



Integrity, Pride in Heritage, Progress

AFN, Inc.

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NEWSLETTER

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Vol. 3, No. 5

Wednesday, May 8, 1974

Anchorage, Alaska

AFN, INC. REQUESTS IRS ON TAX RULINGS

To Represent Unions—

Unanimous Choice

Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc. representative was unanimously nominated by the Building Trade Unions to attend and represent the Unions during the impending negotiations to be held in Washington, D.C. the week of May 6. Tom Evans, director of the AFN-Technical Assistance Program, will be traveling back to Washington, D.C. with the Alaska Delegates, AFN, Inc. has been deeply concerned with R & R and vacation for Native Alaskans employed on the Pipeline Project. (See related story from the Associated Press.)

NATIVE TO ATTEND

LINE TALKS

By BERT TARRANT
Associated Press Writer

The Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc., confirmed Tuesday one of its chief negotiators will accompany a union bargaining team to Washington, D.C., for project work agreement talks with Alyeska Pipeline Service Co.

But union officials remain tight-lipped over the final items to be bargained for before the all-important work agreement can be brought into play.

Accompanying the union team will be Tom Evans, a Native, and director of the AFN technical assistance program. Evans did most of the work in negotiating a Native-hiring agreement with Alyeska.

Alyeska needs the work agreement before it can begin construction on trans-Alaska pipeline related facilities. Reportedly, a rest and recreation clause is the only remaining item to be negotiated.

Union leaders, with Evans attending, met in secret session in Anchorage recently to draft their requests. They said they intended to open negotiations within a few weeks.

The project work agreement would cover work on roads, the 12 pump stations and the tanker terminal at Valdez. Another work agreement would cover the laying of pipe.

All union employees working on the pipeline have to be a party to the agreement, Alyeska says, and to a no-strike clause written into it.

The work agreement also covers wages and working conditions. Only the electrical workers and boilermakers are not a part to the pact, but they say they expect to resolve differences in the near future.

"When Tom attended the secret session," said AFN spokesman John Shively, "he brought several ideas which the union leaders had not yet thought about."

Shively said the AFN wants a provision in the R-and-R clause that allows leave time to be accumulated to allow Native workers to work on the line and keep up with subsistence hunt-

ing.

Alyeska originally had wanted a seven-day work week with no leave time through the construction season.

One of the union leaders instrumental in the secret session, who refused to be identified, said of AFN representation in the talks, "The Natives have a vested interest in the pipeline. It's only right that they participate in working conditions negotiations."

But that support for Native involvement in the final steps of project agreement negotiations was not held by one contractor who would be involved in pipeline construction.

"I really can't see why the Natives should be allowed to take part in this," he said. "This is a union agreement we contractors will have to live with and we don't need Native input."

The union leader said the unions have not set a timetable for meeting with Alyeska officials. He added "I hope it is soon," and Evans indicated the meetings probably will take place next week or the week following.

The union official also was highly critical of misinformation on the work agreement that he alleged was reaching the news media. "It makes it difficult in the bargaining and that bargaining is getting more crucial all the time."

Regional Land Officers Meet

On April 26, 1974 the Regional Land Officers met in Anchorage at the Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc. for the purpose of determining the need for a Land Manager's Association. Roger Lang, president of AFN, chaired the meeting.

Representative of Regional Corporations included AHTNA, Bristol Bay, Calista, Chugach, NANA, Aleut, Koniag, Sealaska, and a representative from the Alaska Native Foundation. Some of the topics discussed were interim documents, D-2 selection, Native allotments, easements, etc., and other such topics which identify existing statewide problems.

The formation of the Land Manager's Association began so that many of these problems could better be identified through the sharing of ideas between Regional Land Officers. Although each of the regions will vary in the types of problems they may have in their particular area, bringing the problems out and discussing them would enable each region to handle their problems in the best possible way.

Thus, with the topics brought

Human Resources Meet in Anch.

The Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc. Human Resources Committee met in Anchorage on April 29 and 30.

Representation from non-profit arms of the regional corporations were from Bristol Bay, Tlingit & Haida, North Pacific Rim Native Association, Yupik-tak Bista, Cook Inlet Native Association, Tanana Chiefs, Kawerak, Mauneluk, Kodiak Area Native Association, and the Aleut League.

Elections were held and the results were: Robert Schaeffer, Mauneluk, chairman; Ray Paddock, Tlingit & Haida, vice chairman; and Robert Clark, Bristol Bay, secretary-treasurer.

