with a native
8 village corporation and, as past president of the national
9 nonprofit corporation, my interest lies in all the fields
10 that you have specific priorities, I think, this year would
11 be land, land use planning, any type of planning or what
12 resource we have in the State of Alaska with expertise to
13 land use planning, utilization, development of any kind.
14 Secondly, of course, education, with my husband being on
15 the Board of Regents. But again, thinking back home and
16 Grade 1, upgrading Grade 1 up, and perpetuating and
17 enhancing our higher education. But also, we've got to
18 work at home and the quality of education at Grade 1 so the
19 students would be able to go on into higher ed. Another
20 thing, of course, is economical development planning. But
21 everything on here that you've got is all relevant to the
22 time, so I am open for any help.

23 MR. CARLSON: Dwayne Carlson, president of the Alaska
24 AFL-CIO, currently from Juneau. Prior to that ten years in
25 Anchorage, prior to that 17 years in Fairbanks.

1 I would like to associate myself with Carolyn
2 Guess' remarks. We are aware that there will be a great
3 amount of money. And as I think Chairman Meekins said, he
4 had a request for about three times that amount of projects.
5 I would hope out of this conference we can come with some
6 new concept to have this trickle back to the individual.
7 And I think that can only be done if we can get a
8 comprehensive new approach to the energy problem, and I
9 think tied right with that is the transportation problem.

10 If we are not successful in doing that in the
11 State of Alaska, most of that is going to be because the
12 individual can't afford to live here any longer. It's fine
13 to have a fine campus and I agreed that we need it. The
14 Labor movement has always supported it. In my opinion,
15 Professor Hesser (phonetic) is more the individual for the
16 university than any college.

17 I try to take the different papers around the
18 State, and if we don't do something to help that individual
19 owner and soon, I think we are all a failure. A State
20 that's rich in natural resources, there just has to be some
21 way to do it. I hope that out of this conference we can do
22 that.

23 Thank you.

24 MR. VAN DOREN: I think we can go to the other side
25 of the table and back up this direction, of delegates.

1 MR. DAVIS: My name is Larry Davis. I am from Nome.
2 I guess my primary interest in being down here is to try to
3 focus to renewable resources. I think there has been too
4 much attention spent to nonrenewable. If renewable
5 resources are kind of left in the aftermath, I think it's
6 time we focus some attention on the renewable resources in
7 the State of Alaska. And the primary reason I have is
8 personal. It's just not only to the State of Alaska but to
9 the world. I think we should pay more attention to
10 renewable resource and focusing too much attention on
11 nonrenewable resources.

12 MS. CARPENTER: I am Diane Carpenter, president of
13 Bethel. I have lived in the Kuskokwim Valley for about 25
14 years. As a teacher, I am interested in education. As a
15 council member in Bethel, which is the city that has a
16 number of problems, our interests range over a wide area
17 including approving justice system, tax base, planning for
18 appropriate economic development, planning for appropriate
19 technology and energy conservation, planning to avoid the
20 State deterioration, and especially for working for
21 enhanced local decision and control and trying to see that
22 the lifestyle that exists in that area is protected as much
23 as possible.

24 My overall goal for this conference would be that
25 the increasing split that I have observed in the past two

1 years between urban and rural sections of the State could
2 perhaps be healed in some way and that we could focus on
3 some of the needs of the State overall and on how we can
4 each see other points of view and work together.

5 MR. GORSUCH: My name is Lee Gorsuch. I am with the
6 University of Alaska, director of the University Research.
7 I have lived in Anchorage for about ten years. I have two
8 lovely children that are now part of the Anchorage school
9 system. I am here as a delegate, not so much as from the
10 university, but rather as a citizen concerned that Alaska
11 does have an opportunity of trying to basically foster its
12 own self alliance. I think the main thing we need to be
13 concerned about is our ability to take care of ourselves in
14 the future. At the same time, the additional self alliance
15 I have been concerned about. What I sense is take care of
16 ourselves and ignore everybody else. I think we have a
17 great deal of responsibility, a responsibility not only to
18 ourselves and our children, but also to the nation and also
19 to the world. Alaska occupies a neat part in the nation's
20 energy situation. We also represent a very unique part in
21 the environment of the entire globe of the planet earth. I
22 hope that we don't lose our perspective of our goal as a
23 unique environment and I hope we also do not lose sight of
24 our obligations as an integral part of the United States of
25 America.

1 MS.FLYNN: I am Heather Flynn, and I live right here
2 in Anchorage. And I have for years been a member of the
3 Anchorage School Board here, and it's only by an accident
4 of the alphabet Mr. Gorsuch and I are sitting here side by
5 side. And he is a new member of that board. He didn't
6 mention that.

7 I have also functioned for some years as the
8 legislative representative, that's a fancy word for
9 lobbyist, of the Anchorage School Board to the Legislature,
10 some years with a great deal of success and some years with
11 no success at all. I have throughout that period of time
12 worked very hard at getting the urban and rural areas to
13 work in very close association with one another to try to
14 bridge the gap that Diane mentioned between the urban and
15 rural areas.

16 In addition to my obvious interest in education,
17 I have a much broader interest in the entire both economic
18 and shall we say philosophical development of the State.
19 We seem to be in a position financially this year where we
20 can build a very great deal. But my stomach familiarity
21 with finances tells me that we better pay some attention as
22 to how we are going to operate what we build in the future
23 and we better keep very close sight of that area. And I
24 hope some discussion in that area comes out in this
25 conference.

1 One other interest that I have that I would like
2 to see developed in this conference is the whole issue of
3 the use of the land. And I am not a D-2 rah-rah. That
4 issue, in my opinion, has been talked into the earth too
5 far.

6 What I am interested in is the use of the land as
7 it impacts the individual. I have a very strong feeling
8 that people's individual mental health is very much
9 associated with the kind of environment that they live
10 literally right next to, whether that's a park or a super
11 highway and how we plan our communities, not just how we
12 use the land for hunting and fishing and drilling the oil,
13 but how we plan our communities has a very great deal to do
14 with how happily we live in those communities. And I would
15 hope that we could find some room in this conference for
16 some discussion on that.

17 MR. CHAPADOS: My name is Frank Chapados. I am an
18 Alaskan by birth. I have resided in practically all of the
19 areas of the State and have, I think, a very good
20 understanding of the problems of Alaska. I am a
21 businessman. I have been in business now for about 25
22 years in the Fairbanks area. I have served in the State
23 Legislature the first four years of Statehood and also was
24 a member of the Brookings Institute meetings that were held
25 in 1969.

