

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE MEMBERSHIP
IN THE ALASKA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE INVESTMENT POOL (AMLIP)**

(Resolution 06-01)

WHEREAS Southeast Conference is the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR), the USDA Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Council, and the Economic Development District (EDD) for Southeast Alaska, and

WHEREAS the Conference is responsible for maintaining a regional development strategy for capacity building, economic and community development, and resource conservation and development in Southeast Alaska, and

WHEREAS the Southeast Conference receives income from memberships, annual meetings and grant administration, and wishes to protect its cash reserves while receiving a rate of return on this money.

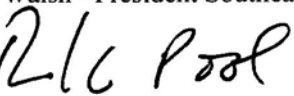
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Board authorizes Southeast Conference to join the Alaska Municipal League Investment Pool (AMLIP) operated in accordance with AS37.23.010-AS37.23.900.

The Board authorizes President Murray Walsh, his successor and the Executive Director to negotiate, execute, and administer documents required to establish this account and to manage funds on its behalf.

ADOPTED BY THE SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON August 5, 2005.

Witness: 
Murray Walsh - President Southeast Conference

Attest: 
Rollo Pool, Executive Director

**A RESOLUTION URGING THE STATE TO SHARE REVENUE WITH ALL
ALASKAN MUNICIPALITIES**

(Resolution 06-02)

- WHEREAS** For decades the State of Alaska, like many states, shared its revenues with the municipalities of the state under a statutory formula set by statute; and
- WHEREAS** The state ceased to fund all revenue sharing programs in 2003; and
- WHEREAS** The elimination of all revenue sharing had a significant effect on the ability of Alaska's cities and boroughs to provide essential service; communities were forced to reduce essential services and/or increase local taxes and fees; and
- WHEREAS** Restoration of a revenue sharing option would provide communities with funding to reduce local taxes, build infrastructure, provide for increased quality of life and in some cases provide for the survival of small cities; and
- WHEREAS** A revenue sharing option could be endowed by investing a portion of the healthy revenue stream that State is currently receiving for future appropriation to a revenue sharing program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

That the State of Alaska is urged to resume sharing revenue with municipalities: for fiscal year 2006, \$75 million. Each community will receive a minimum payment of \$75,000. The balance, after payment of the minimum, will be allocated on a per capita basis. Distribution in cases where one or more communities lie within a borough would be allocated in proportion to the relative expenditures of each communities (including the borough) prior fiscal year's operating budget – excluding grant funds and special capital projects expenses; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:

That consideration be given to creating a revenue sharing endowment through appropriation of sufficient current revenues.

Adopted by the Southeast Conference membership on September 28, 2005.



Witness: Robert Venables - President Southeast Conference



Attest: Rollo Pool, Executive Director

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE KENSINGTON GOLD MINE, AN ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE MINING DEVELOPMENT BY COEUR ALASKA IN JUNEA, ALASKA

(Resolution 06-03)

- WHEREAS** The Southeast Conference believes the Forest Supervisor's Record of Decision (ROD) is environmentally responsible and is based on an overwhelming abundance of scientific information and sound engineering, and is being implemented by the Regional Forester; and
- WHEREAS** Coeur's approved Plan of Operation (and the USFS ROD) is supported by the findings of over 900 science and engineering studies; and
- WHEREAS** Coeur's Plan of Operations for the Lower Slate Lake tailings management facility will result in a net environmental gain by tripling the size of the lake and improving the lake's fishery's habitat creating new higher value wetlands, as compared to eliminating over 130 acres of wetlands at the previously permitted dry stack facility at Comet Beach; and
- WHEREAS** The U.S. Army Corps' exhaustive engineering and environmental analyses has clearly demonstrated that Slate Lake tailings management proposal is the only "practicable alternative;" it has improved logistics, economics, and Coeur has incorporated the highest level of technology in terms of advanced water treatment and waste management; and
- WHEREAS** The US Environmental Protection Agency was a cooperating agency in the studies and determination to allow the placing of tailings in Slate Lake; and
- WHEREAS** The US Environmental Protection Agency has issued the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit; and
- WHEREAS** The Southeast Conference is aware that the State of Alaska, the US Army Corps of Engineers, EPA Headquarters, and EPA Region 10 worked very hard together to develop an Alaska-specific tailings management policy (the Regas Memorandum), which is now being implemented; and
- WHEREAS** Juneau and Southeast Alaska need the 200 plus high-paying jobs and \$16 million annual payroll. We need these jobs to provide an opportunity for our youth to remain here, and not lose them to the Lower 48; and
- WHEREAS** The new mine plan will result in the deposition of tailings in Slate Lake. This activity constitutes the placement of inert ground rock particles that are no different than the ground rock particles delivered to Berners Bay by the glaciers and rivers that drain into the bay, and
- WHEREAS** Coeur has also proposed a contingency water treatment option, should it be necessary to assure all water quality standards will be met, and provides the "reasonable assurance" required by EPA when it issued the Final NPDES Permit; and

SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE 2006

WHEREAS Despite the many environmental improvements and benefits of the new mine plan, several groups led by the Southeast Alaska Conservation Council (SEACC) have filed a lawsuit in a bid to stop the mine development.;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Southeast Conference at its 2005 Annual Meeting strongly supports the development of the Kensington Gold Mine; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:

The Kensington Mine, as now proposed, is a first-rate example of environmentally responsible mining and should serve as a beacon to others; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:

SEACC, the Juneau Chapter of the Sierra Club, and Lynn Canal Conservation Society are urged to discontinue their litigation, against the Kensington Gold Mine. Said litigation is harmful to the people of Southeast Alaska, unnecessary, and without merit.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT:

The City and Borough of Juneau is encouraged to intervene in the Kensington Project lawsuit in defense of the Army Corps of Engineers and U.S. Forest Service decisions to permit the Kensington Mine.

Adopted by the Southeast Conference membership on September 28, 2005.



Witness: Robert Venables - President Southeast Conference



Attest: Rollo Pool, Executive Director

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE ALASKA MARINE HIGHWAY SYSTEM PROVIDE LONG-RANGE PLANNING, CONSISTENT FARES AND SCHEDULES, AND STABLE FUNDING FOR MAINTENANCE, OPERATION AND EXPANSION OF THE SYSTEM TO ENSURE THE MOST EFFECTIVE SERVICE TO THE USERS OF THE SYSTEM AND THE MOST EFFICIENT OPERATION OF THE VESSELS

(Resolution 06-04)

- WHEREAS** Sudden changes to adopted AMHS Regional Transportation Plans without adequate community input or notice causes negative economic impacts to communities and their businesses; and
- WHEREAS** Inadequate funding allocated for the purchase of new vessels to replace the aging fleet compromises compliance with the 2010 SOLAS deadlines; and
- WHEREAS** Failure to establish baseline schedules and publish them at least two years in advance for all AMHS routes reduces ridership and complicates connections within the system and with other modes of transportation; and
- WHEREAS** Inconsistent and unpredictable operational funding exacerbates the effective maintenance and operation of the AMHS; and
- WHEREAS** Poor communication and coordination between the Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Marine Transportation Advisory Board creates a gap between local knowledge/need and administrative/operational decisions; and
- WHEREAS** Inadequate or nonexistent partnerships between DOT and communities jeopardize the potential to maximize marketing efforts and revenue potential for the AMHS; and
- WHEREAS** Legislative elimination of the AMHS Trust Fund destabilizes the system; and
- WHEREAS** Inequities between funding for the AMHS and other State Transportation Systems hampers the economic viability of communities that rely on the AMHS as a primary mode of transportation; and
- WHEREAS** Failure to implement Public and/or private feeder ferries hinders opportunities to enhance ferry service; and
- WHEREAS** Underutilization of Alaska shipyards and maintenance facilities is detrimental to the economic viability of those services.

SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE 2006

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Department of Transportation, Alaska Marine Highway System, and Alaska State Legislature work closely and cooperatively with the Marine Transportation Advisory Board, Communities served by the AMHS, and regional marketing efforts to provide adequate funding for the AMHS, to follow adopted transportation plans, to establish reliable and effective schedules and fares, to effectively operate, maintain, and upgrade the fleet, and to provide adequate service to communities and visitors who rely on the system for primary transportation.

Adopted by the Southeast Conference membership on September 28, 2005.



