

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
OFFICE OF TERRITORIES  
RECORDS SECTION

ALASKA-  
ALASKA FIELD STAFF & FIELD COMMITTEE  
ADMINISTRATIVE -  
MINUTES OF MEETINGS

File No. 1 99 - ADMINISTRATIVE - MINUTES OF MEETINGS - GENERAL (Part#2)

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JAMES P. DAVIS  
Director

Interior—Duplicating Section, Washington, D. C.

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From: Mar. 1, 1950

To : *June 15, 1951*

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UNITED STATES  
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
 OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
 WASHINGTON

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May 29, 1950

Memorandum

To: Members of the Program Committee  
 From: Walton Seymour, Chairman

Transmitted herewith are copies of minutes of the seventh meeting of the Alaska Field Committee, the fifteenth meeting of the Southwest Field Committee, and the thirty-ninth meeting of the Pacific Northwest Field Committee.

1-94  
 Minutes  
 of Meeting

Also attached is a memorandum from the Chairman of the Pacific Northwest Field Committee, dated May 17, 1950, transmitting a revised "Summary of Estimates of Program Requirements" for Geological Survey which should be inserted after page 88 of the Committee's Program Report, 1950 Revision (Preliminary).

*Walton Seymour*  
 Walton Seymour

- The Secretary
- The Under Secretary
- Assistant Secretary Davidson
- Assistant Secretary Warne
- Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation
- Commissioner, Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Director, Bureau of Mines
- Director, National Park Service
- Director, Fish and Wildlife Service
- Director, Bureau of Land Management
- ~~Executive Officer, Office of Administrative Management~~
- Assistant to the Secretary in Charge of Land Utilization
- Director, Division of Power
- Director of Information
- Director, Oil & Gas Division
- The Solicitor
- Director, Territories and Island Possessions
- Director, Geological Survey
- Director, Division of Geography
- Administrator, Bonneville Power Administration
- Administrator, Southwestern Power Administration
- Administrator, Southeastern Power Administration
- Director of Personnel
- Chief Clerk
- Executive Officer, Water Resources Subcommittee
- Program Staff

Assistant Secretary Doty  
 Administrative Assistant Secretary Northrop

76257

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MINUTES OF THE SEVENTH MEETING OF THE ALASKA FIELD COMMITTEE

APRIL 19, 20, and 21, 1950

JUNEAU, ALASKA

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MINUTES OF THE ALASKA FIELD COMMITTEE MEETING

The Seventh Meeting of the Alaska Field Committee convened on Wednesday, April 19, 1950, in the Senate Chambers, Juneau, Alaska, and was adjourned at noon on Friday, April 21. The following were present:

Secretary's Office

Kenneth J. Kadow, Chairman, Alaska Field Committee, Juneau

Indian Office

Don Foster, General Superintendent, Alaska Native Service, Juneau

Bureau of Mines

S. H. Lorain, Regional Director of Bureau of Mines, Juneau

Fish and Wildlife Service

Clarence Rhode, Regional Director, Juneau

Bureau of Reclamation

R. C. Johnson, Assistant Chief, Alaska Investigations Office, Juneau

Governor's Office

George Sundborg, Executive Assistant to the Governor (4/19 only)

Geological Survey

Lew Williams, Secretary of Alaska (4/21)

John Reed, Staff Geologist, Washington

Alaska Railroad

Del Nucker, Assistant to the General Manager

Bureau of Land Management

Lowell M. Puckett, Regional Administrator, Anchorage

National Park Service

Alfred C. Kuehl, Special Representative, San Francisco

Alaska Road Commission

John R. Noyes, Commissioner of Roads, Juneau (from noon 4/20)

George Tapley, Chief, Engineering Division (until noon 4/20)

Six Year Report.

Maps and graphs. The Chairman stated that the Program Committee felt the Alaska Six Year Program would be improved by the inclusion of maps and graphs marking off development areas, roads, etc. A discussion ensued on the size of the map to be used as well as the amount of material to be covered on the map. It was finally decided to hold the matter in abeyance until the next Field Committee meeting by which time everybody would have had a chance to decide what data they wished to present in map or graph form, just how they wished to present it, and the type of map they wished to use. Each agency would be responsible for the compilation of its own maps and graphs and make available 150 copies of each. It was felt that a standard sized map should be used and that data should be consolidated wherever possible. The Program Committee also recommended that individual Bureau sections of the Six Year Program could be made more effective by reducing unnecessary detail and increasing the summary to give a broader insight as to what the entire program called for. Many suggestions were made by Committee members concerning the choice of words in the General sections of the report prepared by the Committee Chairman. After a lengthy discussion of this subject, specific changes were made that will be reflected in the revised draft.

The Committee Chairman reported that several meetings took place in Washington dealing with the various problems of Field Committee operation throughout the country and that all recognized the importance of relating more closely programming and budgeting. The Chairman was authorized by the group to formulate the Six Year Report in its final form and to forward it on to Washington without further review.

#### Building materials in Alaska.

The Chairman explained that a meeting had been called for April 6 in Washington by Secretary Chapman and presided over by Assistant Secretary Warne, concerning the development of the building industry in Alaska. The minutes of this meeting were distributed, along with correspondence on the same subject. The Chairman explained that on his way back from Washington he had contacted 26 private building companies in building materials manufacturing in Portland and Seattle, in an effort to interest them in solving various aspects of the problem of manufacture of building materials in the Territory. Mr. Kadow explained that the Alaska Pacific Spruce Company of Seattle had indicated an interest in the possibility of developing a birch logging operation in Alaska but that certain problems had been raised in this connection. The most important of these was the feeling on the part of the private operators that expenditure of money on their part to put in logging roads to some of the best timber stands would very likely result in the filing of several homesteads in the best of these timber sources. Lowell Puckett explained that the same problem had been raised by the A. K. Wilson Company and indicated that in the absence of a general land classification law the only method of which he knew that could prevent this from happening was to withdraw any area needed as a timber reserve. After considerable discussion of this point, George Sundborg made the following motion: "Pending passage of a suitable land classification law or act for Alaska, at such time as one or more individuals come to the Department with specific and immediate plans for developing birch logging in birch forested areas, the Field Committee recommends that the Secretary of the Interior withdraw as a timber reserve an appropriate unit for use for that purpose." The motion was passed unanimously.

Mr. Kadow continued his report by indicating that the Felt Rock Insulation Manufacturing Company, Tacoma, Washington, was interested in the possibilities of manufacturing rock wool and wished to know whether or not adequate limestone and silica rock are available for the process. Tom Dowling of Seattle, Washington, Harry J. Shaffer, Lowell, Washington, and the Washington Brick and Lime Company, Spokane, were all interested in the manufacture of brick and brick-tile and other clay products. They are particularly anxious to know what the raw material resources for this operation would be in the Anchorage and Fairbanks areas. The Northwest Insulation Company of Spokane, Washington, indicated their willingness to manufacture zonalite in the Territory provided vermiculite was available. John Reed and S. H. Lorain did not know of any.

The Smithwick Concrete Products Company of Portland, Oregon, has indicated their willingness to manufacture haydite providing satisfactory raw materials are available.

Mr. Kadow explained that the interests of all these manufacturers was contingent upon some fairly reliable analysis that would indicate a satisfactory market demand.

The Chairman informed the Field Committee that a building materials meeting involving each department interested in building materials in Alaska and building material manufacturers and architects, was planned for May 9 at the headquarters of the Alaska Military Command in Anchorage. He hoped that each agency of the Department with special interest in this subject would be represented.

John Reed indicated that the Geological Survey was prepared to interpret information already available on limestone and shale for the benefit of the Bureau of Mines in assisting to locate these materials in commercial quantities. Mr. Reed also indicated that it might be possible for the Geological Survey to put a man on this work this summer if the purpose justified it. Mr. Lorain stated that his bureau had placed sufficient importance on this program to assign two men starting almost immediately to work on this problem throughout the summer. He also indicated that necessary testing could be done by his bureau but that perhaps some practicable commercial testing could be done by the interested parties. Mr. Kadow explained that some of the firms had indicated their willingness to test feasible samples if they could get them.

Concerning the availability of raw materials for haydite, John Reed indicated that satisfactory materials might be available in the Anchorage area, in the general divide area of the Rail Belt around Windy, and in the Healy claystone. He further stated that some of these materials might be suitable for brick and tile but that he doubted their availability in the Fairbanks area any nearer than Healy.

Mr. Johnson explained the special interest of his bureau in possolanic material to be used in concrete. He indicated that probably 10,000 barrels would be required in this connection on the Eklutna Project and that it reduces cement requirements from 20 to 30 percent.

Culminating the discussion on building materials, Mr. Kadow requested that each agency of the Interior Department with any contemplated building program for the Rail Belt should list specifically the building program contemplated and insofar as convenient estimates of materials likely to be required in them. This should be done as soon as possible and should cover a period of at least six years. Mr. Nucker of the Alaska Railroad explained that rapid progress was being made in the developing of a bulk cement project by private interests at Anchorage. It is expected that

this facility will be in full operation by the middle of summer. This precipitated a discussion of the cement manufacturing project at Healy. The recommendation of the Committee was that appraisal of raw materials for cement manufacture continue until the study is satisfactorily completed.