1 I am looking forward to participating in this
2 conference and I feel that with the experience that I have
3 and the interest in Alaska that I can make a contribution
4 to any of the discussions that are going to be held.

5 Frankly, I am not sure what I want to see come out of this
6 conference, but I do believe that we in Alaska have the
7 opportunity to create a life-style which may require some
8 compromise on the part of all of us that would be the envy
9 of the rest of the world. And we have the tools to do it
10 ith, and what we need to do is learn to agree and to set
11 some goals to plan our future and to follow through and do
12 what we can, what I think we can accomplish.

13 I was impressed with Ed's remarks about education
14 this morning. I am not sure that I need to think that we
15 should put all of our resources into that area, but I think
16 we have to beef it up to the point where it's going to
17 attract our Alaskans and make them want to attend our
18 university and other institutions of learning in Alaska.
19 And I think we can. By so doing we are also going to
20 attract the kind of people that will help us to develop the
21 kind of leadership that we need to carry out our objectives
22 which I hope we are going to be able to make
23 recommendations on here at this meeting.

24 Thank you.

25 MS. COOKE: I am Margaret Cooke from Bethel. I have

1 three children, two of whom are in school now. And I was
2 here at the Brookings Conference ten years ago. I have a
3 lot of interests in a lot of things that are in the report,
4 problems we have out in the Bethel area. What I am
5 interested in is upgrading our educational system, mainly,
6 plus the energy problem. There is people out in the
7 villages who will be paying over a dollar, probably up to
8 two dollars a gallon, if they could get the oil add on the
9 gas. And I think with a State so rich in oil, that
10 shouldn't be so. And I am hoping that this conference will
11 come out with, you know, positive suggestions.

12 MR. CROW: My name is J. B. Crow, I am Margaret
13 Cooke's Bethel neighbor. She lives in the elite part of
14 Tim Town. I live in the part that's called Louse Town. I
15 divide my time between about nine months in Bethel, about
16 the remainder split in getting turned on with British
17 Columbia people who are deep in the fishery thing and up
18 the Dishna to a side stream up the Ditnuk. D I T N U K.
19 And that's sort of a retreat and a refreshing of the spirit.
20 I am very impressed with the seriousness and the profundity
21 and the nobility of these expressions. I have to confess
22 my prejudices. I can't beat talking about being an Alaskan.
23 I am here long enough, so I am quite provincial, I am
24 afraid, certainly no ethnic eccentric, I am certainly
25 concerned about my own interests, my business, my family,

1 much more than the rest of the areas of the State. So as
2 the thing goes along, I hope to make a contribution in the
3 renewable resources aspect as he said over there, and we
4 did our thing together in forming our cooperative ten years
5 ago for fishermen. Right Pren? Right. We still have
6 things to do to make sure our resources are used to get
7 back to the people that live there.

8 DELEGATE: Pardon me, we didn't get your name.

9 MR. CROW: Crow, C R O W.

10 MR. CARTER: My name is Ernie Carter. I have lived
11 in Fairbanks for the last 27 odd years. I have a business
12 there. I have served on the City Council and the Fur
13 Assembly for about nine years, and I was a delegate to the
14 Brookings Institute Conference. I feel honored to be
15 invited back for this one, and I have to say I hope that
16 some of the polarization that is taking place in this State
17 can be put aside and we can show a little bit more
18 cooperation.

19 The art of politics is always a give and take
20 proposition. You have to compromise for the good of the
21 whole State. I think all of us are going to have to give a
22 little bit on various issues. I would like to see the
23 State develop its natural resources in an orderly
24 development in an orderly manner and thereby benefiting the
25 people in the State and adding contribution to our great

1 country in the energy field. I would also like to see
2 hydroelectric power pushed because I think it would solve
3 many of the problems with an alternative source of energy.
4 And it's here. All that has to be done is develop. And
5 these studies that we keep having are done over and over
6 again repetitiously. I would like to see some action
7 instead of studies. Thank you.

8 MS. FLEMING: Hello, my name is Laura Fleming. I am
9 a delegate from the internship program. I live in Juneau,
10 and I am very thrilled to be participating in this
11 experience with all of you. Thank you.

12 MR. EKVAL: My name is Eric Ekval. I have lived here
13 in Anchorage, I have lived here ten years, because I came
14 up the week of the first Brookings Institution conference.
15 I have been involved in a lot of different kind of work
16 from social services to education. And right now I am a
17 communications and public affairs consultant.

18 My concern in this conference is that ten years
19 ago I think there was much more of a sense of unity of
20 purpose in this State. There were fewer single issues,
21 there was less polarization, perhaps taking off from what
22 Mr. Carter brought up. I see the people in the State going
23 in a lot of different directions at once. We are also much
24 more prone to future shocks than other places in the
25 country. We are not polluted. We don't have the traffic

1 jams perhaps as other people do. We don't have the sense
2 of finiteness and the limits of what people can do, which
3 is both a tremendous strengths to our spirit and a sense of
4 what's possible, but it's also we may be diluting ourselves
5 sometimes thinking that the rest of the world is in the
6 same position that we are.

7 I think we are becoming more and more in Alaska a
8 part of the world and that things that happen here will
9 affect the rest of the world and certainly things that
10 happen to the rest of the world are going to affect Alaska
11 more and more. And I guess something that's a theme for me,
12 a personal theme, is bringing together divergent points of
13 view and melting them into some kind of commonality of
14 purpose and I think that that will be more difficult this
15 year than it was ten years ago.

16 I think it's more vital that we do that or that
17 we accomplish something like that. I believe we will all
18 have to give a little. I think we have to be daring and
19 very, very open and sure in our minds and our imaginations
20 about what Alaska can be. I think we also have to be
21 greatly pragmatically realistic about what's possible. I
22 have no real axe to grind here. I am interested in
23 education. I am interested in energy. And I hope that we
24 can draw ourselves, not just draw the wagons around in a
25 circle and draw our opinions around in a circle. And I am

1 for some sort of commonality in purpose.

