

# NANA Incorporated, Elects New Officials

Meeting in Kotzebue last weekend the Northwest Native Association (NANA) officially incorporated and elected slate of officers to guide the association.

All villages in the area represented except one due to Elected president of the association was Harvey Vespai, of Kotzebue, who will assume the duties of the executive secretary. Present executive secretary Willie Hensley will be going to Juneau soon to serve as State Representative in the legislature from the Kobuk District.

Other officers elected are Jonas Raymoth, Selawik, first vice-president; Lenny Lane, Jr., Pt. Hope, second vice-president; Ernest Norton, Kotzebue, secretary; Percy Ipalook Jr., Kotzebue, treasurer; and Sargeant-at-Arms, Willard Morena, Kiana.

Attending the meeting to handle the incorporation were two Anchorage lawyers, Gene Guess and Herb Soll. Guess is a state legislator and former chairman of the Judiciary Committee in the House.

Also attending the NANA meeting were two Bureau of Land Management officials, Robert Crumm, BLM District Manager, and Carl Johnson, of Fairbanks. Other guests were Don Perkins, of Nome, area ASCAP coordinator, and

Robert McLean, BIA Area Field Representative.

Featured speaker at the meeting was Weldon Friday, who represented Governor Walter J. Hickie at the meeting, and who is the new State Director of Elections.

Willie Hensley, who aided in the formation of the association, told the Tundra Times he was extremely satisfied with the meeting pointing out the almost perfect attendance. "Most villages had at least two delegates present," Hensley stated.

Hensley said no further action was taken in regard to the land claims for the Northwest, but he indicated the association was keeping a close watch on the U.S. Department of Interior activities in this regard.

The newly-elected legislator said he didn't feel anyone wanted to scare off development, and he felt it was for this reason the group has not instigated any suits.

All villages reported on local problems to the association. Hensley said the Canadian Eskimo movie ANNA-NACKS was shown and almost the whole town of Kotzebue attended. The three churches in Kotzebue hosted the delegates and guests one evening during the conference.