The Committee agreed that it might be possible for a small cement manufacturer to consider the project feasible provided raw materials were satisfactory, and with the exception of the National Park Service (Kuehl), authorized its Chairman to continue his efforts to interest a small independent manufacturer in it. However, the Committee cautioned that under the circumstances of the present outlook and the Hutton Report, care should be exercised to not make this opportunity appear too optimistic, since there seemed to be many questions about the feasibility of any cement project in Alaska.

#### Modification of Tetlin Indian Reservation Boundary.

The Chairman indicated that the Indian Bureau and the Secretary's Office had concurred in the advisability of modifying the western boundary of the Tetlin Indian Reservation. The Alaska Native Service and the Bureau of Land Management have agreed upon the following western boundary description which will be recommended to Washington for action:

Beginning at the mouth of Porcupine Creek, tributary to the Tanana from the north; thence south to the center of the Tanana River; thence westerly along the center line of the Tanana River to the junction with the Tok River; thence southerly along the center line of the Tok River to the intersection of the Tok Cut-Off Road right-of-way; thence easterly following natural divide between tributaries of the Tetlin lakes and the tributary to the Little Tok River, etc.

No change of the north boundary of the Indian Reservation is contemplated and the highway right-of-way through the Reservation has been satisfactorily handled. When action on the above recommendation is completed, this will dispose of the problem raised several months ago.

#### Status of Seatrain Proposals.

Mr. Nucker reported that three private concerns had been negotiating with the Department for the Seattle or Portland to Whittier seatrain run. No formal agreement has been reached as of this time but it is expected that an agreement will be signed in the very near future with the National Bulk Carriers, Inc. This will be a private operation from beginning to end with all of the money supplied by the private interests. If tonnage is available, it is possible that a boat will be run twice a week, hauling 80 cars on each trip. The Company expects to be in operation not later



than September 1, but this is not too probable. It is felt that this seatrain operation will effect a very substantial reduction in rates and save time in shipment, and reduce materially damage claims, as well as costs for stevedoring operations in both Seattle and Whittier. The running time for this operation is estimated at four days. The whole operation is contingent upon the availability of Whittier as a port. Mr. Kadow reported that the Department seemed to be entirely confident that Whittier would be under its jurisdiction in the very near future. Both the Division of Territories and Island Possessions and Assistant Secretary Warne's office so informed him.

Mr. Kadow explained a seatrain proposal by the Alaska Ferry and Terminal Company for Prince Rupert throughout southeastern Alaska to Haines and return. Mr. Hawthorne, President of this company, has been asked to submit a detailed prospectus of what he plans to do. According to Mr. Hawthorne, this will also be a completely privately-financed operation from beginning to end but he is asking assistance of the Territorial Government in landing facilities at the various stopping points enroute. As this operation is now contemplated, it would load trailer trucks at Prince Rupert and set off trailers at each town to be delivered at the doors of the companies using the service. They would be reloaded insofar as possible and picked up on the return trip and delivered at the rail head at Prince Rupert.

No evaluation of the project was attempted at this time by the Field Committee because of the absence of basic information regarding the financial soundness of the company involved and details of their operating scheme. It is simply reported here to familiarize the Department of the fact that the operation is proposed.

Colonel Noyes wanted it understood that this proposition was entirely independent from the Road Commission's ferry plan, and that Mr. Hawthorne was doing this entirely on his own. Colonel Noyes further pointed out that we should not get behind this deal prematurely and that any attempt to put this over, if it is not economically feasible, may cause the whole operation to fall on its face and thereby injure the idea for many years to come. Kadow stated that as soon as the economic prospectus of this project was developed, he would submit it to Washington for approval there. If the prospectus comes in just before the next Field Committee meeting, he will discuss it there prior to sending it to Washington. Mr. Nucker asked that no public information be given out concerning the seatrain operation to the westward. ✓

Alaska Legislative Program.

The Chairman read a report prepared by R. C. Price under date of March 22 setting forth the present status of the Alaska Legislative Program. Since the standing of the various bills changes rather rapidly, the March 22 letter is not included, but is available to Committee members wishing a copy of it.

Examination of each agency's Alaska land holdings - Withdrawals.

Mr. Puckett explained briefly the program for review of all public land withdrawals by Director Clawson and gave a brief discussion of the Bureau of Land Management's activities with other departments and their proposed examination of land withdrawals. He explained that nearly 300,000 acres had been deleted from the Naval Reserve at Kodiak Island and that the Department's right to issue grazing leases on this land was now undisputed. This important development will simplify the administration of grazing lands at Kodiak materially. Grazing leases will be issued there in the very near future. It is expected that the Dunbar Area withdrawn for agricultural study in connection with the Department's settlement plans will be returned to the public domain in the very near future with adequate public announcements to the effect that the land is not generally suitable for agriculture.

Mr. Puckett reported that the Group Settlement Committee meeting in Washington gave no indication of returning other withdrawn areas to the public domain until their studies were completed. It is Kadow's belief that they will find a way to open up a portion of the Kenai Peninsula as rapidly as the studies are done and that even without special classification legislation or the settlement bill, they will be able to reflect real value from the studies to the settlers involved although the problems under these circumstances will be many.

Clarence Rhode discussed reserves under jurisdiction of his bureau and indicated that only the Kodiak and Kenai Reserves were likely to be of any concern to anyone in the foreseeable future. He did not think that either of these should be modified and he stated that development was considered when the Kodiak reserve was set up by leaving a strip one mile wide completely around the island near Kodiak where cattle development has had some success. A similar, although smaller, area was named in the Executive Order setting aside the Kenai Moose Range. Agricultural possibilities are being explored in this area by the Bureau of Land Management. Puckett asked whether or not the Muskox Reserve near Fairbanks could be returned to the public domain. Rhode was of the impression that it already had been returned and agreed to look into it. He claims to have no further interest in it. Don Foster indicated that nearly 19,000 acres of land at the Eklutna Reserve could be returned to the public domain. He stated that the Railroad at one time indicated an interest in this reserve but no one present knew what the Railroad's interest was. The Chairman agreed to clarify this matter. Foster further indicated there probably would be as many as 25 small areas scattered

throughout Alaska that could be returned to the public domain from the Indian Bureau. These in nearly all cases were small and insignificant but should be **classified** as soon as possible. Apparently, no other agencies of the Department have land in excess to their needs.

Policy Decisions on Recent Field Committee Recommendations.

Mr. Kadow indicated that 13 specific recommendations were pending at the time of his visit to Washington in February. In the order of importance these recommendations had been restated and are as follows:

(1) The importance of program integration and balance and the difficulties of attaining it had been thoroughly discussed with the Program Staff and other officials in the Department in Washington. On the strength of these discussions it was agreed that the primary attempt of program integration and balance must be made in the field. All recognized that no real balance could be attained until there was a direct relation between programming and budgeting. At this time there is no effective method of relating the two but greater integration is requested in Washington as a result of Field Committee efforts to spell out more clearly the problem associated with programming and budgeting.

(2) A recommendation to Washington that the Chairman of the various field committees meet to discuss field committee problems was followed and Walton Seymour, Program Director, held a series of meetings during the week of March 13. These meetings were extremely beneficial and gave the Chairman of the Field Committees an opportunity to discuss their various problems with Departmental policy makers involved.

(3) Staff Assistant to the Alaska Field Committee. - This position was discussed at the Ketchikan meeting and the broad outline of the job set forth in a letter from Mr. Kadow to Mr. Megrath on February 1. The position was discussed in Washington between the Field Committee Chairman, Assistant Secretary Warne, and Bill Dougherty, and it was generally agreed that it would be pursued along the lines of the Chairman's letter and that it was an accurate description of the position, except that the research aspects of the job were not adequately covered. The research functions of this position as they relate to field staff work will be directed by the Director of the Alaska Field Staff.

(4) Pumicite. As a result of earlier field action, the Park Service and the Department have prepared a draft of a proclamation to be issued by the President withdrawing these lands for classification. This will have the effect of eliminating certain lands at the head of Kukak Bay so that pumicite will thereupon be available for disposal by the Bureau of Land Management. There are approximately 6,000 acres in the tract which is thought to contain the best known deposits of pumicite. The Park Service and the Department specifically instructed that all applicants

desiring pumicite from Katmai Monument must take it from the area eliminated from the Monument by the proposed Presidential Proclamation. The Proclamation has not yet been issued by the President but no difficulty is contemplated therewith.

(5) At the September meeting of the Field Committee a general policy recommendation to the Department was passed concerning the operation of the Alaska Railroad at stateside rates. Some very substantial reductions in rates have already taken place by Departmental action, but no general policy to establish rates at stateside levels is considered wise at this time. Jim Davis, Director of the Division of Territories & Island Possessions, explained that completion of the rehabilitation of the railroad will in all probability make possible rates at almost stateside levels under existing rate policy. The Department is fully aware of the problem presented by high freight rates and is doing everything in its power to reduce them and still carry out the operating instructions established over a period of years by committees of the Congress.