2 MR. COOPER: I am Earle Cooper from Homer. I have
3 been from Homer a long while. Before that I was in the
4 Anchorage area. I served on the City Council, the Borough
5 Assembly for 20 some years of elective office. But during
6 that period of time, I think we have all seen the common
7 problem of idle hands and the mischief thereto. I think
8 there is lack of productive work that people can take a
9 pride in accomplishment. There is too much work, too much
10 work to make a living that doesn't really accomplish good
11 for the community or the, or the State. I think we need to
12 go back to 10, 15, 20 years ago when we were probably
13 working harder and had less emphasis on culture. The last
14 ten years, we have had quite an emphasis on the various
15 cultures. But I think we need to realize that without a
16 strong economic base, whatever that base may be, whether
17 it's renewable resource or extractive industry, but without
18 a strong economic base, cultural activity becomes an
19 academic word. You are too busy trying to earn a living or
20 to scratch a living out of something to be able to spend
21 the time and effort for enhancement of the community. I
22 guess what I am wanting to see is some basic productive
23 enterprise within the State to keep the citizens of the
24 communities busy.

25 MS. ELSON: I am JoAnn Elson and from the City of

1 Kenai and have been for approximately 12 years. I am with
2 the Department of Labor, the Department of Security
3 Division in Kenai. I am a Kenai Representative to the
4 Assembly. I am also the Assembly President. I am on the
5 Steering Committee for Energy in Environment on the
6 National Association of Counties. I am the Board of
7 Directors for the Alaskan Municipality. And I have a lot
8 of interests, energy and environment being one.

9 But I also have a unique mission for me. I was
10 asked by the Women's Resource Center in Kenai to come and
11 represent them. This is unique in that I have stayed away
12 from the Women's Resource Center up to now and have been
13 busy. But they have caught up with me. And after reading
14 their packet, they have some very good and sound ideas and
15 some good suggestions which I am hoping that I will be able
16 to help in some way. The land use statement that Edna
17 Flynn made, I think I would have to say ditto. I am
18 concerned with not only how you are going to parcel out the
19 different lands, but what you are going to do after you are
20 settled? What are you going to do as far as the problems
21 of pollution? What are you going to do with the problems
22 of waste and solid waste? Transportation is another
23 problem we are concerned with on the Peninsula. We are
24 concerned about tourism and health and education, and not
25 in that list of priorities. But I do want to say that the

1 Peninsula is concerned and very, very anxious to
2 participate with the rest of the State. We are not
3 Mavericks on the Peninsula.

4 MS. FISHER: My name is Helen Fisher and I am a 26
5 year resident of the State of Alaska. I have never been in
6 the Legislature, so I am a different Helen Fisher. I
7 always explain that, because people invariably say, "Have
8 you been in the Legislature?" And safe to say, I am not
9 that one.

10 My concern has been education and human resources.
11 I came with some very definite recommendations and feelings.
12 I am director of the Alaskans Resource Center. And we are
13 part of a network of resource centers and shelters for
14 battered women throughout the State of Alaska. So we
15 represent quite a few women and men, too, so we don't
16 discriminate. As far as recommendations are concerned. We
17 would like to see some money spent on human resources
18 centers, through the grass root associations that are
19 already here.

20 We need to break the circle of family violence,
21 of battered women, of rape, of child abuse and alcohol
22 problems. We need to buy some prevention. We need to
23 start on preventative ideas to stop this circle of abuse.
24 In a beautiful state like this, we have some terrible
25 statistics in all of these social problems.

1 I have an interest in education and training
2 programs to break the circle of welfare. We see women
3 through the Women's Resource Center who desperately want to
4 get out of the welfare racket. They want jobs, but they
5 lack training. They do not have money for training. They
6 need money to support their family like yesterday. So they
7 don't have the time or the money to go to what few training
8 programs are available. The people are not able to take
9 advantage of the jobs that are offered. We have -- there
10 are people in the private sector who come to us and say we
11 can use a certain number of people with a certain amount of
12 expertise in an area. We cannot provide those people for
13 them because we don't have the training programs to go
14 along with it.

15 I have a farm background and am an ardent
16 conservationist. I am a proponent of solar wind and water
17 energy and I believe that more needs to be done in the
18 technical and scientific education. I am concerned that
19 the next extinct species might be us.

20 MR. VAN DOREN: Mr. Clark, we missed you going around
21 the table.

22 MR. CLARK: Thank you. I was hoping you would, but
23 you didn't. Jim Clark from Bristol Bay Borough, mayor
24 there, financial director for the area. Also I serve as
25 Director for the Board for the Local Utility, electric

1 utilities there.

2 And being last, I thought perhaps that I could
3 come up with something that had not been stressed earlier,
4 but being with this knowledgeable group, and what have you,
5 I can only reemphasize some of the things that you have
6 already discussed. It's great to be here from the
7 standpoint of the polarization that was mentioned over here,
8 at this place, to break that polarization now. I have
9 listened to people from different areas and what have you.
10 And I can see that one thing coming out of this would be a
11 situation where we know each other and in the future when
12 some of these things are brought about and come to being
13 that we'll be able to know that. There was Mr. Cooper
14 there, Steve Delisio, Larry Davis, some of these names that
15 we all can familiarize ourselves with.

16 Opportunity for this State, yes, that's what I
17 would like to see. Opportunities that create opportunities,
18 not opportunities that may be opportunities today and
19 headaches tomorrow or the next day. Communication and
20 transportation, definitely, things that we need. A good
21 flow between our national, our State, and local governments,
22 not just the post office can solve that. They do have a
23 problem, I didn't receive my packets. And I presume
24 somewhere along the line they were lost because they were
25 mailed out.

1 Also to bring it more closely to my home area,
2 Bristol Bay, our great resource is part of the fish that
3 come in each year, each year they pile in by the millions,
4 next year supposedly more millions. I would like to see us
5 create a situation there that would better benefit all of
6 Alaskans. And education: I teach school also, in my spare
7 time. And I would like to see our education system
8 continually updated. And I don't mean just the classroom.
9 I mean education anywhere that there is a possibility to
10 learn.

11 And I certainly would like to thank the ones that
12 organized this meeting and I feel there is an opportunity
13 to be here. I thank you.

14 MR. VAN DOREN: Are there any other delegates that
15 have not been heard from that are delegates to the Beta
16 group?

17 Okay, I think you have seen going around the
18 table here when we organized these groups, we decided to do
19 it alphabetically. I think it was a very wise decision,
20 because as you have seen, we have people from all different
21 places in the State, from different facets of life, and I
22 think that we will be able to work together. This
23 conference we are giving you very little material except
24 papers that have come from the people themselves.

