

Debra Thompson

From: Stephen Giesbrecht
Sent: Friday, October 19, 2018 9:57 AM
To: Debra Thompson
Cc: Assembly; Department Heads
Subject: FW: AML public lands committee
Attachments: 2017-2018 PLSC.pdf; August Advocacy.docx

For the Assembly to appoint.

From: Nils Andreassen <nils@akml.org>
Sent: Friday, October 19, 2018 9:50 AM
To: Aleutians East Borough - Anne Bailey <abailey@aeboro.org>; Bristol Bay Borough <stibbetts@bbbak.us>; City & Borough of Sitka <Keith.brady@cityofsitka.org>; City & Borough of Wrangell <lvonbargen@wrangell.com>; City & Borough of Yakutat <manager@yakutat.ak.us>; City and Borough of Juneau - Rorie Watt <rorie.watt@juneau.org>; Denali Borough <clay_walker@denaliborough.com>; Fairbanks North Star Borough - Jim Williams <jwilliams@fnsb.us>; Haines Borough - Julie Cozzi <jcozzi@haines.ak.us>; Kenai Peninsula Borough <Jquick@kpb.us>; Ketchikan Gateway Borough <rubend@kgbak.us>; Kodiak Island Borough - Michael Powers <mpowers@kodiakak.us>; Lake & Peninsula Borough - Nathan Hill <manager@lakeandpen.com>; Matanuska-Susitna Borough - John Moosey <john.moosey@matsugov.us>; Falsey, William (Bill) D <FalseyWD@ci.anchorage.ak.us>; Municipality of Skagway - Scott Hahn <s.hahn@skagway.org>; Deano Olemaun <Deano.Olemaun@north-slope.org>; Nate Kotch <NKotch@nwabor.org>; Stephen Giesbrecht <sgiesbrecht@petersburgak.gov>
Subject: AML public lands committee

Dear all,

As you know, AML participates actively in the National Association of Counties (NACo), which some of you also participate in. Additionally, we are members of the Western Interstate Region (WIR), which focuses on the needs of Western states. Especially important for this group is the attention to PILT, SRS, and the federal regulatory environment with regards to DOI, EPA and other agencies.

There's a regular call of WIR, as well as meetings throughout the year. Most importantly there is advocacy associated with the outcomes of their work, and as federal issues arise we are asked to provide input.

AML would be more effective in our engagement within WIR if we had the input of the boroughs and unified municipalities who deal regularly with these issues. I don't know how this has been approached before but I'd like to suggest an approach, and get your feedback.

I'd like to 1) identify a point of contact within each borough who could contribute expertise, 2) arrange a call every couple months, or as necessary, to run through issues as they come up, and 3) be able to email more urgent requests and get responses to federal actions or advocacy. AML will facilitate communications and organize overall engagement, including to liaise with WIR. We'll share publications, outreach documents and opportunities to participate in federal advocacy efforts. This will complement and inform the AML NACo representative engagement, and really work to bolster AML's capabilities overall.

Attached is the 2017-18 Public Lands positions of NACo, which is being reviewed by WIR right now. I would really like for Alaska to contribute to this. In recent months we've also been asked to review a Forest Service engagement guidebook, and ESA modernization legislation. I've also attached an example of federal advocacy positions that NACo often puts forward; this from August.

This is a broad and ever-evolving landscape that the governments closest to the issue will understand best. It would be great to count on your input into AML's engagement in this regard.

Please let me know if this approach is acceptable, and if there's someone you would like to see on this "committee".

Many thanks for your consideration.

Nils

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"Strengthening Alaska Municipalities"