(6) Goose Lake Withdrawal. - At the Ketchikan meeting of the Field Committee it was recommended that 125 to 130 acres be turned over to the Alaska Housing Authority immediately for development of housing that would be available for purchase or rent. It was also recommended that the Alaska Housing Authority produce a plot development plan for the entire land withdrawal, including the approximate 125 acres now under the jurisdiction of the Military on lease to the railroad. The plan was to be developed in cooperation with Puckett and Kuehl's offices and approved by the Interior Department. This was to be a preliminary plan to be used in guiding the eventual development of the area. As work in the area got underway, it was understood that the Alaska Housing Authority would produce a more detailed plan for the Department's approval. A plan produced in cooperation with Puckett's office was later sent to Kadow's office in Juneau and forwarded on to the Secretary's office in Washington. Quoting from a letter from Assistant Secretary Warne under date of February 15, he states as follows:

"In response to your previous letter of January 18, I informed you as to the progress made on the Goose Lake transfer of 120 acres. I also indicated my approval, with one exception, of the recommendations of the Alaska Field Committee looking to the coordinated development of the entire Goose Lake area. I cannot agree with the Committee that the Alaska Housing Authority be charged with the responsibility for developing the entire area, nor that control of the entire area be transferred to the Authority. However, this will not prevent coordinated over-all development.

"As to the Fairbanks situation, in order to hurry up the process of making the desired land available, the City of Fairbanks recorded a deed transferring the area to the United States. Actually, the title should have been returned to the

Townsite Trustee. Accordingly, a deed has been issued by the United States to Lowell M. Puckett, Townsite Trustee, who in turn has deeded the land to the City of Fairbanks without any restrictions as to its use. This deed has been airmailed to the City Manager at Fairbanks.

"I am aware of the need for equally quick action at Anchorage and have instructed all concerned to give this the most speedy handling possible."

The following is from a letter of February 16 from Assistant Secretary Warne regarding the development plan and the recommendations of the Field Committee:

"... As a basis for the integrated development of the 120-acre tract now in process of transfer to the Authority and the balance of the area the proposed plan is most satisfactory. It may be necessary, as you suggest, to modify the suggested layout if future needs so dictate. However, the plan provides a framework within which modifications may be made.

"I agree that we are not directly concerned with the detailed plans for the development of the 120-acre tract; those plans are the responsibility of the Alaska Housing Authority."

As this matter now stands, the Alaska Housing Authority has called for bids to build 300 houses in the area. All propositions received thus far have been rejected but additional attempts will be made to bring the project about.

(7) Fairbanks Land Problems In Connection With Housing. - Shortly after the Field Committee meeting, the City Manager, Mr. Call, indicated that there were some very serious problems in connection with the Weeks Field Housing Project area having to do with land titles. These problems were turned over to Mr. Puckett's office and to the Secretary's office in Washington. In a matter of about ten days a warranty deed was delivered to the City of Fairbanks by Mr. Puckett. Mr. Kadow took the opportunity to congratulate the Bureau of Land Management on a really rapid piece of work. The Weeks Field Development is going forward without delay and will produce several hundred units of housing this summer.

(8) Land Withdrawals Along Rivers and Lakes For Public Use. - At the September meeting of the Field Committee a Subcommittee recommended a policy that was unanimously adopted by the Committee as a whole concerning this problem. The recommendation to the Department was as follows:

"General withdrawals along navigable streams, lakes, or other waters, are not justified. The Bureau of Land Management in cooperation with the Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service should make selective withdrawals. The size and shape of these areas should be left to the discretion of the Bureau of Land Management and should vary with the individual situation. In some cases one or more areas might be withdrawn and in some other cases an entire lake might be withdrawn as a public use site." No official ruling has been yet received from Washington. However, the officials of the Bureau of Land Management in Washington indicated that this was undoubtedly a policy recommendation that would be implemented. When official notification is received, the Committee will be notified.

(9) Townsite Planning. - A townsite planner for the Bureau of Land Management was recommended in order to carry out satisfactory townsite planning and to give these plans satisfactory administrative supervision in lieu of adequate zoning laws by the Territory. The Field Committee recommended in its September 1949 meeting that the Bureau of Land Management hire a townsite planner. This recommendation has been approved by the Department and the Bureau and is presently budgeted.

(10) Office Space for Fairbanks. - At the September meeting of the Field Committee Colonel Johnson said that the contemplated railroad station at Fairbanks would have several hundred square feet of office space that could be made available for offices if proper planning were done. A recommendation to this effect was made to the Washington office. On the basis of present indications it is not likely that the railroad will obtain funds in the foreseeable future for the building of the railroad station as contemplated. As a result, a discussion took place about the possibility of developing office space requirements through some other means. The Field Committee Chairman was instructed by Washington to explore this problem thoroughly with the railroad in order to see if any proposed plan could be evolved. Mr. Kadow asked the Field Committee for its permission to explore this problem thoroughly and pursue it in any direction that seemed to the Department's interest and that had the Department's approval. The Field Committee as a whole agreed to this procedure.

At the Ketchikan meeting John Reed also pointed out that it was his understanding that space in the Geophysical Institute at the University of Alaska was available for agencies which were doing work related to this general broad field. Upon inquiry of Dr. Moore on this general subject, Mr. Reed's views were confirmed but Dr. Moore indicated that space was very limited and would have to be obtained through careful appraisal of all the needs. Since the Geological Survey would be primarily concerned with geophysical matters, John Reed agreed to pursue the matter further and to let the Field Committee know the outcome.

(11) At the September meeting of the Field Committee it was pointed out that an attempt was being made to use soldier script from the First World War to obtain control of beaches to indirectly control the fish resource. It was suggested that since soldier script was originally intended to apply to agricultural lands that perhaps its use could be limited to that purpose. The matter was referred to the Washington office for clarification and policy decision. Officials of the Bureau of Land Management pointed out that in the absence of land classification law it was impossible to apply the limitation intended. The matter is being studied further by the Bureau of Land Management.

(12) At the Ketchikan meeting of the Field Committee the very controversial matter of Indian reservations came under discussion and was referred to the Washington office for policy recommendation. The Department's policy regarding this and other related questions is set forth in a letter of April 3 from Secretary Chapman to Senator Gordon. Since the letter deals with some of the controversy which was thoroughly aired by the Alaskan press, pertinent points made by Secretary Chapman are listed below:

- (a) No withdrawal of a substantial acreage of public land in Alaska, or elsewhere, should be made for the purpose of establishing an Indian Reservation, or for any other purpose, without affording members of the public an opportunity to make known their views in favor of or in opposition to the withdrawal. The matter of how best the public's views can be obtained on withdrawals involving national security is now being studied.
- (b) Withdrawals of relatively small tracts for essential public purposes will be made without public hearings.
- (c) No further public hearings would be provided with respect to those Indian Reservations previously ordered by Secretaries of the Interior.
- (d) Secretary Chapman intends to issue no orders establishing additional Indian reservations in Alaska until there has been an opportunity to reconsider thoroughly the national policy toward the Indians, and other native groups. This does not affect reservation orders issued by his predecessors.
- (e) Land rights of the Indians and other native groups in Alaska must be protected as long as protection is needed.

(13) Budgeting for Alaska on a Calendar Year Basis. - The following letter of November 4, 1949, from Assistant Secretary Warne on the above subject is in response to a recommendation of the Field Committee that the Alaska program be on a calendar year basis if possible. The letter speaks for itself and is quoted as follows:

"The proposal for placing the budgets for Alaska on a calendar year basis was considered by the Department and presented to the Bureau of the Budget in connection with the preliminary estimates review for 1951. This proposal would require that the Department receive appropriations for the first year of operation of such a program on an eighteen months' requirements basis. In making allowances under the budget ceiling for 1951 the Bureau of the Budget did not allow sufficient funds to make this change in programming.

"Budgeting for Alaska on a calendar year basis is approved in principle by the Department and we will continue to press for action to bring about this change. From the standpoint of the presentation of the six year program there is no reason to change the current basis of showing annual requirements on a fiscal year basis. If the change to a calendar year basis is approved at some future date, subsequent presentations of the six year program would be made on a calendar rather than a fiscal year basis."

Alaska Mental Health Program.

Don Foster gave a brief summary of Alaska mental health problems and an appraisal of the facilities for treating them. He pointed out that the Department is legally responsible for the treatment of all Alaskans adjudged insane. At the present time these people are taken to Morningside Hospital in Portland, Oregon. The facilities there are fairly adequate for housing insane, but they receive no clinical treatment there. The Overholser Report recommends a new mental hospital of 350 beds in the Anchorage area and a smaller facility of 50 beds at Sitka. Mr. Foster said their report indicated that the hospital should be built at Mt. Edgecumbe but that the utility situation there and the ANS program for the next several years made it appear that it might be best if the hospital were constructed in the city of Sitka. The new development program of the ANS at Mt. Edgecumbe will tax the present utilities to full capacity and Mr. Foster felt that if the hospital were built on Japonski Island it would have to provide all of its utilities, housing facilities for regular employees and provide for their own maintenance and upkeep. He thought it might prove more advantageous to provide for only one mental hospital in the Anchorage area and not dissipate their energies between two institutions of the same kind. Mr. Foster strongly recommended that if a hospital were constructed in southeastern Alaska that it be placed on the Sitka side of the channel so that there could be a close working relationship with the Pioneers Home. Consultant



services could be obtained from the medical staff at Mt. Edgecumbe. Also, Mr. Foster felt that having the hospital on the Mt. Edgecumbe side would have a negative psychological effect on the students there.