25 This conference, what we are supplying, is the

1 place for you to make your wishes known. What you are
2 going to take out of here is the products that we work on,
3 not papers, not necessarily books, not necessarily writing,
4 and not necessarily dictates from us, but you, yourselves,
5 are bringing in something and you are going to leave with
6 something, and from the group that we have all just met, I
7 think that we will be able to work together very well with
8 some different ideas and some stimulating conversation. I
9 have one more remark to make and then I am going to turn
10 the meeting over to Mr. Michael Rowan. He will be
11 explaining to you the survey that we are going to be taking.
12 Rather than say anything about it, I am going to let him
13 explain it to you.

14 I would like to remind you this afternoon at two
15 o'clock, we will start delving into direct services, also
16 at the completion of the poll that we will be handing out
17 to you, materials will be available in your packet at the
18 back of the room. They will be handed to you as you go out.

19 The blue booklets -- would you hold one up,
20 please? The blue booklets that we will be passing out are
21 supplement papers that came in too late to be printed in
22 the yellow booklet. And so you will have from the end of
23 this meeting until two o'clock to look over them. There
24 also will be some people papers that we solicited. We
25 asked anybody that was interested in Future Frontiers in

1 the program to submit the papers. We call them people
2 papers because they weren't directly asked; anybody who
3 wanted to submit a paper was able to. We will have those
4 for you later on. Okay. You've met the team, you've met
5 the players. This is our group. We come down to not
6 exactly attest, but we have -- Mr. Rowan has devised a
7 survey and he will explain all about that and then we will
8 pass them out to you.

9 MR. ROWAN: Eric, do you have them?

10 STAFF: I gave them to Guy.

11 MR. ROWAN: I think we would like to begin passing
12 them out as they talk. Let me describe what this is. My
13 name is Michael Rowan. And as part of my contribution to
14 this conference, what I have been doing is prepared a
15 questionnaire at the request of George Hohman and Russ
16 Meekins for each delegate. Okay, it's being passed out now
17 for you to self-administrate right now. It takes about 20
18 minutes, maybe 25 minutes for you to fill out. After
19 completing the questionnaires, the data will be tabulated
20 and we will report back to you tomorrow on what you said.
21 The questionnaire was drawn from the ideas and the
22 conclusions and the proposals put forward in the papers in
23 that gold brochure you have that has about 33 papers
24 prepared on all aspects. So basically what I did was I
25 read through everything everybody said, the proposals they

1 made, the ideas they came forth with, the contexts, the
2 conclusions, and I began writing questions to you based
3 upon what they were saying in their respective areas. This
4 was defined by the staff people and, you know, we wind up
5 with the product we've got. I hope it's a useful thing to
6 begin stimulating you thinking about, especially every
7 question that could come up.

8 There are some questions I would like anybody
9 whose got the questionnaire now to please look. You will
10 notice in the questionnaire from time to time the name of
11 the writer from whom the question was drawn in the article
12 in the gold book is also mentioned for your reference, if
13 you want to look at the gold book. You may find it
14 difficult to answer some of the questions if you have not
15 read all the articles that were prepared for this
16 conference. And if so, leave it blank and go on to the
17 next question. I would like you to circle the appropriate
18 number for each question, 1 or 2 or 3 or 4, as you proceed
19 through the questionnaire. Now, you will find in the
20 questionnaire that there are ranking questions, 1, 2, 3 or
21 4, and I would like people just to see how to respond to
22 this, to turn to question numbers 49 to 55, so that the
23 fourth page reads, and this reads, "How would surplus
24 revenues best be used in Alaska? Please rank the following."
25 And then 49 to 55. In all these ranking questions, the

1 number 1 is the lowest range, and the highest number there
2 is always the highest rank. So if you have five choices,
3 then five would be your highest ranking and four would be
4 your second highest and so on.

5 In this sequence, by the way, 49 to 55, there are
6 six choices and you are given five rankings, so please add
7 number 6 to that group, okay. 49 to 54, next to the
8 numbers 5 out there is a number 6 running down the column,
9 because you've got six choices there we are asking you to
10 rank from.

11 All right, just repeating that now, any time you
12 get into a ranking question, number 1 is your lowest range
13 and whatever the highest number there gives you the highest
14 rank and circle that number, okay.

15 On question 25, please, if you turn to that, the
16 responses should be, 1 should not be yes, it should be
17 "cooperative." So you can write that in there. One should
18 be cooperative. Question 25, about the third page. One
19 should be "cooperative" and two should be "develop an
20 independent plan." Obviously yes/no is not the answer to
21 that question.

22 In the same respect on question 7, 07 on the
23 second page, that should not be a yes/no answer either,
24 question 07, number 1 should be "succeed" and number 22
25 should be "just talk." It's clear from the question: In

1 question 72 -- this is my last explanation and then I will
2 shut up. In question 72, we have improvements to the
3 existing interAlaskan community road network and in
4 question 74 we have question of improving intraexisting
5 road networks. Inter meaning between, roads between
6 Alaskan communities, and intra, I N T R A, meaning roads
7 inside, roads inside the community. So in 74, it's inside,
8 and in 72, it's roads between our connecting Alaskan
9 communities for clarification purposes. Are there any
10 questions? I will come around and answer any questions.
11 The purpose of the survey is to raise all the questions
12 that were originally brought to you by the 33 or 35 people
13 who wrote papers to you and to bring you up to speed on
14 where your opinions are on all these matters immediately.
15 We will bring the data back to you tomorrow so you will see
16 immediately where you are on these major questions that are
17 raised by the particular people who have raised the
18 questins to.

19 MR. COOPER: The first question is unrealistic in that
20 it would be unachieveable given the present numbers of
21 people within the State. There are three people to go on a
22 subsistence life-style.

23 MR. ROWAN: I think you are answering the question.

24 MR. COOPER: So maybe we would like to see it. But
25 In order to do it, that would mean that we would have to

1 push half or two-thirds of the people back down south or
2 something in order to leave land enough for that kind of a
3 life-style.

4 MR. ROWAN: I tend to agree with you, and I would
5 circle in that case, number 2, (laughter) And in question
6 number 2, number 3, no.

7 MR. COOPER: What I am saying is maybe we would
8 prefer the first, realism being what it is, it's a pipe
9 dream.

10 MR. ROWAN: I think that's a reasonable conclusion,
11 but I think there are other people that might have opinions
12 on that matter. You know, in 1969, a lot of people had --
13 this was a large part of the discussion was the Alaska
14 life-style thing. So that's why they wanted to start off
15 with this sequence. They wanted it to be part of your
16 discussion, too.

17

18

19

(Afternoon session at 2:00 p.m.)

