



## ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD

### Alaska Redistricting Board Meeting January 26, 2021 | 2:30 p.m.

The Alaska Redistricting Board virtually met on January 26, 2021. Present participants are below:

John Binkley  
Melanie Bahnke  
Bethany Marcum  
Budd Simpson  
Nicole Borromeo  
Peter Torkelson  
TJ Presley

Chair of the Board  
Board Member  
Board Member  
Board Member  
Board Member  
Executive Director  
Deputy Director

#### **Agenda**

- Call to Order
- Establish a Quorum
- Adoption of Agenda
- Board Policy Review and Discussion
  - Public Meeting and Notice Policy
  - Public Records Policy
  - Member Compensation Policy
  - Member and Staff Travel Per Diem Policy
- Adoption of One or More Board Policies
- Adjournment

#### **Call to Order**

Mr. Binkley called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. With all board members present, a quorum was established.

#### **Adoption of Agenda**

Ms. Borromeo moved to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion was amended to add an additional discussion regarding the board's web page as the sixth agenda item and to move adjournment to the seventh agenda item. Mr. Simpson seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Board Policy Review & Discussion**

The following draft polices were presented and reviewed by Mr. Presley and Mr. Torkelson:



## ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD

- Public Meeting and Notice Requirement Policy
- Public Records Policy
- Board Member Compensation Policy
- Board Member and Staff Per Diem Policy

The following clarifications, concerns, and questions were raised regarding the policies above:

- Board meeting notices are being posted on [notice.alaska.gov](http://notice.alaska.gov), [akleg.gov](http://akleg.gov), and the Alaska Redistricting Board website. The public can also sign up to receive board meeting notifications.
- The daily compensation rate for board members encompasses the time that board members also spend outside of meetings on board matters.
- Ms. Bahnke requested that her compensation be provided to her employer and not directly to her as a reimbursement for her wages. Staff will consult with legislative legal services regarding this request and follow up. The Board Member Compensation Policy may be amended after adoption to reflect any changes pending the advice from legislative legal services.
- Mr. Simpson and Ms. Borromeo expressed concern for the board receiving a full day's worth of compensation for a short length meeting. Ms. Borromeo noted that a sliding scale could be implemented for compensation to be made to board members based on the amount of time spent in the meeting.
- The board discussed modifying the Board Member Compensation Policy to include language that board member compensation applies to board meetings and/or public hearings.
- The board agreed to move forward with the Board Member Compensation Policy with the agreement that the policy would be revisited in the future.
- For the Board Member and Staff Per Diem Policy, the maximum reimbursement for lodging is capped at \$229 per day, meals reimbursements are capped at \$60 per day, and incidentals reimbursements are capped at up to \$25 total.
- Ms. Borromeo raised concern for the meal cap set at \$60 as it may not be enough for three meals in one day.
- Mr. Simpson suggested merging incidentals and meals together for a total of \$85 per day. The board agreed to adopt this modification to the Board Member and Staff Per Diem Policy.

### **Adoption of Board Policies**

Ms. Marcum moved to adopt all four policies with the following amendments: 1) Inserting language into the Board Member Compensation Policy that compensation applies to board meetings and/or public hearings, 2) merging meals and incidentals totals together in the Board Member and Staff Per Diem Policy for a total of \$85 per day, and 3) expenses incurred under the Board Member and Staff Per Diem Policy must be submitted for approval at the discretion of the Board Chair for meals and incidentals expenses totaling over \$85. Ms. Borromeo seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

### **Web Page Discussion**

3901 Old Seward Hwy. Ste. 141  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503  
www.akredistrict.org  
907.563.0300



John Binkley, Chair  
Melanie Bahnke  
Nicole Borromeo  
Bethany Marcum  
Budd Simpson

## ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD

Mr. Torkelson reported that the web page is anticipated to go live in the next two weeks and will serve as the single point of access for maps. Board members have received some web page mockups and Mr. Torkelson requested feedback from board members.

### **Adjournment**

Ms. Borromeo requested that the board and staff prioritize meeting with the public to educate on the board, redistricting, and the overall process.

Ms. Borromeo moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Simpson seconded the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 3:38 p.m.