Mr. Kadow reported that a meeting was held while he was in Washington in Assistant Secretary's Warne's office attended by representatives of all interested parties and a course of action was plotted. The immediate course of action is set forth in a letter from James P. Davis under date of April 6. The following quotations are taken from the letter:

"1. To complete a draft of legislation, to be submitted to the Congress, which will authorize the construction of the facilities recommended in the report, and which will provide for the changes in commitment procedures and handling of mental patients along the lines recommended.

"2. To prepare preliminary estimates for the 1952 fiscal year to provide for the construction of the facilities. We have no firm figure reflecting current costs of the proposed facilities but, on the basis of previous data and the rule-of-thumb estimates of the members of the committee, would anticipate that the total cost might approximate \$10,000,000.

"It is not finally decided as to whether the legislation will be prepared as a 'single package' or in two separate bills."

Status of the Department's Legal Counsel.

Kadow reported that the position of Legal Counsel for the Department in Alaska operating from the Solicitor's Office had been specifically eliminated from the budget and that language of the House Appropriation Committee had specifically indicated that it did not wish to have the job established. The wording of the appropriation committee is as follows:

"The only increase above the current year for personal services under the activity 'legal services' is that requested for the Public Lands Division, and no funds are provided for legal services in Alaska."

The Department has indicated their intention to carry out the intent of the House Appropriation Committee, thereby eliminating the position for the present time. The executive officer for the Department, Vernon Northrup, and Solicitor Mastin G. White both indicated, however, that if the needs of the individual bureaus were sufficient to justify it, they could get together among themselves, hire a legal counsel, and prorate the costs in proportion to services rendered. Kadow reports that there is a possibility that the Alaska Native Service, the Road Commission, and the Bureau of Reclamation may establish a position on the basis of one-half, one-quarter, and one-quarter, respectively.

This matter is left entirely in the hands of the three agencies concerned and must be worked out in the framework of their own appropriation structure. If legal counsel is provided by the three bureaus, it has been recommended that the man work at least one month with the Bureau of Reclamation in the preparation of a preliminary draft of an Alaska Water Law. The outstanding experts in the country are with the Bureau in Washington. Noyes and Johnson thought it important to have any new man of this character come to Alaska first and later get his Washington orientation. They felt that much clearer orientation would be attained in this manner than if the reverse were followed. Clarence Rhode explained that the Fish and Wildlife Service was no longer interested in legal counsel since most of their duties of that nature would be criminal and could probably best be handled through the office of the District Attorney.

#### Consolidation of Alaska School System.

The Chairman explained that the request of the Field Committee to the University of Alaska to study all ramifications of the educational problems of Alaska's elementary and secondary schools had resulted in a series of recommendations by the University Committee which were sent to Secretary Chapman's office and Commissioner Ryan's office. Recommendations were reviewed by both groups and are commented upon by them. The whole matter was referred to the Alaska Field Staff with instructions to pursue it further in the field in an effort to develop recommendations for review by the Department and the Territorial Board of Education. This is presently being done, with a fair possibility of working out something mutually satisfactory.

#### Territorial Park System.

The Subcommittee composed of Puckett, Kuehl, Rhode, and Sundborg was called upon for its recommendations concerning a possible plan for a Territorial Park System. Kuehl read a draft of proposed legislation which was discussed briefly. Kuehl agreed to make a final draft of this proposed legislation available to the Chairman for distribution at least one month prior to the October meeting, after which time, it is contemplated to refer the whole matter to the Territorial Government through the Governor's office. Likewise Mr. Puckett read a list of possible sites to be considered in any over-all recreational or scenic program. This list is to be gone over carefully by the Subcommittee and specific recommendations made concerning it at the October Field Committee meeting. Mr. Kuehl reported that the Park Service was initiating in the near future a comprehensive recreational resources survey of Alaska and that this study would probably contain specific recommendations to the Department and the Territorial Government covering all ramifications of this problem.

#### Allocation of Employee Housing in Anchorage and Fairbanks.

Mr. Kadow reported that beginning in August it was contemplated that apartment housing would become available in the project at Government Hill in Anchorage. He indicated that all space requirements of each Bureau should be sent in immediately and as accurately as possible,

giving the total number needed and an estimate as to how many would be bachelor facilities (renting for about \$90) or how many would be one or two-bedroom, ranging from \$115 for the single and up to \$125 for the two-bedroom apartments. There will be no restrictions on children so far as is now known.

Mr. Nucker indicated that the Railroad would take fifty percent of everything as it became available and that the other fifty percent would be allocated to other agencies of the Department. Kadow agreed to forward all information to Mr. Nucker as rapidly as his office received it. The Alaska Railroad would thereby become the official contact with the project sponsor in the allocation of the Department's needs. It was made very clear that an agency could not reserve apartments once they were made available to them unless they moved in them or unless they made some arrangements to pay the rent. The sponsors have no obligation to hold these apartments, beyond offering them to the Department, after once they become available.

Mr. Kadow pointed out that in Fairbanks he was reasonably certain that he could get the same arrangements with the Fairbanks Apartments Inc., provided he had an accurate estimate of the Department's needs there. In his opinion it is too early to supply this information for Fairbanks but he will proceed to firm up an understanding with the project sponsor.

In connection with housing requirements for Fairbanks, Kadow pointed out that a combination housing-office space deal might be worked out in conjunction with the Railroad's needs. This will be explored further by the Railroad and Kadow.

#### Employee Health Program.

A communication from Vernon Northrup, Administrative Officer of the Department of the Interior, and Donald S. Dawson, Administrative Assistant to the President, was read concerning new policy to establish and operate federal employee health programs. After a limited discussion it was determined that the need in Juneau did not meet the requirements set forth in this program for 300 Interior employees and as a result the group recommended against a participation in the program.

#### Administrative Problems Connected With Staff Assistant.

The Chairman pointed out that in connection with the use of the newly created position of Staff Assistant to the Field Committee it would be necessary for each agency using this employee to carry the necessary expenses associated with any assignments involving travel and other expenses. Mr. Kadow pointed out that small expenditures associated with the routine operation of this position could be handled from the Field Staff Budget but any unusual expenditures must be borne by the agency creating them. All agreed that this was a satisfactory procedure. A discussion took place thereafter in connection with the way in which this position had been thus far developed.

#### Railroad Site For Birch Operation.

The Chairman stated that the Alaska Pacific Spruce Company had indicated that in the event they went ahead with their plans to develop a birch operation there would be a need for a 10-acre tract manufacturing site on the railroad. The Chairman asked Mr. Nucker of the Railroad and Mr. Puckett of the Bureau of Land Management to let him know what was available in the vicinity of Palmer that would meet the needs of a saw mill and lumber operation on the railroad. Both agreed to do so.

#### Use of Fish and Wildlife Service Aircraft.

A statement of the problem connected with the use of Fish and Wildlife aircraft was made by Clarence Rhode. This precipitated a general discussion concerning a problem with similar ramifications concerning other agencies as it relates to the use of boats, automobiles, railroad facilities, as well as aircraft. As the discussion developed it became apparent that there is no uniformity of handling this problem, and that some agencies were carrying an undue burden associated with the special use of their equipment for broad Departmental purposes. The Chairman appointed a committee composed of Clarence Rhode, Chairman, and Del Nucker and Reinholt Brust to develop policy recommendations for consideration of the Field Committee at its next meeting. This policy was to include rates for the use of aircraft and other kinds of equipment and some statement as to the authority required before using them. R. C. Johnson and John Reed raised the question as to whether or not the Fish and Wildlife Service welcomed requests for the use of its planes providing that adequate reimbursement for their use was made to the Fish and Wildlife Service. Rhode indicated that they would be pleased to make the equipment available to any agency of the Department in order to get a fuller utilization of it, but that he could not be certain that equipment would be available for such purposes since there were times in the year when it was fully occupied with Fish and Wildlife Service work. Within the limits of availability, Rhode expressed a desire to cooperate.

#### Landing Barges at Anchorage to Deliver Concrete Products.

Kadow brought out the fact that three firms (one in Seattle and two in Portland) were anxious to deliver light aggregate concrete products to the Anchorage market this year in landing barges and wanted to know whether or not these barges could be landed on beaches without going over the docks. A few committee members pointed out that there were several points along the beaches where this had been done in the past. According to Nucker, the Alaska Railroad had no objection to barges landing at Bootlegger's Cove but doubted that any saving would accrue to the shipper. Nucker felt that if barge loads of concrete products were contemplated for the Anchorage market, that they should be delivered to Seward and that a rate on loaded cars could probably be sufficiently attractive to offset the problems and expense incurred in trying to handle

such shipments directly over the beaches. It was pointed out by Nucker that handling directly over the beaches, while tried in the past, had never proved entirely successful and it was not likely to prove so in this instance. Nucker requested Kadow to have the firms involved write to the Railroad for special rates. Kadow agreed to do so.