20

21 MR. VAN DOREN: Ladies and gentlemen, I would like to
22 have us get started now. It's two o'clock. A couple of
23 mechanical things I would like to share with you at this
24 time. We will be passing out an index of the list of
25 authors of the public papers that came in. We only have a

1 limited amount of the public papers, and if you would like
2 to look them over, like to read them at the end of this
3 period when we take a break or something, if there is any
4 certain papers that interest you, just come up and see us
5 afterward and we will check them out to you. Unfortunately,
6 some of the papers didn't arrive until yesterday or the day
7 before and we weren't able to do a print up of 200 of them.
8 But each group has four or five or six packets available.
9 So these will be coming out to you.

10 What we would like to do this afternoon is, I
11 have been up here in front of you long enough. You have
12 each had a chance to get together and meet with each other.
13 You have heard a little bit about each other. And I would
14 like to relinquish the floor and be able to turn it over to
15 a moderator or a group leader. And I think at this time
16 would be a good time to have you all chose a group leader.
17 This is, again, your conference. This is your group, the
18 Beta group here. And I would entertain any suggestions for
19 the group leader that would take you through the rest of
20 the conference. Yes.

21 MR. DESILIO: I would like to nominate Mrs. Guess.

22 MS. GUESS: I have a problem in that I have
23 obligations to my children for part of tomorrow evening and
24 Saturday morning. I would be willing to take part of the
25 responsibility, but I could not do the whole thing. I do

1 not know what the requirements are.

2 DELEGATE: How about Mr. Chapados.

3 MR. VAN DOREN: I'm sorry, I've got to remind you for
4 Pamela, would you state your name when you are recognized.

5 MR. COOPER: I would like to recommend JoAnn Elson.
6 She is president of the Kenai Peninsula Borough assembly
7 and has been able to keep 16 assembly people squared away
8 and sort of working on schedule. So she probably has as
9 much experience at this as anyone around.

10 MR. VAN DOREN: All right, JoAnn's name has been
11 brought up. Are there any other suggestions?

12 Since there is no objections, it seems to be that
13 you are it, JoAnn.

14 Okay, the procedure that we will probably use now
15 is: this is your conference, your discussion, your ideas.
16 I told a few of the members of the committee that I was
17 going to ball you out a little bit. When we had the
18 discussion this morning or when we had the survey sent out
19 this morning, I had a lot of people as they went out the
20 door or went out on the balcony talking about the paper or
21 the objections they had to it. What I wish you would do is
22 talk about it in here. That's what we are here for. We
23 are here to discuss things. Whether it be the survey,
24 whether it be the issues or whether it be any subject at
25 all that you want to see be brought up to this group, we

1 would like to hear about it. And rather than hear about it
2 out in the hallway or on the balcony, we would love to have
3 you bring it up here. And I think right now the session is
4 open, and JoAnn, I would like you to take charge of people
5 wanting to be recognized on that subject or other subjects,
6 then I will let you take care of it. But I am here to help
7 you in any way that you like.

8 MS. ELSON: Mr. Gibson's, did you want to address the
9 conference?

10 MR. GIBSON: Yes, I would. Relative to the
11 questionnaire which we filled out prior to our adjournment
12 for lunch, I don't wish to belabor any of my objections to
13 the questionnaire and there may be those that others have
14 and may not. But I would like to obtain the consensus of
15 this group on a proposal that I make that this not in any
16 way be considered in any part of the expression of this
17 group's feeling or anything.

18 MR. DAVIS: Objection.

19 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Davis.

20 MR. DAVIS: I object because this is primarily the
21 purpose of the conference to try to find out what the
22 feeling of the group is here. If you are going to object
23 to a questionnaire that's filled out by the legislative
24 members of the Legislature, you are not going to fulfill
25 the purposes of this conference here?

1 MR. GIBSON: May I answer that objection?

2 MR. DAVIS: Surely.

3 MR. GIBSON: I do not object to us using this for our
4 own guidance and as a tool for our own expression. What I
5 do not feel is that a questionnaire of this sort, which is
6 very limited in the options it gives us, which tends to be
7 a polarizing thing, be considered an official expression of
8 this group's views or feelings. We need more time to talk
9 about what we see here rather than making snap decisions on
10 the basis of limited options and having them go forward as
11 a recommendation of our feelings. So I am not suggesting
12 we chuck it out. But I don't want this to have something
13 that people depend on as an expression of our true feelings.

14 THE MODERATOR: Yes, I think you had your hand up.

15 MR. CARLSON: Madam Chairman, I would just like to
16 speak in behalf of the motion, that I think those questions
17 were all aimed in a particular direction. And I don't mind
18 the facilitator's, or whoever, using those during the
19 conference. I would hope though that the press doesn't
20 pick up the conference discussed and voted X number of
21 votes in favor of a certain thing and down the line came
22 something else. I hope that wasn't the intent, and I would
23 sure want to put a minority vote somewhere if that were
24 expressed or impressed in any manner, if that were
25 expressed as any of the thoughts of the group gathered here.

1 I would hate to think that that's where that might be
2 headed. If it is, I would propose it being not released

3 THE MODERATOR: Yes, sir.

4 MR. FAIRBANKS: I have a feeling that this might tend
5 to polarize people. One of my main gripes is it seems to
6 answer some of the questions that we have not yet asked.
7 It's too limited. There is a yes and a no where we have
8 maybe a gray area in between. Some of the questions says
9 revenue moneys for bottom fishing or something else. We
10 should talk about the something else, too. I feel it might
11 be a little bit biased and we should not do anything with
12 this officially is one of my feelings.

13 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Davis.

14 MR. DAVIS: My primary interest is in resources. I
15 wonder if I could go to a resources group rather than
16 direct services here. I am not really interested in it
17 here. I am more interested in resources.

18 THE MODERATOR: I believe the discussion now is the
19 questionnaire. And Mr. Gibson, was that a motion that you
20 entertained or was that just a feeling on your part.

21 MR. GIBSON: I am prepared to make a formal motion if
22 that would help?

23 I move that this questionnaire be used totally
24 for internal purposes of this group and that it not be in
25 any way considered as a position of the group.

