

ALASKA PUBLIC OFFICES COMMISSION
MINUTES
SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING
JULY 20, 2009

A special meeting of the Alaska Public Offices Commission came to order at 3:03 p.m. on Monday, July 20, 2009. The meeting was held at 2221 E. Northern Lights Blvd. Rm. 128, Anchorage, Alaska.

Brackets [] indicate an agenda item number and that an information packet is included in the meeting binders. Asterisk * indicates no information was included in the meeting binders.

In Attendance:

COMMISSION: Elizabeth Hickerson - Chair (Telephonically)
Kathleen Frederick – Vice chair, (Telephonically)
Shirley Dean – Commissioner (Telephonically)
Kathleen (Kate) Ballenger – Commissioner (Telephonically)
Kathleen King – Commissioner (Telephonically)

Staff: Holly R. Hill – Executive Director
Jerry Anderson- Assistant Director
Patricia Ware – Project Coordinator Juneau Office
Maria Bulfa- Recording Secretary
Wynona Sampson – Administrative Clerk

Attendee: Tom Dosik – Assistant Attorney General, Dept. of Law
(Telephonically)

ON RECORD 3:03 p.m.

Chair Hickerson introduced herself and the other Commission members present.

The Commission identified two items to discuss:

Design of the Insight database; and
Confidentiality issues regarding the Palin Arctic Cat Disclosure

Executive Director Hill presented the staff’s recommendation for design of the Insight POFD/LFD module. The recommendation included that a statement be prepared advising the public that it is illegal to misuse financial information, much like the federal disclosure forms provide. The Commission discussed the issue and determined that they needed the exact language of such a warning statement.

Staff then asked whether the Commission wanted to put any limitations on disclosure of personal financial information online. Staff briefed the Commission on HB 65 regarding

security of personal information. Staff briefed the Commission on AS 39.50.050, which states that the Commission shall require information to be *submitted* electronically but may accept other forms of filing when circumstances warrant an exception.

The Commission asked whether there would be liability for inadvertent release of personal information and requested legal advice regarding this. The Commission also asked whether making all information publicly available was an option which was more expensive to design. Technical assistance was not available at this meeting, but staff relayed that they believed it was more expensive.

Executive Director Hill asked for direction from the Commission to give input to the design programmer to design Insight so that all information could be made publicly available, but to provide “switches” so that if the Commission decided later to turn “off” portions of the filings from disclosure they could do so. All five Commissioners agreed with this recommendation.

The second matter discussed by the Commission was whether or not to grant limited confidentiality to the Arctic Cat sponsorship agreement as requested by Governor Palin in her letter of June 15, 2009 for the purpose of reviewing the agreement to see if it met the requirements for exemption from disclosure. Governor Palin’s letter referred to AS 40.25.120. Commissioner Hickerson stated that AS 40.25.120 referred to the Alaska Gasline Inducement Act and not to this situation. Assistant Attorney General Dosik provided input that anything which came into the APOC offices was public information unless it was under a pending investigation.

The Commission unanimously declined to grant an order allowing the sponsorship agreement to be considered confidential pending review.

This concluded all the matters before the Commission.

Commissioner Ballenger moved to adjourn.

Commissioner Frederick seconded the motion.

The Commission voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

OFF RECORD 4:11 p.m.