Employment Agreements and Transportation Provisions.

This subject was introduced by Ronnie Brust for the purpose of introducing a discussion of Public Law 600 as it related to employee vacation provisions. This led to a lengthy discussion involving many ramifications of Bureau-employee relationships as they were practiced within the Department of the Interior. It became clear from these discussions that some agencies were approaching their problems as if work in Alaska constituted a foreign assignment and that all types of premiums and inducements were needed to retain employees here. Other agencies considered Alaska not as a place to exist but rather as a place to live. R. C. Johnson indicated that each agency with labor requirements was called upon to make an annual wage survey and that each also submitted this material to Mrs. Maulding's office in Washington. It seemed a terrible waste of time to Johnson that each agency should make this independently and that, as a result, different wage scales were approved for each agency. Mr. Nucker pointed out that a very careful job was done by the Railroad and that they would be happy to make the information available. Colonel Noyes indicated the same position. As a result of this discussion which covered many ramifications of divergent Departmental action by various Bureaus, a Subcommittee composed of Reinholt Brust, ANS; D. H. Miller, ARC; M. J. Furness, F&WS; W. E. Twenhofel, G.S., and Carl D'Epiro, AFS, was appointed to study and present the facts on the following points:

1. Status of college graduate appointees
2. Salaries of wage board and classified employees
3. Travel and per diem payments
4. Application of Public Law 600
5. Wage surveys
6. Subsistence payments or deductions
7. Samples of temporary and permanent hiring contracts

The Chairman of this committee is to be elected by the Subcommittee itself. Carl D'Epiro will act as temporary Chairman until the first meeting. The Subcommittee was instructed to submit a written report not later than the first of July so that it could be distributed to the Field Committee members prior to the July meeting at Palmer, Alaska. The whole subject will be taken up by the Field Committee at that time.

Land Classification Law.

Lowell Puckett pointed out that many of the problems that had been under discussion by the Field Committee members at its various meetings could be met if we had a land classification law similar to that of the other forty-eight states. Puckett urged that the Field Committee do all that it could to encourage the passage of the Land Classification Act which is presently before Congress. A copy of the Bill was obtained and read to those assembled. It was requested that the Chairman obtain copies of this legislation and distribute it to the Field Committee members so that each could study it carefully prior to the next Field Committee meeting. Several objectionable points were noticed by various members which they felt should be subject to more discussion. Attention was directed mostly to the fact that public domain not classified could not be occupied. Copies of the legislation will be distributed and this Bill discussed at the next Field Committee Meeting.

Eighth Field Committee Meeting.

The eighth meeting of the Field Committee is to be held at Palmer, Alaska, on July 11, 12, and 13, as a result of a kind invitation extended by the Chamber of Commerce of that town. Mr. Lorain suggested that the members might wish to visit the Evan Jones Coal Mine and some other mining activities in the area. The Committee agreed that this would be worthwhile.

The meeting adjourned.



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
ALASKA FIELD STAFF  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

INTERIOR DEPT.  
RECEIVED  
AUG 17 1950  
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To	Initialed	Date
Davis	gpo	8/16
Flakus	JJ	8/16
Wheeler	Wheeler	9/4/50

August 14, 1950

*1-49  
Minutes  
Meeting*

MEMORANDUM to Members of Alaska Field Committee.

Subject: Minutes of Field Committee Meeting.

Enclosed are copies of the minutes of the eighth meeting of the Alaska Field Committee held at Palmer, Alaska, on July 11 and 12, 1950. Sixty copies have been furnished to the Program Staff in Washington for distribution.

Kenneth J. Kadow  
Chairman

Distribution:

- Argetsinger 2
- Gov. Gruening 3
- Rhode 2
- Puckett 2
- Lorain 2
- Reed 15
- Kuehl 2
- Johnson, Col. 2
- Noyes, Col. 2
- Foster 2
- Morgan 2
- Twenhofel 1
- Goding 2
- Davis ✓ 1
- Wolf 60 (one copy airmail; balance via parcel post)
- Ripke 1
- Gates 1
- Jorgenson 1
- Collins 1
- Miller 1

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James Davis

MINUTES OF THE EIGHTH MEETING OF ALASKA FIELD COMMITTEE

JULY 11 and 12, 1950

PALMER, ALASKA

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MINUTES OF THE ALASKA FIELD COMMITTEE MEETING

The eighth meeting of the Alaska Field Committee convened on Tuesday, July 11, 1950, in the new Agricultural Research Building in Palmer, Alaska, and was called to order at 9:00 a.m. with the following members in attendance:

Secretary's Office

Kenneth J. Kadow, Chairman, Alaska Field Committee, Juneau

Indian Office

Reinhold Brust, Alaska Native Service, Juneau

Marvin Ripke, Alaska Native Service, Juneau

Bureau of Mines

S. H. Lorain, Regional Director of Bureau of Mines, Juneau

Fish and Wildlife Service

Clarence Rhode, Regional Director, Juneau

Bureau of Reclamation

Joseph M. Morgan, Chief, Alaska Investigations Office, Juneau

R. C. Johnson, Assistant Chief, Alaska Investigations Office, Juneau

Governor's Office

Governor Ernest Gruening, Juneau, Alaska (from noon July 12)

George Sundborg, Executive Assistant to the Governor, Juneau, Alaska

Geological Survey

John Reed, Staff Geologist, Washington, D. C.

George Gates, Alaskan Section, San Francisco office

Alaska Railroad

Col. J. P. Johnson, General Manager, Alaska Railroad, Anchorage, (7/12 am)

Elroy Hinman, Assistant to General Manager, Alaska Railroad (7/11 pm & 12)

Bureau of Land Management

Lowell Puckett, Regional Administrator, Anchorage, Alaska

Harold T. Jorgenson, Anchorage, Alaska

National Park Service

Alfred C. Kuehl, Special Representative, San Francisco

George Collins, Chief, Alaska Recreational Office, San Francisco

Alaska Road Commission

Col. John R. Noyes, Commissioner of Roads, Juneau

Don H. Miller, Alaska Road Commission, Juneau

Alaska Public Works

John Argetsinger, District Engineer, Juneau

Alaska Public Works - Introduction of new committee member and review of agency plans and program.

John Argetsinger was introduced as a new Committee member and gave a short outline of the Alaska Public Works Agency which recently came under the jurisdiction of the Interior Department and is being administered by the Division of Territories and Island Possessions. The text of Mr. Argetsinger's talk is quoted as follows:

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"The Alaska Public Works Program was authorized by the 81st Congress (Public Law 264, approved August 24, 1949) with an authorization of \$70 million for a program to run until June 30, 1955. The program is intended to provide needed public works in the Territory, encourage settlement, stimulate trade and industry, and develop Alaskan resources. Effective May 24, 1950, this activity was transferred from the General Services Administration to the Department of the Interior where it is administered under the Division of Territories and Island Possessions. Under the legislation covering the program, the Department of the Interior may construct an approved public works facility and sell it to the community at an average of 50% of its cost through a prearranged and, when necessary, delayed-payment financial agreement.

"It is expected that this work will eventually involve the construction of several hundred projects in about 100 locations. Facilities contemplated for construction include schools, hospitals, roads, sewers, waterworks, sanitation facilities, docks, bridges, and public buildings. Blueprints and specifications for a number of such projects in Alaska were brought to the contract-bidding stage under the First Advance Planning Program of the Community Facilities Service, then under the Federal Works Agency.

"As of June 30, 1950, there were applications under review for 82 projects involving proposed facilities estimated to cost \$29.3 million. Included in this total are 30 school projects estimated to cost \$13.0 million. In addition, 18 projects having an estimated cost of \$4.5 billion were approved for construction. These 18 projects were selected because of their emergency nature and because plan preparation was advanced to the stage where bids could soon be taken. The approved projects are located in 14 communities - 3 in Anchorage, 2 each in Fairbanks and Juneau, and one each in Chugiak, College, Dillingham, Douglas, Homer, Ketchikan, Naknek, Ninilchik, Petersburg, Skagway, and Wrangell.

