



LOCAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION

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STATE OF ALASKA LOCAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION

Minutes of Meeting for November 29, 2023 at 10:00 am
Anchorage
Via Zoom Meeting

Chair Larry Wood called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. Present at the meeting were commissioners John Harrington, Larry Wood, Ely Cyrus and Clay Walker. Commissioner Clayton Trotter was not present. All commissioners attended via video teleconference. Also present were Jedediah Smith, staff to the LBC, Assistant Attorney General Gene Hickey, Representative Mike Cronk, Dave Stancliff, Sara Chambers, Sally Russell Cox and Lori Criqui.

Commissioner Harrington motioned to amend the agenda adding item “election of a vice-chair.” Commissioner Walker seconded the amendment. Motion to amend the agenda passed 4-0.

Commissioner Harrington motioned to approve the amended agenda. Commissioner Walker seconded the motion. The agenda was approved 4-0.

Commissioner Harrington Motion to approve minutes Harrington. Walker second. Minutes approved 4-0

LBC Staff informed the commission the City of Hoonah’s borough incorporation petition had been accepted for filing on November 27. All documents would be posted online prior to December 1. LBC staff will be traveling to Hoonah the week of January 9 to conduct an informational meeting in the community. The public comment period would run through February 29, 2024. Staff is also preparing the annual report to the legislature, and the next LBC meeting would be in-person in Anchorage on January 19.

Commissioner Walker motioned to nominate John Harrington as vice-chair of the Local Boundary Commission. Commissioner Cyrus seconded the motion. Commissioner Harrington has served on

the LBC for 15 years, and Chair Walker said his experience will be a valuable asset to the commission. The motion passed 4-0.

LBC Staff provided an overview of the draft regulation language allowing for the reclassification of certain first class cities.

Chair Wood said the LBC anticipated an oral public hearing. He said in light of there being no public comments submitted, the commission should forgo an oral public hearing.

Commissioner Walker motioned to forgo an oral public hearing. Commissioner Harrington seconded the motion.

Commissioner Cyrus asked whether a public hearing is required. LBC staff Smith said an oral public hearing is not required in statute for a regulations project, and the public notice did not include a date for an oral public hearing.

Sara Chambers said listening to public comments on the regulation is essentially a public hearing.

AAG Hickey said public comment on an agenda item would not be considered a public hearing on the regulations, and that the LBC is in compliance with the Open Meetings Act. Hickey said he does not believe there would be any harm or legal impediment to accepting additional comment on the regulation as proposed.

Chair Wood opened the floor to comments from the public.

There were no public comments on the regulation action item.

Commissioner Harrington moved to approve the draft regulations related to the reclassification of certain first class cities (3 AAC 110.371, 3 AAC 110.400 and 3 AAC 110.710). Commissioner Walker seconded the motion. Commissioners Cyrus, Harrington, Walker and Wood vote yes. Motion passes 4-0.

There were no public comments on any non-agenda items or items not currently pending before the Commission.

There were no commissioner comments.

Commissioner Cyrus motioned to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Walker seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:26 a.m.

APPROVED: _____

LOCAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION

LARRY WOOD, CHAIR

ATTEST:

JEDEDIAH SMITH, STAFF

DRAFT