

**Alaska Society of Independent Accountants**  
**Annual Membership Meeting**  
**Anchorage, Alaska Hilton Garden Inn**  
**September 20, 2007**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Paula Laurion called the meeting to order at 2:03 P.M. at the Hilton Garden Inn in Anchorage Alaska. Members present were:

Karen Ague	Carolyn Christianson	Gwen Clark	John Clark
Rex Cruse	Michael Curnow	Clifford Davidson	Kathy Hammer
Robyn Harris	Ashley Lambert	Paula Laurion	Kathie Riley
Joseph Rybak	Roblyn Wiebe	Eugene Yurkovich	Tammy Schmidt
Marty Brantingham			

James Nolen (NSA 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President) was the guest in attendance.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Nothing to be announced.

**SERGEANT-AT-ARMS**

Gene Yurkovich was appointed Sergeant-At-Arms by President Paula Laurion.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Roblyn Wiebe moved that the agenda be adopted as presented. Marty Brantingham seconded the motion. Gene Yurkovich asked that under new business we add a name change for our acronym. All in favor, motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Kathie Riley motioned to approve, Rex Cruse seconded.

Marty Brantingham asked to correct on page one (1) Rex Cruse's spelling of name, on page two (2) Tony's name to be spelled correctly from Toni to Tony, and also on page two (2) under NSA State Director's Report, first paragraph should read Senate Bill 832 almost dead for this year. All in favor, motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Dave Stephenson was not present but included a written report in the convention packet mailed to all members. As Dave Stephenson was not in attendance it was questioned as to who was able to sign the checks other than himself. It was discussed that signature cards have not been updated in many years. After researching Dave found that currently the signers are Paula Laurion, Dave Stephenson, Marty Brantingham, and Debra Blackley. To get new signers, new forms will need to be filled out at the bank with ID cards. Rex Cruse suggested that the signers should be the incoming president and treasurer. Kathie Riley suggested putting on the past president also. Everyone was in agreement that three (3) signers should be sufficient. Paula Laurion will get with Kathy Hammer to get the signature cards resigned. Marty Brantingham made a motion, Rex Cruse seconded. All in favor of approval. Motion carried.

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**DISTRICT IX GOVERNORS REPORT**

Rex Cruse presented a written report. He just returned from the NSA convention. Out of the 233 delegates at the convention 66 (over 28%) were from District IX. There was a great turn out of 81% of the delegates in attendance total. The newly elected officers are President Andy Morehead, Vice President James Nolen, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Bob Cross. Bob Cross was awarded the Presidents award, Wyoming received the small states award. Rex was reelected as District Governor for District IX for another 2 year term.

**NSA REPORT**

Marty Brantingham distributed two (2) written reports. The NSA Convention 2007 was held in Portland, OR, August 2007. In 2008 the NSA Convention will be held in Kansas City, Missouri and in 2009 the NSA Convention will be held in San Diego, California. Marty Brantingham will be attending the meeting November 4<sup>th</sup> in Las Vegas. In Marty Brantingham's report she has outlined future NSA education. Marty Brantingham strongly recommends that everyone try out the NSA Webinars as they are very well done and held on a variety of topics of interest. Kathy Hammer, Debra Blackley, and Ashley Lambert are going to attend the Leadership conference in Tampa later this September. There are five (5) new Alaska members, only one (1) non renewal. Marty Brantingham is looking for someone to take over as State Director as this is her 6<sup>th</sup> and final year. Marty Brantingham asked James Nolen to bring us up to date on new developments in the tax preparer registration legislation. First, Jim Nolan thanked everyone for the "bribery chocolates" that were in his room. James Nolen mentioned that in the last week to ten days EVP John Ames and Linda Carlisle met with senior treasury officials and left the meeting happy. Linda Carlisle is a very impressive person to have representing NSA, she doesn't take on just any clients so to have her on our side is great. Peggy Johnson has been working hard on getting ACAT to be a credentialing agency. By doing so, the hope is that the ACAT credentials would be part of the accepted credentials for the tax preparer registration. There is currently an estimated 600,000 unlicensed agents. ACAT will be checking CPE when you renew so make sure you are getting what is required. If anyone is interested in being on any NSA committee please feel free to contact Jim Nolan as NSA is looking for a broader board.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Membership** – Kathy Hammer provided a written report. Currently there are no new members but Kathy Hammer did just receive two (2) new applications, one for Fairbanks and one for Kenai. There are currently 135 members. All chapter presidents have applications. There are new committee members needed.

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**Ethics and Grievances** – None to report

**Education** – Paula Laurion is trying to get an update from Nancy Mills on education but Nancy Mills has had many different health and family issues that has her unable to continue the education committee chair. Paula Laurion stepped up to continue it for Nancy Mills. The State CPE needs to be updated. Dues statements were sent out. It is a reporting year so CPE needs to be filled out accordingly.