Witness: Robert Venables - President Southeast Conference



Attest: Rollo Pool, Executive Director

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF IMPROVED FERRY SERVICE TO SITKA
AND VILLAGES OF SOUTHEAST ALASKA**
(Resolution 06-05)

WHEREAS Sitka is the third largest city in Southeast (SE) Alaska and has received disproportionately less service than other smaller communities in SE Alaska; and

WHEREAS Sitka's 8,500 person population, as well as vehicles and freight, should be able to utilize the Alaska Marine Highway System (AMHS) to connect with other communities in the system on a regular basis, which is currently not possible; and should receive at least half the level of service other mainline ports receive (for example, two northbound and southbound mainline stops per week); and

WHEREAS Sitka is a major program site for the SouthEast Alaska Regional Health Consortium (SEARHC), one of SE Alaska's largest private employers with one thousand (1,000) employees, which moves its beneficiaries to Sitka for critically necessary health care/hospital care; and

WHEREAS SEARHC serves over thirteen thousand (13,000) beneficiaries throughout SE Alaska and annually transports approximately three thousand (3,000) patients between the villages and Sitka; and

WHEREAS AMHS ferry schedules do not allow for reliable or consistent movement from SEARHC ambulatory care clinics in the villages to Sitka; and

WHEREAS SEARHC beneficiaries face the very real possibility of negative medical outcomes in their home communities while waiting for AMHS ferries to transport them to the regional hospital in Sitka, either because of inclement weather conditions, or the patient's unwillingness to utilize air transport;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Southeast Conference work with local, state, and federal governments to maintain the Alaska Marine Highway System as the primary means of movement for people and goods within coastal Alaska;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:

The Southeast Conference recognizes this need for improved ferry service to Sitka for economic, business, and health reasons, and supports increased ferry service to and from Sitka and the villages in SE Alaska.

Adopted by the Southeast Conference membership on September 28, 2005.

Witness: Robert Venables - President Southeast Conference

Attest: Rollo Pool, Executive Director

**A RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE
SUPPORTING DEVELOPMENT OF THE HISTORIC HYDER MINING
DISTRICT MUSEUM PROJECT AS A TOURISM ATTRACTION AND
ALASKA RESOURCE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY**

(Resolution 06-06)

WHEREAS The Hyder Mining District and adjacent Stewart Mining District has played an important role in development of two communities sharing a common international boundary, for many decades; and,

WHEREAS Today mining industry remnants from prior years are important interest points to the increasing tourism activity in the area, while at the same time seasoned mining companies look at prospects for future development activity; and,

WHEREAS Mining industry development proponents recognize a high educational value to recover and display artifacts, establish rock, mineral and fossil exhibits for visitors and mining industry participants alike; and,

WHEREAS The Hyder Board of Trade, Inc. and The Portland Canal Development Council are committed to reconstruction of the historic Hyder business district to its prior 1920-30 period design as a tourism attraction; and,

WHEREAS The first structure proposed for development is the mining museum with various educational components.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Southeast Conference recognizes and supports creation of educational facilities in the region, including museums and historical attraction preservation reflective of local and regional development history associated with natural resource extraction to create jobs and communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:

The Southeast Conference urges state, federal and private organizations to provide funding and technical assistance when possible to accomplish the Hyder Mining Museum Project as an important educational attraction of the Alaska mining industry.

Adopted by the Southeast Conference membership on September 28, 2005.



Witness: Robert Venables - President Southeast Conference



Attest: Rollo Pool, Executive Director

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SUSTAINED YIELD UNITS
FOR SOUTHEAST ALASKA**

(Resolution 06-07)

- WHEREAS** The US Forest Service has been unable to supply an adequate volume of economic timber; and,
- WHEREAS** The communities of Southeast Alaska depend on the timber industry for a large part of their economic viability; and
- WHEREAS** Establishing Sustained Yield Units around timber-dependent communities will provide the economic timber necessary to sustain the mills in the communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Southeast Conference supports legislation necessary to establish Sustained Yield Units that will be managed under a trust that will plan and sell timber sales under the State Forest Practices Act. Revenue that is surplus to the costs of managing the units will be used to fund education in nearby communities.

Adopted by the Southeast Conference membership on September 28, 2005.



