

SCOMM

92:1

MINUTES
OMBUDSMAN SELECTION COMMITTEE
September 24, 1993

MEMBERS PRESENT BY TELECONFERENCE:

Senator Randy Phillips, Co-chair
Representative Gail Phillips, Co-chair
Senator Loren Leman
Senator Jim Duncan
Representative Fran Ulmer

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Terry Martin

GUEST PARTICIPANTS:

Former Senators: Mitch Abood
Joe Josephson
Pat Pourchot

SUBJECT:

Selection of the State Ombudsman

Co-Chair Representative Phillips, via teleconference from out of state, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and asked that members present identify themselves. Co-chair Senator Phillips, Senator Leman and Senator Duncan, as well as former Senators Abood, Josephson and Pourchot joined the meeting via teleconference from Anchorage; Representative Ulmer participated via teleconference from Juneau. This was the first meeting of the committee and was an organizational meeting.

Rep. Phillips reviewed the agenda for the meeting and a tentative schedule for the selection committee. She then asked for comments from the members and guests. After brief comments from the members and guest participants, Representative Phillips made brief introductory comments and explained some of the problems and procedures of the past selection committees.

Some discussion centered on the issue of having a current ombudsman as well as new applicants applying for this position. It was determined that the same criteria would be used to evaluate both the incumbent and new applicants.

Those criteria included: familiarity with state and local government; previous experience in positions dealing with conflict and citizen complaints; relevance of past employment to the Ombudsman's position; management skills; and integrity.

Representative Phillips presented a proposed time line for the selection committee to follow. It was determined that, at a later date, the committee will be determining precisely when in-person interviews of a final group of applicants will be conducted. Ads are to be run from October 1 - October 14 with a deadline for applications of October 30.

The process of culling applications was discussed. The committee agreed that all committee members will participate in culling the group of applicants to approximately 15, from which the finalists will be selected and contacted for in person interviews. Copies of all applications will be held in Rep. Phillips' Juneau office as well as in an Anchorage office to be made available for review by each of the committee members. Sen. Phillips requested a separate set of application copies. A list of all the names, current occupations and contact information is to be given to each member.

The advertisement was discussed. Staff will prepare an ad and send it for approval to the selection committee members. The various papers in which to run the ad and the length of time to run it were determined.

Issues regarding the selection committee's budget were discussed. It was decided that the committee will pay the costs of the final group of applicants to travel to the interview. An estimate of \$2,000 will be included in the budget.

Representative Phillips adjourned the meeting at 10:35 a.m.