



c/o Matanuska Electric Association, Inc. Post Office Box 2929 Palmer, Alaska 99645 (907) 761-9212

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
January 21, 2013
Telephonic

CALL TO ORDER 8:00 a.m. (Chairman Reiser)

**TELEPHONICALLY
PRESENT**

Janet Reiser and P.J. Hill (Chugach); Joe Griffith and Janet Kincaid (MEA); Dick Waisanen and Brad Janorschke (Homer); Cory Borgeson and Rick Schikora (GVEA); Willard Dunham (Seward); Brad Evans joined the meeting in progress.

**OTHERS
TELEPHONICALLY**

Suzie Deuser (MEA); Lee Thibert (Chugach) and Dave Carey (HEA) joined the meeting in progress.

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA Hearing no objection, the agenda was accepted.

HIRING A LOBBYIST

- (Griffith) Staff reviewed the list of lobbyist, their clients, and compensation.
- (Griffith) Recommends Bob Evans because he is not currently representing a Railbelt utility, and he has knowledge of the issues.
- (Griffith/ Schikora) Motion to hire Bob Evans for the amount \$60,000 for one year.
- (Hill) Comments that \$60,000 is more than Chugach pays for its lobbyist.
- (Janorschke) Questions if it is too late to receive a \$60,000 value.
- (Kincaid) Inquires if an alternative cheaper lobbyist exists.
- (Reiser) Voices concern over the cost.
- (Hill) Requests Cory's opinion of Bob Evans and inquires if Golden Valley would support him.
- (Borgeson) Replies Mr. Evans is well connected and responsive. If it is the will of the Board to hire a lobbyist, Golden Valley would support hiring Bob Evans.
- (Dunham) Believes with the competing grant requests, it is necessary to hire someone to represent ARCTEC.
- (Kincaid) Speaks in favor of hiring Bob Evans.
- (Waisanen) States paying \$60,000 would be difficult to convince the HEA Board to support.
- (Reiser) Requests until 1:00 p.m. to discuss with the Chugach Board members before voting.
- (Janorschke/ Kincaid) Motion to recess until 1:00 p.m. Hearing no objection, the motion CARRIED.
- (Reiser) Meeting was reconvened at 1:00 p.m.
- (Reiser) Thanks the Board for the additional time to consult the Chugach Board.
- (Reiser) Speaks for the Chugach Board, it supports hiring a lobbyist; however, it would not support hiring the lobbyist until a finalized contract to review is presented.

- (Evans) Offers a friendly motion to allow Joe to negotiate a contract, define the scope of work, and bring back to the Board for approval.
- (Evans) Offers to work with Joe, refine the scope of work and statement of direction, and bring back to the Board.
- (Kincaid) Calls the question.
- Motion CARRIES. 6 Yes, 3 No (Borgeson was not present.)
- (Evans) Recommends the Board speak to their respective utilities boards and determine if they are willing to commit to funding the lobbyist.
- (Waisanen) Voices concerns about the willingness of the HEA Board to fund.

ADJOURNMENT: (Kincaid/ Griffith) Motion to adjourn at 1:42 p.m. CARRIED.