Witness: Robert Venables - President Southeast Conference



Attest: Rollo Pool, Executive Director

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF FULL FUNDING OF THE
POWER COST EQUALIZATION (PCE) PROGRAM**
(Resolution 06-08)

- WHEREAS** Electricity is the single most important element of any community's infrastructure that supports life, health and safety, and without which no economic development of self-sufficiency can be obtained; and
- WHEREAS** Power Cost Equalization (PCE) is a vital program that make it feasible for rural Alaskans to have access to affordable electric power and for rural communities to have access electric power for streetlights, water and sewer facilities and other essential infrastructure; and
- WHEREAS** Fossil fuel prices have dramatically increased over the past 12 months and resultant electricity rates have increase substantially; and
- WHEREAS** The State of Alaska has established the PCE program but has not adequately funded the program. The current funding level is 81%; and
- WHEREAS** At current utility costs, a sum great than \$23-28 million per year would be needed to adequately reduce the consumer cost of 30% of rural Alaska's electricity to a level more than twice that in urban Alaska; and
- WHEREAS** The State of Alaska is currently enjoying a budget surplus. Because of high oil prices, it is only fair that part of the surplus be used to help offset the high energy costs in rural areas caused by high oil prices.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Southeast Conference supports full funding of the PCE program and urges the Governor and State Legislature to include in the FY07 and FY08 budgets the amount necessary to fully fund this important program in an appropriate and equitable manner; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Further consideration be given to front loading the PCE Endowment fund; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:

Southeast Conference supports reinstatement of PCE to schools, medical facilities and businesses in eligible communities.

Adopted by the Southeast Conference membership on September 28, 2005.



Witness: Robert Venables - President Southeast Conference



Attest: Rollo Pool, Executive Director

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE DEVELOPMENT
OF A SOUTHEAST REGIONAL SEAFOOD BRAND
BY THE STIKINE RIVER SEAFOOD MARKETING ASSOCIATION**

(Resolution 06-09)

- WHEREAS** The Southeast Alaska region supports commercial harvests of salmon, halibut, crab, shrimp, herring, black cod, sea cucumber, geoduck, and sea urchin; and
- WHEREAS** Southeast Alaska fishermen have a history of using ice and refrigerated sea water to maintain high quality; and
- WHEREAS** Half of all wild salmon harvested in Alaska are harvested in the Southeast region; and
- WHEREAS** A growing sector of the seafood market is keenly interested in premium quality seafood for health, prestige and environmental responsibility; and
- WHEREAS** Brands allow customers to differentiate products and associate certain qualities with the brand, and brands allow sellers to remove their products from the commodity market where price is the only thing that matters; and
- WHEREAS** The efforts to develop salmon brands in other regions of Alaska have been associated by the marketplace to be synonymous with delivering high quality salmon; and
- WHEREAS** The Southern Southeast Alaska Maritime Industry Strategy Report recommends the region design and implement a branding program as strategic task 3 for fisheries development; and
- WHEREAS** The Stikine River Seafood Marketing Association's mission is to increase the value of the region's seafood through the development of a signature brand name that is based on a standardized quality assurance program and is recognized as delivering reliable quality seafood to its customers; and
- WHEREAS** Membership of the Stikine River Seafood Marketing Association is open to all seafood harvesters, processors and support industries in Southeast Alaska interested in marketing premium quality products; and
- WHEREAS** The Stikine River Seafood Marketing Association has adopted a marketing plan, name and logo and is moving forward with the development of promotions and quality standards for Southeast Alaska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Southeast Conference supports the efforts of The Stikine River Seafood Marketing Association (SRSMA) to promote the Southeast Alaska Rainforest Wild brand, which is associated with quality seafood products; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:

Southeast Conference supports the designation of The Stikine River Seafood Marketing Association as the regional seafood development association for Southeast Alaska by the State of Alaska.

SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE 2006

Adopted by the Southeast Conference membership on September 28, 2005.



Witness: Robert Venables - President Southeast Conference



Attest: Rollo Pool, Executive Director

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF RURAL AND MUNICIPAL FIRE
DEPARTMENT FACILITY UPGRADES IN SOUTHEAST ALASKA**

(Resolution 06-10)

WHEREAS Many rural and municipal Southeast Alaska communities have fire department facilities that are substandard to support growth to match that of other districts; and

WHEREAS New building codes and safety regulations require complete rebuilding or remodeling of aging facilities; and

WHEREAS Many facilities used by rural and municipal fire departments lack necessary personnel and apparatus space for safe and efficient service; and

WHEREAS Rural and municipal fire departments in Southeast Alaska desperately require funding to improve existing facilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State of Alaska and federal agencies support funding for construction of new facilities to sustain growth and to meet new building codes and safe regulations.

Adopted by the Southeast Conference membership on September 28, 2005.



Witness: Robert Venables - President Southeast Conference



Attest: Rollo Pool, Executive Director