**Gear Up** – Written report provided. Ashley Lambert confirmed again with the Downtown Marriott to make sure everything is in order for people to start making room reservation. Ashley Lambert is going to drop off the brochures at PIP Printing tomorrow to have mailed out. Ashley Lambert needs an insert from Fairbanks to insert into the Fairbanks brochures.

**Legislative Affairs** – Bernadette Kopyy provided a written report as she was not able to attend, Marty Brantingham read aloud. The Board would like Bernadette to send a copy of MAPP to Roger Berryman at NSA. Paula Laurion will follow up with Bernadette Kopyy. Bernadette Kopyy attended 3 out of the 4 State Board of Accountancy meetings. It was agreed by the Board that at every Board of Accountancy meeting a representative needs to attend, if a member of the Legislative Affairs committee can not attend they are responsible to find a replacement.

**MAPP** – Bernadette Kopyy provided a written report as she was not able to attend.

**Information Systems** – Paula Laurion previously gave Linda Stephenson a list of written questions. Paula Laurion read Linda Stephenson's responses:

- 1.) Can a member change MAPP PFD files online? Linda Stephenson's replied that the MAPP file can not be changed online however the file can be downloaded in Word format onto their computer and changed that way but not the permanent file.
- 2.) Could Linda Stephenson add a resources button on the website? Linda Stephenson's response was that she would get that done as soon as possible. Linda Stephenson is working on a Hot Topics button also but she was waiting for approval of colors. Board decided unanimously red.

**Convention 2007** – Everything is going good. Thank you all for coming. Looking for an auctioneer for tonight, Michael Curnow volunteered.

\*3:08 P.M. break until 3:19 P.M.\*

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**CHAPTER REPORTS**

**Anchorage** – Written Report provided. Anchorage has a new slate of officers for the upcoming year as followed: President Mike Curnow, Vice President LaVonne Scott, Treasurer Karen Ague, and Secretary Ginger Curnow. Anchorage is still having trouble getting people to attend meetings, they have switched to lunchtime meetings to try to increase attendance.

**Fairbanks** – Written report provided. Fairbanks has found that having a speaker, at their dinner meetings helps with attendance. They have sent out a member practice survey to their membership so members could compare their practice to their colleagues. Gene Yurkovich is asking if ASIA can change our acronym to something instead of ASIA. That will be discussed under new business. Robyn Harris and Gina Moreno are working on 2008 convention in Fairbanks. If anyone has any suggestions please contact them.

**Kenai** – New board members for the upcoming year as followed: President Debra Blackley, Vice President Paula Laurion, Treasurer Ashley Lambert, and Secretary J.R. Dailey. Kenai continues to have monthly lunch meetings.

**DISTRICT DETERMINATION**

Kathie Riley made a motion for the districts to remain the same. Kathy Hammer seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

**BY-LAW CHANGES**

Amend Article 8, section 1 to read: Active and practicing life members shall be required to complete forty eight (48) hours of continuing education every two years. Adopted 7/27/2007. Rex Cruse made a motion to accept. Kathie Riley seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

**RATIFY ADMIN POLICY & PROCEDURE (MAPP) CHANGES**

Kathie Riley made a motion to accept 1, 2, 4, & 5 at once. Mike Curnow seconded. Kathie Riley read out loud and discussed.

A motion was made to adopt #1 by Kathie Riley. Kathy Hammer seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

A motion was made to adopt #4 by Kathie Riley. Rex Cruse seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

A motion was made to adopt #5 by Kathie Riley. Rex Cruse seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Mike Curnow spoke against #2 saying it excludes members who are not into email or other electronic communications. Kathie Riley said that is was intended for notification purposes only. Joe Rybak says that electronic communications can be things like TV, telephones, email... this needs to be much more specific. Motion denied but will be

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revisited after a break. Rex Cruse made a motion to adopt #2. Kathie Riley seconded. After reviewing prior meeting minutes this motion was not clear on what the intent was. Motion was voted down. Ashley Lambert was asked to record that this needs to be brought up in a future meeting. All in favor of not adopting #2.

**OLD BUSINESS**

We received reimbursement from NSA for the legislative lobbyist. Mike Curnow wondered why it isn't showing as income on the treasurer's report. It is believed that it will show as revenue after the treasurer's report is approved. Nothing else to report.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Election of Officers-** The slate was presented. Rex made a motion that nominations are ceased. Kathie Riley seconded. All in agreement. Elections are closed. Karen Ague and Robyn Harris counted, reports as followed:

President with 48 votes, Kathy Hammer.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President with 48 votes, Bernadette Koppy.

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President with 48 votes, Kathie Riley

Secretary with 48 votes, Ashley Lambert

Treasurer with 47 votes, Dave Stephenson.

**Convention 2008** – Robyn Harris has contacted hotels. A date needs to be picked. Joe Rybak asked if it could be held after September 20<sup>th</sup> due to moose season and suggested September 24-27. Holding it later will interfere with NSA's Leadership conference. Rex Cruse and Jim Nolan will check on dates for that. Mike Curnow asked to have Pike's Landing checked into for a location.

