

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL
EDUCATION

Executive Committee Meeting

LOCATION

Governor's Council Conference Room
3601 C Street
Anchorage, Alaska

Teleconference

Meeting Date

January 15, 2015
12:00 p.m.

Attendees:

Ric Nelson, Chair
Art Delaune
Dean Gates
Karli Lopez
Lucy Odden

Staff:

Patrick Reinhart, Executive Director
Kristin Vandagriff
Brittney Howell

Minutes prepared by: Paula DiPaolo, Peninsula Reporting

Call to Order –12:00 p.m.
Roll Call

WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR
INTRODUCTIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND GOOD NEWS

No announcements were reported.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Art Delaune **MOVED** to approve the agenda. The motion **PASSED** and the agenda was approved as amended.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Lucy Odden **MOVED** to approve the minutes from the December 4, 2014 meeting. The motion **PASSED**.

CORRESPONDENCE

Patrick Reinhart stated that the only correspondence to report is the letter of introduction that the Council sent to Governor Walker. The letter has been distributed, and it has also been included in the board packet for the Juneau meeting.

REPORTS

Chair's Report

Ric Nelson stated that other than getting ready for next week's meeting, he has no additional report at this time.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Patrick Reinhart reported that they are still in the process of hiring the new planner for the Council. He is hopeful that he will be able to make an announcement about a new hire the week after the Council meeting.

Patrick stated that he has a 30-minute meeting tomorrow afternoon with Commissioner Davidson, during which time he plans to present her with the Council's legislative packet and give her a brief overview of Employment First.

Patrick Reinhart also reported that his resignation, as was required with the change of administration, was not accepted, and he has retained his position as executive director of the Council.

Patrick directed Executive Committee members to the legislative position papers and talking points, noting that they have gone through a final revision. He asked that if Executive Committee members see any glaring errors, they promptly notify staff to make corrections as soon as possible.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Written committee summary reports were provided to Executive Committee members, and Patrick Reinhart highlighted a few of the activities of the committees.

OLD BUSINESS

January Council Meeting - Updates

Patrick Reinhart reviewed the final draft agenda with Executive Committee members and highlighted the following:

- An opportunity will be provided to Council members to bring up other old business from the floor.
- Example financial statements were presented to the Executive Committee. It was agreed that this simplified format was appropriate for the full Council, but the Executive Committee would like more detailed reports that include what goes into each account and how much is in the various accounts.
- A discussion about clarifying the Council's mission statement has been added to the agenda.
- The Council meeting will be realtime captioned and webstreamed for the general public to read along.

- A meeting with the Governor or the First Lady could not be arranged during the Council meeting, but a meeting with Jim Whitaker, the chief of staff, has been arranged for Thursday at 10:30. A small group of six to eight Executive Committee members and staff will be assigned to attend that meeting. Lucy Odden and Dean Gates volunteered to participate in that meeting.

A discussion ensued about the current financial standing of the Council. Patrick Reinhart commented that to date, the Council has expended 37 percent of their budget, but they are approaching the season where they will be spending more. He anticipates that the Juneau Council meeting will cost roughly \$50,000. Patrick also noted that according to Duane Mayes, nobody has been asked to cut this year's budget, but they will be looking for five to eight percent cuts in next year's budget.

Ric Nelson commented that the Council hasn't traveled outside of Anchorage for their May meeting in three years, and he is concerned about the lack of statewide outreach. Ric and Dean Gates noted that the Council hasn't traveled to Southeast, Southwest, and Northwest for quite some time. Patrick Reinhart noted that the most cost effective places for the Council to travel would be Mat-Su, Fairbanks, and the Kenai Peninsula. Dean Gates suggested that if they shortened their May meeting to two days, it might make travel more affordable for a rural meeting. Karli Lopez suggested Kotzebue, and Lucy Odden suggested a visit to the Fish & Wildlife Service refuge while there.

Patrick Reinhart stated that he will ask staff to research options of locations to determine what would be available and appropriate. He also noted that next year is a plan development year, and the Council will be sending out small contingencies statewide to gather public testimony for the State Plan.

Art Delaune **MOVED** to approve the draft agenda for the January Council meeting. The motion **PASSED**.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/CONFERENCES

- Jan 20 – 22 – Council Meeting, Juneau
- Jan 27 – 29 – Trust Meeting, Juneau (Patrick, Ric, Rich)

- Feb 7 – 12 – Alaska Special Education Conference, Anchorage (Christie, Margaret)
- Feb 13 – Federal Contractor Diversity Job Fair, Anchorage
- Feb 18 – 20 – Key Campaign, Juneau (Patrick, Johanna, Kristin, Britteny, Ric, Art, Kaleene, Taylor, Angie, Anthony)
- March 23 – 27, Erin Riehle, Project SEARCH tour around the state (Patrick, Kristin).

TIME AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, February 25, 2015 from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. The meetings will be regularly scheduled for the fourth Wednesday of the month starting at 1:30.

ADJOURNMENT

Lucy Odden **MOVED** for adjournment. The motion **PASSED**, and the meeting adjourned at 1:02 p.m.