

Minutes approved November 29, 2023

**ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
SELECT COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE ETHICS
OCTOBER 4, 2023
1:30 PM**

FULL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Skip Cook called the meeting to order at 1:33 pm.

Skip Cook directed Joyce Anderson to conduct roll call.

Roll Call

Senator David Wilson - no

Senator Löki Tobin

Representative Andy Josephson

Representative DeLena Johnson (telephonic)

Conner Thomas (telephonic)

Jerry McBeath (telephonic)

Deb Fancher

Skip Cook(telephonic)

Quorum present.

Skip Cook asked if there was anyone [else] online for the meeting.

Joyce Anderson responded there was not.

Skip Cook reminded the committee to identify themselves when speaking for the benefit of individuals on teleconference and in the audience. He added he expected the meeting to last approximately one hour.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (+)

Skip Cook entertained a motion to approve the agenda, with the addition of one item.

Joyce Anderson explained the additional item was minutes from the June 12, 2023, Senate Subcommittee meeting. She added there was no action taken during the meeting; it was opening the meeting, going into executive session, and coming out of the meeting with no action. The minutes are just standard language.

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Skip Cook offered that if there was no objection, the committee could take care of the minutes at the outset and then approve the rest of the agenda. He entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the June 12, 2023, Senate Subcommittee meeting.

Deb Fancher so moved.

Skip Cook thanked Deb Fancher and entertained objections.

Jerry McBeath stated that he hadn't seen the minutes.

Skip Cook asked Joyce Anderson if the minutes had been circulated.

Joyce Anderson responded it had been just noticed that the minutes had not been approved and thought it appropriate to add to the agenda. She restated that the minutes including opening the meeting, approving the agenda, going into executive session, coming out of executive session, and a motion to adjourn. There was no action taken.

Skip Cook asked Deb Fancher if her motion still stood with the explanation provided by Joyce Anderson.

Deb Fancher replied yes.

Skip Cook asked again if there were any objections to approving the minutes after the explanation.

Jerry McBeath said while he appreciated Joyce Anderson's explanation, he was not in favor of approving the minutes until he saw them in print.

Skip Cook asked if there was any other discussion about the minutes. He offered the minutes could be circulated and put on the next agenda. He asked Joyce Anderson her thoughts about that.

Joyce Anderson responded that the minutes could be added to the next agenda.

Skip Cook affirmed that the minutes would be on the next agenda.

Skip Cook entertained a motion to approve the agenda as circulated.

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Representative Andy Josephson so moved.

Skip Cook entertained objections. There were no objections. The agenda was approved.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Skip Cook asked if there was public comment. Hearing no public comment, he moved to the next item on the agenda.

4. ACTING ETHICS ADMINISTRATOR – Joyce M Anderson

Skip Cook asked Joyce Anderson to speak to the agenda item. Joyce Anderson said her leave of absence from serving on the Select Committee on Legislative Ethics was July 17, 2023, through October 31, 2023. It was approved on August 10, 2023. At the September 29, 2023, meeting, her contract term was extended to February 29, 2024. She explained that a motion was needed to extend her leave of absence from serving on the committee through February 29, 2024. The item was overlooked at the meeting on September 29.

Skip Cook entertained a motion to extend Joyce Anderson's leave of absence from the committee until February 29, 2024.

Jerry McBeath so moved.

Skip Cook entertained objections. Hearing none, he asked Joyce Anderson to conduct a roll call vote.

Roll call

Senator Löki Tobin
Representative Andy Josephson
Representative DeLena Johnson
Conner Thomas
Jerry McBeath
Deb Fancher
Skip Cook

All yes. The motion was approved.

Skip Cook asked Joyce Anderson to speak about the second part of the agenda item, the contract amount.

Joyce Anderson explained the original contract amount, approved on August 10, 2023, was not to exceed \$25,000. Due

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to the extended contract time period, the contract amount needs amending. She reported that she and Skip Cook had agreed to an amount not to exceed \$50,000, though it is not anticipated to reach that amount.

Skip Cook explained that Joyce Anderson's pay was calculated on an hourly basis. He entertained a motion to increase the contract amount.

Jerry McBeath so moved.

Skip Cook entertained discussion.

Jerry McBeath asked how many hours \$50,000 would include.

Joyce Anderson responded that the hourly rate was approved at the meeting on August 10. She opined to the chair that she did not think the hourly rate needed to be approved again.

Skip Cook agreed and asked Joyce Anderson if she had any idea how many hours \$50,000 equates to.

Joyce Anderson responded that she did not. She offered to provide that information to the committee at a later time if that was what the committee wanted.

Skip Cook said he did not think the extended contract would more than double the original contract amount. He asked if there was further discussion. There was no further discussion. He directed Joyce Anderson to conduct a roll call vote.

Senator Löki Tobin joined the meeting in person in Anchorage.

Roll call

Representative Andy Josephson
Senator Löki Tobin
Representative DeLena Johnson
Deb Fancher
Jerry McBeath
Conner Thomas
Skip Cook

All yes. The motion was approved.

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1:44 p.m.

5. Skip Cook entertained a motion to go into EXECUTIVE SESSION *to discuss matters which by law must remain confidential under AS 24.60.160, Uniform Rule 22(b) regarding executive sessions, and Rules of Procedure Section 5: Executive Sessions and discussion of matters, the immediate knowledge of would adversely affect the finances of a governmental unit, and discussion of subjects that tend to prejudice the reputation and character of a person.*

Conner Thomas so moved.

The committee moved into executive session.

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION

2:39 p.m.

7. PUBLIC SESSION

Skip Cook reconvened public session. No further action is needed.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

9. ADJOURN

Skip Cook entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Jerry McBeath so moved.

Skip Cook entertained objections. There were none.

The meeting was adjourned.

2:40 p.m.

ADJOURN: