

**ALASKA ENERGY AUTHORITY  
Board of Directors  
Friday, January 25, 2008  
MINUTES**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Commissioner Notti, at the request of the Chair continued as Acting Chair, and called the meeting of the Alaska Energy Authority to order on January 25, 2008 at 3:01 p.m. A quorum was established.

**2. BOARD ROLL CALL**

Directors present in Anchorage: Chair John Kelsey (Public Member); Vice Chair John Winther (Public Member); Deputy Commissioner Brian Andrews (Designee for Department of Revenue); Commissioner Emil Notti (Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development); Commissioner Leo von Scheben (Department of Transportation & Public Facilities).

**3. PUBLIC ROLL CALL**

Staff present in Anchorage: (Sara Fisher-Goad (Acting Executive Director); Chris Anderson (Deputy Director-Credit); Valorie Walker (Deputy Director-Finance); Brenda Fuglestad (Admin Manager); Karsten Rodvik (Project Manager-External Affairs); Mark Schimsheimer (Project Manager); Sherrie M. Siverson (Admin Asst); and Jim Strandberg (Project Manager).

Others present: Christine Vecchio (MEA Ratepayers Alliance).

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

*Verbatim:*

Christine Vecchio, MEA Ratepayers Alliance: I wanted to speak to the Board about the REGA Study that is presently going on. My colleague Tim Leach who is the president of the Alliance and I met Wednesday morning with Kevin Harper, who is the consultant working on the Study. I wanted to say how much we, as consumers and people out in the community, appreciate that kind of process. He sat down with us and explained the whole process of what the study would be as far as getting information us as stakeholders, technical people, how the state is inputting at all different levels. I think that one of the things that I was very struck by, as someone from the public, is here is a process that I can come to with my concerns, my ideas, things I see that might be needed, in this particular case the Railbelt energy system, and even if I don't have all the information, I can come as an informed citizen, put out what I do know, and at that moment there Kevin would provide us with information and there would be a genuine exchange. I would like to say that I really see this kind of model of collaboration and partnership between public, the so-called experts State level agencies, working hand-in-hand, and the beauty of this particular process with this study is that it is ongoing. That there will be continual input and meeting with the stakeholders. There will be formation of an advisory of people from different levels, horizontally and vertically from the community and government.

I think, for me, this provides a really dynamic way of coming up, looking at the railbelt situation, taking into as much consideration all the difficult and complex factors and making some decisions for the future for energy.

For me as a person living in the community, I know my fellow community people live with the decisions made by decision-makers. For us to feel like there is this opening and a genuine dialogue is to me the crux of a vital and vibrant government. I would like to thank the people working on the study for doing it. I thank the AEA Board for its support for the project and hopefully this model will be used throughout maybe perhaps with other agencies, other projects that come before AEA. This morning walking in, hearing what to me is news that there is the Alaska Energy Authority now possibly being the agency dealing with energy in Alaska that to me provides exciting, creative opportunities for us as a State to work together to find some solutions to I think what are very pressing and complex issues. That is my report at this stage of the study. I plan to really follow through and to provide you with feedback and our experience on our end of the Study.

*End of Verbatim*

**5. PRIOR MINUTES – December 7, 2007**

The December 7, 2007 minutes were approved as presented.

**6. OLD BUSINESS**

No old business was presented.

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

**7A. Election of Officers**

Mr. Bjorkquist said Item 7A is not needed. Under the AEA by-laws, Article 2, Section 1, there is no need to elect officers because under the By-Law, the Chair and Vice-Chair of the AIDEA Board automatically become the Chair and Vice-Chair of the AEA Board. Just for clarification, I am assuming that Mr. Kelsey, as Chair, is deferring to you for this meeting and will take over the reins next meeting. Mr. Kelsey affirmed.

**7B. Appointment of Acting Executive Director, Resolution No. 2008-01**

**MOTION:** Commissioner von Scheben moved to insert Sara Fisher-Goad's name as the Acting Executive Director and approve Resolution No. 2008-01. Seconded by Mr. Winther. There being no discussion, the question was called. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

**7C: AEA By-Law changes, Resolution No. 2008-02**

Mr. Bjorkquist said similar to what transpired at the other board meeting earlier today, there is a new set of by-law changes for AEA that deals with one section. Would it be the Board's pleasure to deal with that one section as opposed to going through what we went through earlier in the AIDEA board meeting? The Board affirmed and moved forward to move the Resolution.

**MOTION: Commissioner von Scheben moved to approve Resolution No. 2008-02. Seconded by Mr. Kelsey.**

Mr. Bjorkquist reviewed the resolution stating: Section 1 is a section to bring the by-laws into compliance with State policy not requiring the publication in a newspaper of notice of public meetings. Section 2 says that the Resolution becomes effective immediately upon passage.

**There being no discussion, the question was called. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.**

**8. DIRECTOR COMMENTS**

8A. Mr. Fisher-Goad said the intent for the upcoming meeting is to mimic what is in the AIDEA packet - updates of AEA owned projects, programs, and studies currently undertaken. Because of the lateness of the day, she suggested that we provide overviews of the projects at the board meeting on February 14, 2008.

8B. The next board meeting is scheduled for February 14, 2008.

**9. BOARD COMMENTS**

Commissioner von Scheben proposed doing a third-party intervention at AEA and AIDEA. A third-party intervention is hiring a management consultant to interview staff, send out a questionnaire, and get feedback to the Chairman of the Board regarding the good, the bad, and the ugly of AIDEA and AEA. I would propose that we have staff look into it.

To me when an organization goes through management change and/or organizational change, the staff gets very confused and gets a little concerned. The best thing I think could happen is that we show from the Board level that we are interested in what they have to say and a third-party type intervention would be just a way to do that. I think it is good business practice to get feedback from the staff so I would propose that we do something like that because I am sure that they are wondering what's going on and this way it shows that we are concerned.

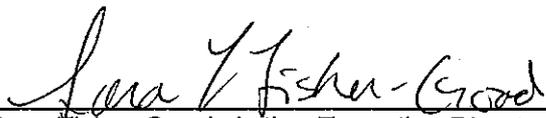
Commissioner von Scheben requested staff bring a proposal back before the Board with regard to a third-party intervention.

Deputy Commissioner Andrews said he had some thoughts along the same lines as Commissioner von Scheben. I propose Sara draft a letter for the Board's signature letting the staff know we appreciate their hard work over the last 60-90 days and for hanging in there with us as we work through this process. I would like to send the letter out in a week or so.

Ms. Fisher-Goad said the staff would appreciate the gesture. We've been trying to hold regular staff meetings to keep people informed. Staff is committed and we're looking forward to working with the Board and the Administration on the effort to further promote energy.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no objection and no further business of the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:17 p.m.

  
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Sara Fisher Goad, Acting Executive Director/Secretary  
Alaska Energy Authority