**Convention 2009 and beyond-**The location does not seem to determine the number of attendee's so a survey will be done at this convention to see where the membership would like the next location to be.

**Name change of ASIA-** Gene Yurkovich is asking that we change the acronym to something besides A.S.I.A. to stimulate more interest. He suggested ASA. Gene Yurkovich makes a motion for a name change. Mike Curnow seconds it. Rex Cruse says it needs to be investigated further. A committee needs to be formed to investigate it, come up with some different options and present it to the board.

Mike Curnow moves that the Treasurer's report gets posted on the website instead of being mailed out every quarter. Kathie Riley seconds. Roblyn Wiebe suggests posting on the website the 1st, 2nd, and 4th quarters but mail out in the convention packet the 3rd quarter. Clifford Davidson opposed everyone else in attendance agreed.

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Roblyn Wiebe made a motion that the new membership notices should be posted on the website. Kathy Hammer seconds. Kathie Riley says that they are too important to just post on the website, everyone needs to be mailed a hard copy since there is only the 10 day window for denial. Rex Cruse questioned the last time any member had been denied. John Clark said that it didn't matter. Motion was defeated.

Mike Curnow moved to transfer money at the end of the fiscal year from the General fund to the educational fund to bring the balance up to \$10,000. Kathie Riley seconds. This is done yearly but was forgotten last year. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**Set annual Dues-**Mike Curnow moves to decrease annual dues to \$72.00. Kathie Riley seconds. Mike Curnow feels that last years dues increase killed the Anchorage membership. Rex Cruse stated that the current budget is set on current dues of \$96.00. Many members feel because of the dues increase membership has gone down as where in the past it hadn't when the dues were lower in price. Kathie Riley calls for question. Decrease dues from \$96.00 to \$72.00 for upcoming fiscal year. Vote was 5 members vote to decrease to \$72.00, 7 members vote to leave at \$96.00, some did not vote. There was a request for more discussion. Question was called so discussion is done. Rex Cruse made a motion to retain dues at \$96.00. Kathy Hammer seconds. Joe Rybak suggests the difference be split in half. Joe moves that the \$12.00 difference be shared with the chapters. That is a separate motion. Rex Cruse is afraid that by decreasing the dues, the budget can't be met. Kathie Riley calls for the question. Dues are to retain at \$96.00. All voted and 3 were opposed. Kathie Riley makes a motion to have a committee formed to review dues for next fiscal years. Joe Rybak seconds. Try to figure out why so many did not renew and take into consideration. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Approval of proposed budget-**Mike Curnow moves to accept dues section on budget. Marty Brantingham seconds. All in agreement. Motion carried.

Rex Cruse makes a motion to accept Gear Up revenue. Kathy Hammer seconds. Mike Curnow wanted to know how the amounts were figured. Due to unknown outcome of the Jennings seminar it was left alone. All in favor. Motion carried.

Karen Ague made a motion to accept the rest of the budget Rex Cruse seconded. Mike Curnow moves we go line by line through the budget. Kathie Riley seconds. All in favor. Motion carried. Mike Curnow makes all of the motions. Kathy Hammer seconds all. No discussion on most and all passed as is except listed below:

Line 1: Administrative service provider, Linda will receive \$10.00 more a month increasing annual amount to \$1,980.00

Line 3: Board meeting expense, it was questioned on if we can cut costs in this area. A committee will be formed. All in favor, passed.

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Line 5: NSA Convention, it was thought that less people would want to attend the convention held in Kansas City. Mike Curnow disagrees. Members wondered where we will get the extra \$1,000.00 from. Mike Curnow said to take it from the surplus from prior year's general fund. All in favor of \$1,000.00 increase. Motion passed.

Line 6: NSA State director, Mike Curnow believes this amount to be too low as the director has to financially be able to attend. NSA reimburses the state director \$200.00 a seminar, District XI and X are paid for. There is no NSA reimbursement for travel within the State. Since the current State Director was uncomfortable with the proposed increase it will be revisited again next year.

Line 15: Education committee, as it is a reporting year amend the amount to \$150.00. All in agreement except Kathie Riley.

Line 17: Legislative Affairs committee, Joe Rybak questions why the decrease in actual expense. There have been no payments made yet and no one can project what the price will be as no expenses have been turned in. All opposed, motion denied. Rex Cruse made a motion to move it back to \$3,000.00. Kathy Hammer seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

Mike Curnow moves to amend line item of Revenue of prior year surplus from <\$5,000.00> to <\$2,400.00>. All in agreement, motion passed.

**GOOD TO THE ORDER**

Everyone thanks Paula Laurion.

Michael Curnow asked NSA when he was in Portland, Oregon if they would like to hold a convention in Anchorage in the future; the response was that it was looking good.

Meeting adjourned by Paula Laurion at 6:33 PM