1 THE MODERATOR: Okay, you have heard the motion before
2 you. Discussion?

3 MR. FISON: Does that include that it not go to the
4 press?

5 THE MODERATOR: His particular motion?

6 MR. DAVIS: Madam Chairman, point of order here, I
7 didn't hear a second.

8 MR. CARLSON: Madam Chairman, I make a second to the
9 motion?

10 THE MODERATOR: The motion has been made and seconded.
11 Would you be able to restate that motion?

12 (The reporter read as requested)

13 THE MODERATOR: Discussion.

14 MS. GUESS: I would like to amend the motion in that
15 it not be used as a part of any publication.

16 THE MODERATOR: Motion, there is a second.

17 MR. FISON: I will second that.

18 THE MODERATOR: The motion has been made by Mrs. Guess
19 that this not be used by any paper.

20 MS. GUESS: For publications purposes.

21 MR. DAVIS: Are we on discussion.

22 THE MODERATOR: Discussion on the amendment.

23 MR. DAVIS: On the motion or the amendment

24 THE MODERATOR: The amendment.

25 MR. DAVIS: I would like to focus the attention on

1 the questionnaire amongst this group here so then we can
2 have some target that we can direct ourselves to rather
3 than just leave it go and then forget it.

4 I.R. CARLSON: That's what the motion does

5 THE MODERATOR: We have the motion on the floor, an
6 amendment motion. Are you ready for the question?

7 DELEGATE: Question.

8 DELEGATE: Yes.

9 THE MODERATOR: All those in favor.

10 (Responding)

11 THE MODERATOR: Opposed?

12 We have a motion carried. As amended, are you
13 ready for the question?

14 VOICE: Question.

15 THE MODERATOR: All those in favor say aye.

16 (Responding)

17 THE MODERATOR: All those opposed?

18 THE MODERATOR: Motion carries.

19 The discussion listed for our group would be
20 direct services?

21 Would you be interested in breaking out possibly
22 the individual categories and then discussing each category
23 in turn? And if so, I would like to have some suggestions
24 as which items you would be interested in addressing? I am
25 told transportation, health, education, government services,

1 any particular ones you would like to address first?

2 Mr. Cooper?

3 MR. COOPER: I would like to suggest, then, that we
4 take the transportation portion of that and discuss it
5 first because certainly transportation would have a direct
6 relationship on a good number of other categories depending
7 on whether there was or was not a good transportation
8 between communities?

9 THE MODERATOR: It has been suggested that we address
10 under direct services transportation. Any other
11 suggestions?

12 MR. FISON: Will we be limited to the selection we
13 make? Do we select one item now and that's the one we talk
14 about from now on?

15 THE MODERATOR: I would really like a list to see what
16 it is you are interested under this topic and possibly we
17 can go on at that time. Mr. Cooper?

18 MR. COOPER: I'm sorry. I was under the impression
19 what we were going to do was discuss a list of items. But
20 we were going to start with one of several and discuss it
21 for awhile and then go on to other items on the list.

22 THE MODERATOR: I believe that we need some type of
23 list of priorities that you would be interested in.
24 Transportation, for one, has been -- Mr. Fison?

25 MR. FISON: Then I would like to suggest education as

1 a priority.

2 THE MODERATOR: Okay. Ms. Davis?

3 MS. DAVIS: I would like to make a motion that we
4 discuss education as our first priority.

5 THE MODERATOR: Motion by Ms. Davis that we discuss
6 education.

7 MS. FLYNN: Second.

8 THE MODERATOR: Been seconded. Discussion.

9 MR. DAVIS: I wonder if we break into groups here
10 where we can discuss education, discuss transportation and
11 separate groups. I don't know how much time we have there
12 is my problem.

13 THE MODERATOR: I believe they have us in here for a
14 purpose, and that's to discuss all the issues together, I
15 have been told.

16 Okay, the motion on the floor is to discuss
17 education first. Mr. Cooper?

18 MR. COOPER: Madam President, the reason I suggested
19 transportation as the first item was because if we can
20 arrive at a consensus of what we would like to see the
21 transportation system to be, it will have an effect on a
22 lot of other items. Certainly education and government
23 services are all important but if there is no direct
24 transportation link between communities, then each
25 community will have to evolve its own education system. If

1 there was a good transportation system between the two,
2 then you could have maybe a different type of educational
3 system by the combination of several. Rather than having
4 several small, you could have one large to give a better,
5 more thorough study into a particular delivery of an
6 education experience.

7 THE MODERATOR: Your name, fir.

8 MR. CHAPADOS: Madam Chairman. I think that we
9 probably have a number of important issues that need to be
10 discussed this afternoon and that to set priorities may be
11 right. But I think we ought to set some time limits so
12 that we can at least cover the field. And that would be my
13 suggestion.

14 THE MODERATOR: Any further discussion on the motion
15 on the floor. The motion is to take a question of
16 education first. Yes?

17 MS. FATE: My question is: Do we have resource
18 people? Do we have the availability of resource people in
19 the house now of all those subjects? And if not, if they
20 are here, then I see no problem.

21 MR. VAN DOREN: Guy Van Doren answering her question.

22 We have available the authors. They are aware
23 that we are going to be discussing direct services. When
24 we need an author, we will send one of the staff to get the
25 person

1 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Fison?

2 MR. FISON: A question: Can we ask other people
3 other than authors to come to speak to us? I am thinking
4 in education, of the presence of the three universities in
5 town.

6 THE MODERATOR: He says yes.

7 The motion on the floor is on education. Are you
8 ready for the question? All those in favor say yes.

9 (Responding)

10 THE MODERATOR: All those opposed say no.

11 (Responding)

12 MR. GIBSON: Request a hand count.

13 THE MODERATOR: All those in favor please raise your
14 left hand.

15 (Responding)

16 THE MODERATOR: All those opposed would you please
17 raise your right hand?

18 (Responding)

19 The motion passes.

20 We have been then education first. We have
21 transportation second.

22 Are there any other topics that you would like to
23 discuss? I understand that there is also communications,
24 health.

25 MR. DAVIS: I wonder, is the resources going to take

1 a separate item here on the agenda?

2 MR. VAN DOREN: Mr. Davis, resources will be
3 discussed in this committee during tomorrow afternoon.

4 MR. DAVIS: I see.

5 THE MODERATOR: Mrs. Fisher, you have a question?

6 MS. FISHER: I was going to suggest that we
7 prioritize the four items next as transportation, health
8 and government services.

9 THE MODERATOR: Is that in the form of a motion?

10 MS. FISHER: Yes.

11 MS. DAVIS: Second.

12 THE MODERATOR: The motion has been seconded by Mrs.
13 Davis. All those in favor say aye.

14 (complying)

15 THE MODERATOR: All those opposed?

16 MS. FLYNN: Sort of. Madam Chairman?

17 THE MODERATOR: Mrs. Flynn.

18 MRS. FLYNN: I don't like the term "government
19 services," because it seems to me that transportation,
20 health and government services fit in there anyway. And I
21 keep hearing communications over on the other side of the
22 table. And I would like to see that replaced, and I would
23 like to see an additional 45-minute time limit on each one.