"ALASKA PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAM  
Number and Estimated Cost of Projects Under Review and  
Approved, By Type of Work  
As of June 30, 1950

	<u>PROJECTS UNDER REVIEW</u>		<u>PROJECTS APPROVED</u>	
	<u>No. of</u> <u>Projects</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>Estimated</u> <u>Cost</u>	<u>No. of</u> <u>Projects</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>Estimated</u> <u>Cost</u>
<u>TOTALS</u>	82	\$29,331,358	18	\$4,483,774
Highways, Roads, Streets	8	3,399,231	1	245,500
Sewer Facilities	4	942,416	2	155,000
Water Facilities	8	1,021,550	-	-
Schools, Other Educ. Facilities	30	12,958,245	10	2,964,800
Hospitals, Other Health Facilities	5	2,361,000	-	-
Other Public Buildings	8	2,409,900	2	447,160
Misc. Public Facilities	13	4,402,252	-	-

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	"PROJECTS UNDER REVIEW"		"PROJECTS APPROVED"	
	No. of Projects	Total Estimated Cost	No. of Projects	Total Estimated Cost
Sewer and Water Facilities	2	927,814	2	134,414
Streets and Sewers	2	604,200	1	536,900
Water and Heat Distribution	2	304,750	-	-

(End of quotation of Mr. Argetsinger's statement)

Mr. Puckett asked if a community initiated a procedure to get control of lands or whether the Alaska Public Works Agency did so. Mr. Argetsinger indicated that Alaska Public Works must have full jurisdiction over the property.

Re Kodiak, Mr. Puckett asked if the land should be turned over to the City or the General Services Administration. Mr. Argetsinger said it should be turned over to the GSA and then they in turn will turn it over to the City. Mr. Morgan indicated that the Bureau of Reclamation had been asked to investigate power possibilities at Terror Bay, Kodiak. Mr. Reed wanted to know if GSA had funds to assist in technical studies involving water for community development. Mr. Argetsinger indicated that the community must hire a consultant to provide necessary preliminary technical data for a given project, and that the community may obtain funds for such studies through special advance planning funds which may be used after such are allocated. Mr. Kadow asked if wells might be important as water supply sources for southeastern towns and pointed out the difficulties of freezing in existing water supply systems. Mr. Argetsinger indicated that wells have not been generally developed in southeastern Alaska as yet but that they would be acceptable sources. It was his opinion that many excellent wells could be located and that he would like to have the Geological Survey investigate the possibility of such supplies. Mr. Morgan asked if the appropriation for GSA was \$9,000,000 in cash for next year. Mr. Argetsinger replied that the House had approved \$5,000,000 in cash for new work and \$4,000,000 for liquidating existing contract authorization, but that no new contract authorization had been granted. An attempt to get contract authorization is still being made. This precipitated a general discussion by various agencies of the existing status of their budgets.

Mr. Kadow informed the Committee that no recent official information on the Department's budget as a whole had been received but that he had heard unofficially some very unhappy news concerning the Field Staff. Even though Secretary Chapman appears to be thoroughly sold on field committees and has stated so publicly many times he has decided to follow out the recommendation of the House Appropriations Committee "that the practice of assessing bureaus for part of the Field Staff's funds be discontinued." Accordingly, it was his understanding that all field committees throughout the United States except the Missouri Valley were being reduced this fiscal year to a Director and a Secretary. To implement this policy both George Megrath and Carl D'Epiro

were to be transferred back to the States. Carl D'Epiro is being transferred on a temporary basis to work in the Bureau of Land Management on a special project regarding land withdrawals in Alaska. It was also his understanding that funds would be requested to restore the Field Committee to satisfactory working strength again next year. He emphasized the seriousness of D'Epiro's transfer to the efficient working of the Field Staff and obtained the support of the Committee in an effort to try to get this move reconsidered. Mr. Kadow expressed satisfaction to the Committee for the strong stand made by the Secretary on behalf of the Field Committees. He also pointed out that other important changes could be expected which would have a direct bearing on the way field committees would function. He had no detailed information on this matter but agreed to inform the committee as soon as such action was taken by the Secretary. Mr. Puckett said that the Bureau of Land Management had been advised that they will not be able to use allotments of money for any other purpose than that for which it was designated. This apparently is part of the same consideration that resulted in reducing the Field Committee funds. Mr. Kadow agreed that it probably was but felt sure that the Field Committee would be restored to a working basis in the following year.

Review of public lands in vicinity of Anchorage and Fairbanks for housing and industrial developments.

The Chairman stated that public housing officials, both territorial and federal, had indicated that there would be three to five thousand new housing units constructed a year for the next three to five years, mostly in the Rail Belt, and that they had requested a clearer picture of land possibilities in the vicinity of Anchorage and Fairbanks. A study of the situation had been made by the Field Staff in cooperation with the Bureau of Land Management with the following results recommended: the two parcels of land near Weeks Field in Fairbanks, covered by Executive Order 7309, and designated as Lots 3 and 12, respectively, should be held by the Bureau of Land Management for use in the area housing program. Likewise, School District 16 also adjacent to Weeks Field should similarly be held and made available for suburban development. Mr. Kadow indicated that Mr. Staples had requested that an area plan be made by the FHA and that adequate consideration be given as soon as possible to the utility needs of the area. Arrangements are now being made by these agencies to consider the area thoroughly. Mr. Kadow further pointed out that School District 16 was under the jurisdiction of the Governor's Office and that the Governor had indicated these lands would be made available on lease for the program under discussion. It appears possible for these leases to contain a clause that would permit the land to be purchased by home owners when Alaska becomes a state but it cannot be sold at the present time.

Mr. Argetsinger commented that a sewer project had been approved for part of the area and will be installed this summer. This system will serve 8,500 people. It can be expanded without difficulty in the future. He endorsed the recommendation made by the Field Committee Chairman. General

discussion of the proposal took place with all members of the Field Committee expressing favorably on the idea. Mr. Kuehl suggested that the recommended action be modified to assure the inclusion of satisfactory public use area where Lot 12 comes in contact with the Chena Slough. It was pointed out that this area was low and subject to floods and therefore could best be used as a public use site. The Field Committee officially indorsed the recommendation that the Department hold Lots 3 and 12 for this purpose and that adequate public use area as determined by the public land planner be held along the Chena Slough. Mr. Puckett agreed to work with the Field Committee Chairman in carrying out the Committee's intentions and would clarify the status of this land with the Military immediately.

Mr. Kadow then explained that the Railroad officials had met with the Town Council of Fairbanks and had determined that they would try to work out a basis for bringing the railroad across the Chena Slough and relocating it in connection with the Military reservation in line with Military wishes. Mr. Hinman stated that the Railroad does not have adequate funds at the present time to cross the Chena Slough but that the Military had agreed to put the railroad bed down at their expense if given adequate notice to plan the work. The Railroad evidently has sufficient rail and ties for the relocation of tracks and sufficient steel to build the bridge. It does not, however, have money for the concrete piers or the railroad station. The possibility of building a station in connection with additional apartmental housing in Fairbanks has been looked into quite thoroughly by the Railroad and the Field Committee Chairman. A plan suitable to them has been arrived at and the Field Committee Chairman will discuss it in Washington on his next trip there. This building will be so located as to provide excellent office space providing it does not rent for apartments. FHA has written to Washington to determine if the project could be built under FHA laws. After considerable discussion as to the proposed route for relocation and the plan for the railroad station in connection with apartment housing, the Field Committee approved in general and suggested that the Railroad and the Field Committee Chairman work it out as best they could. Mr. Kuehl emphatically opposed the relocation of the tracks and the proposed location of the station. It was his contention that even though the cost of accomplishing the goal is greater, any relocation should insofar as possible miss the city altogether or at least stay on the outskirts.

The Field Committee Chairman then asked Clarence Rhode to explain his bureau's position concerning the Muskox Reserve. Rhode stated that his office had recommended it be restored to the public domain except for twenty acres which were to be retained for beaver management program. He also indicated that the area contained in the Muskox reserve contained 7000/ (number) acres. All concurred with Mr. Rhode's recommendation.

Mr. Puckett then presented a review of land under his jurisdiction in the Anchorage area that would be suitable for housing or industrial development. He pointed out the following: (1) there is a cemetery reserve right in the center of town which is presently being studied by AHA as a possible site for housing; (2) that the East addition to the town of Anchorage

is particularly suited to industrial development and is being planned to that end. Several requests have already been received by his office for land in this area; (3) housing for low salaried groups (\$2800 a year) is being considered on some land immediately adjacent to the new ANS hospital. Approximately, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$  acres are involved in this area; and (4) other lands for housing and municipal development appear in the Goose Lake area. Mr. Puckett also pointed out that action is now pending concerning lands in the Rail Reserve and in Goose Lake for use by the AHA. Both actions have been approved by the Department. Mr. Kadow pointed out that the AHA was planning to obtain a topographic map of the Goose Lake area at once and that the area is scheduled for detailed planning by FHA in the near future. This planning will conform in general with the area development scheme which was originally drawn by the AHA and approved by the Department. As soon as this plan is finished it is expected that the Goose Lake area will develop housing rapidly. Mr. Kadow reported that he had called several meetings with all officials involved, including town councils, to precipitate area planning for utilities and other vital services. A committee was appointed by him which will report to the Governor's office on all phases and ramifications of this problem. Likewise, a group from Washington headed by Lester Marx will step into this difficult problem and try to bring it to an early solution.

Colonel Noyes called attention to an acute housing problem in the City of Valdez. According to him, the ARC needs 20 new units at once. He reported that FHA said nothing could be furnished through them because of a lack of utility facilities. After considerable discussion Mr. Kadow agreed to take the matter up with appropriate officials and let the Colonel know what solution could be found. Carl D'Epiro stated that agencies expecting to use housing on Government Hill must get their requests in at once. If the units are not occupied immediately as they become available the priority given the Interior Department will automatically be forfeited. All present agreed to review their needs and make sure that they are properly transmitted.

#### Industrial Development in the Rail Belt.

(a) Warehouse project. - Mr. Kadow reported that the Lawrence Warehouse Company had decided not to go ahead at this time with the warehouse project for Anchorage. He described the project in detail and indicated that the Korean war has scared them out. If the Korean war clears up in the near future, it may be possible to revive this project. The importance of the project to Rail Belt economy was explained.

(b) Timber treating plant. - In a discussion of a treating plant for Alaska, Mr. Sundborg pointed out that several private operators had been interested in such an operation in the last three or four years but had not gone ahead because the size of the market did not justify the large investment. Colonel Johnson stated that a new process has evidently been developed for timber treating which may put an entirely different light on this project. He has agreed to make the information concerning the new process available to all concerned in an effort to re-interest possible investors in the project. The material will be sent to the Field Committee Chairman as soon as possible.

(c) Windy limestone - progress report. - Mr. Lorain gave a short review of the present status of ingredients for a cement operation near Windy in Mt. McKinley National Park. He reported as follows: drilling of the Windy limestone is completed for the time being. There appears to be a 100-foot bed of limestone well within the magnesium content limitations. This bed is four to five hundred feet in from the surface. It appears to be a very large deposit. As now indicated it may contain several millions of tons of limestone that could be mined by underground methods. Mining costs would be fairly low and the underground tunnel would permit year-round operation. He considers that several conclusions in the Hutton Report are open to question and recommends that drilling work be continued until the complete material picture is obtained. Mr. Reed wanted to know if other limestone deposits will be looked into. Mr. Lorain indicated that they would continue on this bed until completed but that other limestone deposits will be given preliminary tests. They will also do something on shale and will make further investigations on the coal. Mr. Lorain believes the Matanuska coal might be as cheap as the Windy coal because of its high B.T.U. content, and might have a lower magnesia content.

Mr. Gates of the Geological Survey stated that a field party of the G.S. was investigating limestone deposits west of Windy and west of the deposit that was drilled by the Bureau of Mines. Surface samples are being taken to obtain indication as to which deposits are lowest in magnesium oxide. He also mentioned that deposits of limestone are known in the western part of the Talkeetna Mountains, about 30 miles east of the railroad, and north of Castle Mountain, about 5 miles north of Chickaloon. Nothing is known of the quality of limestone at either locality. Mr. Lorain indicated that shale was extensively being investigated, particularly as it relates to the Haydite operation, and that full information will be available on it soon.

Building Materials Industry for Alaska - Status Report.

Mr. Kadow reported that the bulk cement plant at Anchorage of the Permanante Company was now in operation, and that apparently another one would be completed in the near future by the Superior Cement Company at Seward, the latter having been worked out entirely by the Railroad.

It was reported by Mr. Lorain that studies concerning the availability of shale for Haydite were progressing very well. Mr. Kadow indicated that interest was still high and that there was a very excellent likelihood that this project could be put over. The private group involved has lined up approximately \$90,000 thus far. It looks like the whole project will require a quarter of a million. Art Waldron of the Anchorage Sand and Gravel Company is spear-heading this particular project.

Mr. Kadow reported that the Northwest Insulations Company had taken steps to establish a plant in Anchorage for the manufacture of zonolite. Mr. Lorain indicated several reports of vermiculite, the raw product used in zonolite, had been run down in the Territory but so far no deposits had been found. However, they would continue to look for it although the possibilities



of finding it are not considered very great. Mr. Kadow indicated that the vermiculite company was not satisfied with the shipping rate of raw vermiculite from the States. Mr. Hinman of the Railroad said that the Railroad had given the lowest rate possible but that the total rate was still high. The Railroad agreed to do all it could to influence the shipping part of this rate. Mr. Kadow indicated that he would also speak to the Steamship Company officials.

Mr. Lorain reported that some thought and work were being devoted to mineral wool. He believes the raw materials here are satisfactory except for coke which comes from the States. He has been contacting people in the United States to find out if powdered coal could be used. Reports on this were unsatisfactory. The Geological Survey and the Bureau of Mines hope to be able to investigate the coking qualities and the amount of coal in the Bering River area. Reports will be made later.

Mr. Kadow reported that the birch operation was still being pursued by H. M. Olsen and A. K. Wilson but that he did not feel that either of them was actually going to go ahead with it. He said he would try to get a list of birch manufacturers from the Michigan and New England states to determine whether he could interest one of them in the project. Mr. Kadow reported that Tom Dowling and associates are very much interested in a brick operation for Anchorage and possibly Fairbanks. Some of Mr. Dowling's associates are now in the Territory studying the project first-hand and all indications point to a favorable reaction from them. Tom Dowling has four brick laying brothers who are planning to invest their own money in this activity. They expect to start rather small and build it up. The whole project as conceived by them impressed him very much. He feels quite sure this one will go ahead and is standing by to help in every way possible. Mr. Kadow further reported that after all the efforts of the Field Committee and the Bureaus involved to make pumice available for building in the Anchorage area, the pumice was still in Katmai National Monument. It appears that no one has found a satisfactory method of getting it out. Mr. Reed stated that pumice was being investigated on Cook Inlet and that the attention of the Bureau of Mines had been called to a perlite deposit in the Sugar Loaf Mountain area. So far, no commercial quantities have been found of the latter.

Mr. Lorain stated that a very interesting clay bed had been investigated in the Anchorage vicinity but that preliminary tests had been unsatisfactory. Mr. Kadow then reported on the statement by the Solicitor's Office on sand and gravel. The statement is quoted as follows: "As for the question of sand and gravel in navigable rivers in Alaska we feel that we do not have general authority to dispose of such materials. H. R. 7146 which provides for the sale of materials from Alaska school lands has been reported out by the House Committee with an amendment to provide for the sale of sand and gravel of navigable rivers within the Territory. The House, as yet, has not acted upon the bill. Until authority is granted us we are bound by existing law and cannot authorize action merely by policy decision." The seriousness of this situation was pointed out by the Road Commission and Railroad representatives. It was urged that all possible support be given to the passage to H.R. 7146 which has already passed the House.

Report by Subcommittee on Departmental policies re employment, transportation etc

A detailed and lengthy discussion of the report by the Subcommittee (composed of Reinholt Brust, ANS; D. H. Miller, ARC; M. J. Furness, F&WS; W. S. Twenhofel, GS; and Carl D'Epiro, AFS) took place on Interior practices and policies. The Subcommittee was congratulated on the quality of the report submitted and told to rework it in line with the Field Committee actions and make it available not later than one month prior to the October meeting for distribution. The importance of this piece of work was recognized by all Field Committee members. Accordingly, the Chairman was instructed to discuss the matter while in Washington with appropriate Departmental officials in order to gain their proper understanding of the effort. A detailed report will be made available when in final form as a separate item.

Presentation of Agency Programs By Means of Maps and Graphs in Six Year Report.

Several agencies presented graphs and maps as examples of ways and means to illustrate the material presented by them in the Six Year Report. All agreed that graphs constituted an excellent method of presentation where they could be properly used. It was also agreed that wherever maps were used that they would not be larger than a four-fold map because of the inconvenience of using them in the report. The Chairman stressed that all agencies using either graphs or maps would be expected to submit them along with their Six Year Report material by September 15. The Chairman also pointed out that 150 copies of each map and graph used should be supplied by the agency to facilitate use in the Six Year Report.

Status of Seatrain Proposal.

Colonel Noyes reported that Bulk Carriers, Inc. had completed their study of the seatrain operation and had decided that the amount of tonnage available was not large enough or steady enough to sustain the operation. They apparently are no longer interested in it. However, another group is now investigating it and at the moment are very interested. Colonel Noyes reported that the southeastern ferry operation was not likely to succeed until the Canadian roads that would feed it are greatly improved. No satisfactory method of accomplishing this has yet been discovered. He discussed the many ways and means that he had followed to get the Canadian roads improved. None had been productive. He requested Field Committee support in finding a solution to this difficult problem. The Field Committee adopted a resolution to the effect that since the improvement of roads in Canada leading to Alaska appears to be essential to the economy and well being of Alaska, it is recommended that the Interior Department seek such action in Washington as may lead to the improvement of Canadian roads in accordance with plans approved by the Highway officials of the two governments.

Colonel Noyes then reported the possibility of keeping the Thompson Pass open as well as the Hains Cut-Off. The latter appears more likely because of its importance in the present international crisis. Funds have been

requested in the Road Commission budget to keep Thompson Pass open. If the funds are forthcoming immediately it is possible that operations for this winter can be consummated yet this season. Any appreciable delay, however, will make the closing of the Pass necessary.

Legislative Program Review.

