

**GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES
AND SPECIAL EDUCATION**

Legislative Committee

LOCATION

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

Meeting Date

**March 13, 2014
12:00 p.m.**

Attendees:

Anthony Cravalho
Art Delaune
Dean Gates – Chair
Alex Gimarc
Heidi Haas
Steve Lesko

Staff:

Patrick Reinhart
Hannah Foreman

CALL TO ORDER – 12:00 p.m.
ROLL CALL

Announcements and Good News

No announcements or good news were reported.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Alex Gimarc **MOVED** to approve the agenda as amended. The motion **PASSED**.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Heidi Haas **MOVED** to approve the minutes from the February 27, 2014 meeting. The motion **PASSED**.

Correspondence

Dean Gates and Patrick Reinhart reported that the only correspondence was that the Council submitted a letter of support for the Alaska Brain Injury Network's capital request for office technology needs.

REPORTS

Report from the Chair

Dean Gates did not have any additional information to report.

Report from Staff

Patrick Reinhart noted that he and Dean Gates will be attending the National Disability Policy Seminar April 7 – 9. Hannah Foreman will assist Dean and Patrick in researching the issues to discuss with the congressional delegation while they are in Washington, D.C. Patrick and Dean would also like to hear input from Council and committee members regarding issues of importance to discuss with the congressional delegation.

HB 280 – Education for Deaf and Hearing Impaired

Dean Gates stated that there is nothing to report since the last Legislative Committee meeting, and the bill continues to be held to the side by Representative LeDoux until next year. Art Delaune reported that Representative Millett has signed on as a co-sponsor.

If there are any changes to the current status of the legislation, the Legislative Committee will address it, but they will remove it from the list of tracked legislation at this time.

House Joint Resolution 1 and Senate Joint Resolution 9

Patrick Reinhart reported that these resolutions address whether or not there should be a ballot initiative for a constitutional amendment to allow public funding for private schools. He stated that he heard yesterday that SJR 9 was moving in the Senate, but it was pulled back because they did not have a two-thirds majority vote to pass. Alex Gimarc added that it was on the floor of the Senate, did not pass, and has been moved back to committee, but it was not withdrawn.

Complex Behavior Collaborative (CBC)

Patrick Reinhart reported that the House Finance Committee added \$525,000 for the CBC, which passed unanimously. He stated that Representatives Neuman and Stoltze were very instrumental in the passage, and the Council should be sure to personally thank all of the House Finance Committee members.

Patrick noted that they expect good things regarding the CBC on the Senate side, because Senator Donny Olson was the previous sponsor of the CBC as a one-time increment in past years.

Update on Alaska Mobility Coalition (AMC) Funding Request

Patrick Reinhart stated that the AMC is trying to get the \$1 million in the Governor's capital budget increased to \$1.5 million. The AMC is looking for a legislator to champion that increase.

Patrick also reported that the AMC received a federal grant for the Fairbanks Transportation Coordination Project. Art Delaune added that the AMC has also approached the legislature for a state match for this \$90,000 grant.

NEW BUSINESS

SB 143

Hannah Foreman reported that this bill was sponsored by Senator Wielechowski and was introduced last week for military personnel with children with disabilities being able to receive services when the enlisted family member is deployed. She noted that she just signed up for the legislative alert on this bill, and she hasn't seen any action on it yet.

Patrick Reinhart stated that Christie Reinhardt is currently at the State Board of Education meeting, but if there is any action that needs to be taken on this, the Legislative Committee should get guidance from the Education Committee.

Work Plan

Patrick Reinhart stated that as part of the April Council meeting, the Legislative Committee will be presenting their work plan to the full Council for approval for next year. He noted that the difficulty with the Legislative Committee's work plan is that their work plan includes things currently in progress in the legislature. Staff will develop a draft work plan for review by the committee at their next meeting. Dean Gates mentioned that the current bill relating to the education for deaf and hearing impaired should be included in the draft work plan for next year. He also encouraged Legislative Committee members to suggest areas of interest for inclusion in the work plan.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

- Every Friday – Trust legislative meetings.
- Disability Policy Seminar – Washington, D.C., April 7 – 9.

Patrick Reinhart stated that Council members are invited to participate in the Trust legislative meetings on Fridays at the Trust office.

TIME AND DATE OF NEXT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The next Legislative Committee meeting is scheduled for March 27th from 12:00 to 1:00.

OTHER INFORMATION FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Dean Gates reported that Anchor Rides will be adding some vehicles to their fleet. Anchor Rides provides transportation for people with disabilities in Anchorage.

Dean Gates further reported that the Denali Deaf Community Center (formerly known as the Alaska Deaf Center) working group submitted a capital request for \$2.6 million to close out the acquisition of the property and do some renovations to meet the needs for services that the center is intending to provide. Patrick Reinhart suggested that the deaf center working group ask the Council for a letter of support for their request.

Dean Gates thanked Patrick Reinhart, Hannah Foreman, and Teresa Holt for all their hard work in keeping the Council members informed during the legislative session.

ADJOURNMENT

Alex Gimarc **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting. The motion **PASSED** and the meeting adjourned at 12:49 p.m.