24 THE MODERATOR: Okay, under government services, I am
25 told that we could substitute in communications and -- okay,

1 r. onal government, local government and communications.

2 Is that with your concurrence? Would you give us your name?

3 MS. FLEMING: Madam Chairman, I would like to
4 recommend that we do not ignore the area of law and justice,
5 which has been characterized under government services.

6 THE MODERATOR: Under government services as well.
7 We've got regional, local, law and justice, and
8 communications.

9 MR. DELISIO: Madam Chairman, when do we discuss the
10 philosophy of government, in other words, State government
11 and how it deals with our lives? It seems to me that that
12 would be an appropriate category for a rather extensive
13 discussion under direct services. In other words, it
14 almost seems to supersede everything.

15 MR. VAN DOREN: Just to help out a little bit, again
16 to reiterate, this is your conference. You may discuss
17 anything you want within the motions made any time you want
18 with somebody just making a proposal and starting off from
19 there.

20 THE MODERATOR: I think Mrs. Flynn had a suggestion
21 for a 45-minute time limit on each topic.

22 MS. FLYNN: It was just a suggestion. I didn't make a
23 motion. I can't remember how long we've got this afternoon.

24 MR. COOPER: Until 6 this afternoon.

25 MS. FLYNN: Until we all wear out.

1 THE MODERATOR: We take a break at 4:30, I understand,
2 and then we change rooms and then we meet until six.

3 Mr. Davis?

4 MR. DAVIS: If we are going to limit ourselves, I
5 would suggest that we discuss -- I've got 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
6 items under direct services. If we are going to limit 45
7 minutes to each item here, I would suggest that each one of
8 us limit ourselves to two minutes on our testimony.
9 Otherwise we are going to be here all day and all night, if
10 there is no time limitation put on the testimony about any
11 of the direct services.

12 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Fairbanks.

13 MR. FAIRBANKS: Madam Chairman, if we limit ourselves
14 to 45 minutes, we are not going to hit all of them.

15 THE MODERATOR: It was just a suggestion.

16 MR. FAIRBANKS: Maybe I could.

17 MR. HOFFMAN: My name is Edard Hoffman.

18 We kept Kuskokwin area, we have the kind of
19 people that represent Kuskokwin here. And we have about
20 three or four important questions to be answered, and we let
21 our -- we have our chairman, Diane Carpenter, to take care
22 of them. Diane.

23 MS. CARPENTER: Yes, we were concerned about the
24 major public facility kind of needs. I don't know. There
25 doesn't seem to be any place to address this, such as a

1 hydro project, a major road system.

2 THE MODERATOR: I have been told that that would come
3 under the resources, and that would probably be tomorrow.

4 MS. CARPENTER: Thank you.

5 MR. HOFFMAN: And the other ones.

6 MS. CARPENTER: And the others are transportation.

7 THE MODERATOR: Transportation would be second after
8 education today.

9 Okay, it's approximately 2:30 now. We have
10 approximately four large topics.

11 Mr. Cooper?

12 MR. COOPER: As a suggestion, possibly a half hour
13 for each of the topics as you outlined, and then when we
14 reconvene after the 4:30 break, we would have that time
15 free to go back and pick up on any of the items that we
16 felt we need more time or any new item that would come up.
17 That's a suggestion, not a motion.

18 THE MODERATOR: Okay, a suggestion has been made that
19 we take 30 minutes on each item and then come back after a
20 4:30 break and try to come up with some type of summary,
21 some type of decision on each of these categories. Would
22 that be agreeable to every one?

23 MR. GIBSON: Madam Chairman.

24 THE MODERATOR: Mrs. Fleming.

25 MS. FLEMING: Would you like to outline the four

1 categories?

2 THE MODERATOR: The four categories, education,
3 transportation, health and government services. Under
4 government services, we have communications, regional and
5 local government, and law and justice.

6 MS. FLEMING: Thank you, very much.

7 THE MODERATOR: I hear no objections. We will go that
8 route.

9 Okay, are you ready for education?

10 MR. GORSUCH: Madam Chairman, I'd like to ask that we
11 perhaps move that the agenda allow at least an hour towards
12 the conclusion of perhaps -- I haven't seen Saturday's
13 session, but the lead articles on alternative futures to
14 some extent speak to the questions that were expressed by
15 several people of interest in trying to lessen the amount
16 of polarization, the effort of trying to build a stronger
17 sense of community and provided guidelines for the State's
18 decisions over the next five or ten years. And I would
19 certainly hope that our discussions on certain topics not
20 be totally subordinating of the basic concept about how we
21 begin to build back toward the community rather than
22 increasing its divisiveness over arguments about how much
23 money goes to transportation, how much goes into
24 communication, how much goes into public facilities.

25 So I would like to, I guess, rather than move

1 prematurely, I would like to ask at what point in the
2 discussion do we deal with some of the questions that were
3 raised by the alternative futures papers or some of the
4 issues that were raised by several participants about their
5 interest of trying to address the question of diminishing
6 the increasing tendencies of polarization and trying to
7 identify a certain unanimity of goals.

8 THE MODERATOR: I would hope, and I have this problem
9 back home, I would hope by working together on each of
10 these items that we can come to some sort of compromise,
11 because this is, I guess, what it's all going to be about.
12 We have different opinions and different views on each of
13 these subjects. We come from different areas of the state.
14 But I believe if we sit down and discuss these as
15 intelligent people, I feel somewhere along the line we will
16 come out with some type of policy statement, if you would
17 like to call it that, and hopefully it would be intertwined
18 in these different segments.

19 We have education. Are you ready to go on to
20 that subject? And if so, have at it.

21 MR. FISON: Madam Chairman, I have a concern that we
22 are going to consider what was suggested this morning, and
23 that is making higher education free to the public. My
24 concern is that this would mean that private education is
25 going to be in the more difficult position than it is

1 already because of the financial factors. If this is
2 considered, I hope that we will also try to provide some
3 means so that private education in Alaska in higher
4 institutions will not be adversely affected.

5 Now, there are proposals that students receive
6 the funds and then go to college of their choices. I
7 happen to be affiliated with all three of the institutions
8 in Alaska or in Anchorage here, and I am aware that, well,
9 of what the situation is especially regarding private
10 education, the difficulty in financing. And I hope that if
11 we do consider not having tuition or tuition waived for the
12 public education, that we make some provision so that
13 students can have funds to go to private education also, if
14 they wish. That's my concern.