The Chairman read a recent report covering the legislation in Congress of interest to Alaska. Governor Gruening reported that he thought the Statehood Bill would be voted upon before adjournment and was hopeful that it had a chance to pass. During a discussion of Bob Bartlett's cement bill, the Chairman was instructed to keep Bartlett fully informed of Field Committee discussions and recommendations concerning cement manufacture in the Territory. At the present time, it is still not known whether or not a cement plant in the Territory is feasible. General discussion of several bills before Congress took place with no specific action recommended except to urge full support in Washington to H.R. 7146.

(a) Alaska Water Code. - The Chairman explained that as a result of Field Committee action and a request from the Governor's Office, the Bureau of Reclamation with assistance from the Geological Survey had produced a rough draft of a water code for Alaska. He recommended that this matter be carefully considered and then when corrected be turned over to the Governor's Office for distribution as he saw fit and considered by the Territorial Legislature. Mr. Morgan gave the background for the need of a water code for Alaska explaining that the Bureau of Reclamation had been asked to draft this one because of its extensive experience in developing water codes for western states. Mr. Reed explained that only surface water was considered in this draft and that underground water would have to be treated sometime in the future but concurred with the Bureau of Reclamation in the feeling that it might be better not to introduce it at this time. The Chairman called for general comments and criticisms of the code.

Mr. Rhode objected strongly to the priorities that were set up. He maintained that inadequate consideration had been given to the fishing industry, and that under no circumstances would he recommend approval of the code as it now stood. He felt that if priorities were to be set up in the code, fisheries should be given at least a number two. Messrs Reed and Kadow suggested that it be placed on a par with other industrial uses and given a number three priority. Governor Gruening suggested that water should not be taken from a salmon stream without approval of the Fish and Wildlife's Director, but other Field Committee members felt that this was not necessary if salmon streams were given the proper priority. Messrs Reed and Lorain felt that the mining industry was reasonably well provided for under the suggested code. Mr. Sundborg recommended that the Fish and Wildlife Service make a thorough study of the code and suggest wording that would properly protect its industry in relation to others. This suggestion was accepted with Mr. Rhode agreeing to submit within the next two or three weeks detailed wording to meet the situation.

Governor Gruening raised the question about Section 7 concerning mining operations, ditches, etc., that had not been used for many years and wondered if the conditions of this section were adequate. Mr. Lorain suggested that the wording seemed satisfactory although the time involved may be in question. He agreed to review it very carefully and submit his comments to the Field Committee Chairman within a couple of weeks. Mr. Sundborg questioned Page 3, Section 5, and wanted to know if the priority system was the same as those used in other states. Mr. Morgan assured him that it was but that this system should be modified to meet Alaskan water needs. Mr. Sundborg questioned Section 12 and the reporting dates therein. It was agreed that the report should be submitted to the Governor's Office by December 31. He also questioned Section 13 suggesting that they do away with the special fund since this was a cumbersome set-up in the Territorial government. After considerable discussion with many points raised by the Governor and Mr. Sundborg, the Chairman recommended that the lawyer and other Reclamation officials work the code over in detail with George Sundborg and the Governor's Office. The Field Committee Chairman by that time will have received written comments from the Fish and Wildlife Service and the Bureau of Mines. He urged that any others with criticisms or suggestions concerning this legislation should have their comments submitted to him in writing no later than one month from today. All material thus received will be turned over to the Bureau of Reclamation who will then redraft the water code and make it available in revised form to all Field Committee members no later than September 15. This plan of action was adopted by the Field Committee. After action by the Field Committee at its next meeting it will then be turned over to the Governor's Office.

(b) Discussion of draft of territorial park system legislation and draft of zoning law. - Draft legislation for territorial park system was then discussed as was also the draft legislation for a territorial zoning law and other related matters. After a prolonged discussion, at which time the Governor and Mr. Sundborg expressed the need for a territorial land office, it was suggested that the two pieces of legislation under discussion be incorporated with all other land matters in a single draft. It was agreed upon by the Field Committee and the matter returned to the Subcommittee composed of Messrs Sundborg, Kuehl, Puckett and Rhode for further consideration and drafting of the required legislation. Mr. Kadow pointed out that zoning and recreational planning are of great concern to all groups who are attempting to bring about logical growth and development in the Territory. He stated that a committee of housing and utility experts was considering many phases of this problem and should be given an opportunity to review any draft of legislation along the lines suggested by the Governor and Mr. Sundborg. All agreed that this would be worthwhile.

### Procedure For Reviewing Land Withdrawals.

Mr. Kadow reported that the Bureau of Land Management and the Secretary's Office have been working for nearly two years to clean up the problem of land withdrawals in Alaska. A satisfactory solution to this problem had not been found. Recommendation has been made by him and adopted by Washington to have a thorough research job done on all land orders pertaining to Alaska. This job is intended to produce a complete list of all withdrawals. Once the list is produced it will be referred to each agency involved and the present use status of each determined. They will then either be retained as withdrawals or returned to the public domain. Carl D'Epiro is being detailed to Washington to work on this problem in the Bureau of Land Management. His knowledge and understanding of this problem should facilitate Washington's handling of it.

### New Regulations re Homesteads and Other Types of Entries.

Mr. Puckett reported that on May 3, a new order listed in the Code of Regulations under Title 43, Public Lands included, Subtitle A, Part 7, had been issued which prevents Interior Department employees from taking up land presently under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, with the exception of the Small Tract Act as a homesite and with a two-acre exception for Bureau of Reclamation employees on reclamation projects. Governor Gruening raised the question as to why the Interior Department employees should be singled out for exception. He could not see any reason for the act at all and thought it grossly unfair both to the people involved and the effect on Territorial development. Messrs Puckett, Noyes and Johnson all protested that it would have a very detrimental effect upon the people in their employ. Many people in Alaska who are attempting to settle the land find that part-time earnings from other sources are necessary to make a living. This act would apparently prohibit all such types of activity. After a lengthy discussion the Field Committee instructed its Chairman to make a full representation of the facts to the Secretary's Office in an effort to have this particular action rescinded. Mr. Puckett agreed to furnish the Chairman necessary details of legal interpretation to make this representation possible.

Land Settlement and Agricultural Development Session. Note: At this point Territorial and Agricultural officials joined the meeting. Those attending were as follows:

Emil G. Ganschow, Alaska Agricultural Experiment Station, Palmer  
A. L. Hafenricleter, Soil Conservation Service, Portland, Oregon  
James J. Hurley, Alaska Rural Rehabilitation Commission, Palmer  
Don L. Irwin, Director, Alaska Experiment Station, Palmer  
Hugh A. Johnson, Alaska Experiment Station, Palmer  
Eugene Kirsch, Veterans Farm Training Instructor, Palmer  
Clyde G. Sherman, Territorial Commissioner of Agriculture, Fairbanks  
Charles W. Wilson, Soil Conservation Service, Palmer  
James W. Wilson, Matanuska Valley Co-op, Palmer

I.M.C. Anderson, Federal Housing Administration  
John Argetsinger, Alaska Public Works, Juneau  
Reinholt Brust, Alaska Native Service, Juneau  
Carl D'Epiro, Alaska Field Staff, Juneau  
Governor Ernest Gruening, Juneau  
R. C. Johnson, Bureau of Reclamation, Juneau  
Harold T. Jorgenson, Bureau of Land Management, Anchorage  
Kenneth J. Kadow, Director, Alaska Field Staff  
Don H. Miller, Alaska Road Commission, Juneau  
Joseph M. Morgan, Bureau of Reclamation, Juneau  
Lowell Puckett, Bureau of Land Management, Anchorage  
Marvin Ripke, Alaska Native Service, Juneau  
George Sundborg, Governor's Office, Juneau

Mr. Kadow introduced the subject of the meeting as land settlement and agriculture development problems. He stressed the importance of this work to the two departments and the Territorial government and suggested that pending legislation and problems associated with land settlement and development be reviewed by the assembled group in order to produce a uniform course of action and maximum assistance to all concerned. A lengthy discussion of pending legislation took place. Land clearing and agriculture credit problems were also discussed in detail and the general feeling developed that none of these problems were being adequately met at the present time or that steps were in the making to meet them. Marketing specialists discussed the program of market studies and expressed a fear that too rapid settlement would produce over-production. Others argued that the market had not been touched and that the real challenge was in developing it as well as more agricultural production. Prior to adjournment, a special committee was appointed composed of Messrs Jorgenson, James Hurley, I.M.C. Anderson, Irwin, and any others that the Agriculture Department thinks necessary to formulate recommendations for further action.

The temporary date for the next Field Committee meeting was set for the second week of October. The Chairman pointed out that this coincided with an Interdepartmental meeting and have both about the same time. It was determined that if the Interdepartmental meeting were held, the Field Committee meeting would be held about the same time in Juneau, whereas if the Interdepartmental meeting were not held, the Field Committee meeting will be held in Sitka. All agreed to these arrangements.

The formal part of the meeting officially adjourned with several of the Committee members making a trip to the Evans-Jones mine on the morning of July 13 and visiting the Co-op in the afternoon of the same day.