15 MS. FISHER: Madam Chairman?

16 THE MODERATOR: Mrs. Fisher.

17 MS. FISHER: Yes, I'd like to elaborate on that a
18 little bit. I feel the idea of allotting people X number of
19 dollars for the education of their choice is very
20 desirable. I think it should be extended to not only the
21 student coming out of high school but the student in later
22 years who feels they need to go back and change education
23 or acquire more education, because very often we find that
24 we don't realize how valuable it is until after a few years
25 have gone by.

1 MR. DELISIO: Madam Chairman, one of the difficulties
2 that we have been encountering to getting assistance to
3 private education in Alaska is our restriction of
4 institutions. Right now the way the Constitution is
5 written, it's simply impossible to provide direct aid to
6 private education, per se. I suppose you could set up a
7 system where you give dollars to children and you say. "We
8 hope you spend these on education and you can spend them
9 wherever you like." And that may pass the test of the
10 State not participating in helping to finance private
11 education.

12 It seems to me that may be one of the first steps
13 that will have to be taken if there is enough consensus in
14 the State is to get a change to our constitution that would
15 permit direct assistance.

16 The second observation I would like to make is:
17 If we were to pursue the goal that Mr. Merdes was talking
18 about this morning of trying to do something to enhance the
19 quality of higher education in Alaska and in the process of
20 doing that attract a larger number of Alaskans to go to
21 school in their own institutions, I think we defeat our
22 purposes if we are making moneys available so that the
23 youngsters can go to school wherever they wish. If someone
24 was to give me a tuition free opportunity to go to Harvard
25 or Yale or Cambridge in London or England or something like

1 that, I might very well choose that opportunity.

2 On the other hand, where my free tuition or the
3 equivalent of free tuition was to get me into the
4 University of Alaska or its various subsystems or into
5 Alaska Pacific University, then I think we are working into
6 developing and enhancing Alaskan higher education.

7 THE MODERATOR: Mrs. Flynn.

8 MS.FLYNN: Yes, two points, and perhaps I would have
9 to direct this to Mr. Ekval to some degree, because I
10 recall that you were involved in this at the time of the
11 proposed time of the constitutional amendment previously.

12 Mr. Delisio has hit a serious problem here. We
13 do have a prohibition against giving direct aid to private
14 schools, which I might add I support. However, there is a
15 system in Oregon whereby private schools are paid by the
16 State government an amount of money for in-state students.
17 They must be Oregon residents, who are going to the private
18 institutions and thereby not going to the State
19 institutions, an amount which the State subsidizes each
20 student over and above the tuition rate that that
21 individual pays. And it has had a number of court
22 challenges there, and it has withstood every one of them.

23 I wonder if we might consider or whether that was
24 investigated as to whether that could be a possibility that
25 we could use at this time. And I would like to direct that

1 as a question, then I would like to come back and make a
2 comment with regard to Mr. Merdes's suggestion this morning.

3 THE MODERATOR: Your question was directed to Mr.
4 Delisio.

5 MS.FLYNN: To Mr. Ekval.

6 MR. EKVAL: As I recall, the Attorney General in 1975,
7 '76 ruled that the tuition grant system, the tuition
8 equalization grant system, which is something similar to
9 what is happening in Oregon, was unconstitutional and that
10 it did violate the constitution. And an attempt was made
11 to -- there was a referendum initiative on the ballot in
12 1976 to amend the constitution to continue the State
13 program or some program similar to that. And it was
14 defeated by a vote of about 2 to 1. Mr. McGinnis, who is
15 here, is quite closely involved in that. You may have some
16 more.

17 MR. MCGINNIS: I do, Madam Chairman, if I may. I am
18 assigned to another group, but I will speak briefly to this.
19 I think the constitutional issue is a very vital issue. I
20 think since the Supreme Court has ruled, the State Supreme
21 Court has ruled on that, which is absolutely contrary to
22 the U S decision on the same matter, but a State can do it
23 if they want to. That's the way it stands.

24 I feel there can be some good because of
25 contributions and some disadvantages to Alaska under our

35
1 present plan. I believe that the way the ballot was worded
2 was misleading in and of itself and never should have been
3 allowed to stand because it pled the case in the question
4 that inasmuch as this is unconstitutional, you do thus and
5 so. Whereas, if it had said, "This is the present language,
6 would you consent to this language, yes or no?" it would
7 have been somehow somewhat in a different framework.

8 But the great inequity as I see it at the present
9 time and the great disaster for Alaska is this, that the
10 Court really said that aid to a student is unconstitutional.
11 Because they said aid to the student is the same as aid to
12 the institution, therefore unconstitutional.

13 Now, the difficulty that is present with our
14 WICHE program,. If someone wanted to bring a case with
15 regard to the WICHE program where we do pay on behalf of
16 the student, then there would be a war in the State,
17 because they would say there in the State Compact for
18 Educational Purposes we've got to do that. That is
19 precisely the question and no one has raised it.

20 In addition to that, the multi-million dollars
21 program for students going outside the State of Alaska to
22 any state of their choice, is regardless of the loan
23 concept. It becomes a concept when portions of that loan
24 are given and that becomes a gift to the student in the
25 same way and the interest subsidy which the State puts in.

1 The difference between the going rate of interest and the
2 favorable rate is a gift to the student. And one of these
3 days somebody is going to raise that question as to why is
4 it that we subsidize students out of state to any school of
5 choice public or private, and yet we will not allow that in
6 the State of Alaska. It does contribute to the brain drain;
7 it does drain off some of our best leadership. And it does
8 promote for public and private higher education some
9 problem in policies.

10 I think that the basic plan in equity is not
11 desirable. I believe the only way it could be fashioned
12 though would be another go and a better educational program
13 in informing the public as to what the issues are because
14 as long as that present issue stands on the present
15 constitutional issue, we will probably never move from
16 where we are now, which is grossly inadequate and grossly
17 inequitable and should not be allowed to stand.

18 MS. FISHER: Madam President, I would envision if we
19 just allowed subsidized education to the university system,
20 we would be building a real monster. I think we need the
21 contact of the other educational institutions and I am not
22 thinking just of places like APU. I am thinking of in the
23 not too distant future may be something in the cultural
24 light, amuse I can school, the arts, any number of things
25 like that. And I certainly would like to see students