Topics of discussion were as follows:

1. Reports from all department heads as to what their programs are doing.

2. What position the Human Resources Committee will take on

- a. Molly Hootch Case
- b. 2-C Study
- c. SB 1017
- d. Sea Mammal Act

3. Contract let to evaluate AFN's accounting system and to find a workable solution to problems we have had in the past.

4. Comprehensive Employment Training Act, Title III monies — who, what and where are submitting proposals.

5. Future of Rural CAP due to possible phase-out of OEO.

6. Rent gouging in the State of Alaska.

7. Resolution in support of SB 2928, Indian Health Care Impact Act.

8. Coalition of Indian Controlled School Boards.

9. Education in the Unorganized Borough.

10. Alaska Native Education Board.

11. Support Ray Paddock's nomination to the Alaska Humanities Forum.

12. Indian Education Act. Speakers present were Frank Berry, 2-C Study; Lillie McGarvey, Alaska Area Native Health Service; Bill Vaudrin, Human Rights Commission; Mike Harper, Rural AL CAP.

The meeting was very productive with plenty of work cut-out for the Human Resources staff before the next Human Resources Committee meeting takes place in mid-June.

about in this meeting it was the feeling of this group that such an association would give them joint expertise in meeting as a group. The association will function in a technical and advisory capacity to the AFN, Inc. Board of Directors, relating to the identification, selection, and ownership of lands.

The next meeting was set for May 10, 1974.

Internal Rev. Service Asked Five Questions

At a meeting over the last weekend of April, the AFN, Inc. Board of Directors discussed at some length a draft application to be submitted to the Internal Revenue Service requesting rulings on the following five federal income tax questions: 1) Interest or other earnings on fund money before distribution; 2) Distributions mandated by the act; 3) Earnings upon mandated distributions; and 4) Land selection costs. Counsel for the Alaska Native Foundation, Art Lazarus, was on hand to discuss the draft, which he prepared, with the board members.

In a review of the background which resulted in the preparation of the draft request for rulings, it was pointed out that the Arctic Slope Regional Corporation, a region not a member of the federation, had requested a ruling, on a wide variety of subjects. It was pointed out that any ruling from IRS on the ASRC's request would ultimately affect all the regional corporations.

After carefully weighing the many ramifications contingent in requesting rulings from the IRS, the AFN Board resolved that with the exception of the land selection costs requests for

rulings on the remaining three questions would be made by counsel Lazarus.

Other matters receiving attention and/or action by the AFN Board included: Change of representative on the board from AVCP to Calista. During the December 1973, convention Calista had deferred membership on the AFN Board to AVCP, its non-profit association; and Eddie Hoffman, Sr. was elected representative. Hoffman informed the AFN Board that Calista would have a newly-appointed member at the next meeting.

The AFN, Inc. Board also amended its bylaws to remove the position of executive vice president from the list of elected officers thus placing that position in an administrative capacity.

The next meeting of the AFN, Inc. Board has been scheduled for May 28 in Anchorage.

Alaska Fire Chiefs Transfer—

AFN Gets 'Operation Help an Alaskan'

The Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc. has assumed operational control of "Operation Help An Alaskan" at the request of the Alaska Fire Chiefs' Association. Ronald C. Mallott of the AFN, Inc., Health Affairs Division, has been appointed to coordinate the program.

"Operation Help An Alaskan" was a program started by the Alaska Fire Chiefs' Association to provide fire extinguishers to rural communities utilizing revenue sharing funds. Last year 46 remote communities in Alaska were furnished with fire extinguishers with the assistance of the Fire Chiefs' Association. Not being satisfied, they requested AFN, Inc. to take over the program in an effort to reach all of the rural communities.

On April 11, 1974 a workshop conducted in Juneau, Alaska, was attended by representatives from the Department of Community and Regional Affairs, the Alaska Fire Chiefs' Association, the State Fire Marshal's Office, the Fire Service Training Division of the Department of Vocational Education, the Rural Alaska Community Action Program and the Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc.

Primary subjects for discussion was expansion of the program to include Fire Safety and

Prevention Training programs and techniques for rural communities as present available materials are urban-oriented and not suitable for rural use. This portion of the program was designated as a priority as statistics reviewed revealed loss of life and property due to fire was far higher in rural areas than in urban areas. However, this portion of the program despite the statistics is experiencing difficulty in getting started due to a lack of funds.

Another source of concern is that many of the rural communities are unaware that to qualify for the fire extinguisher program under revenue sharing, they must form volunteer fire departments. Also some do not understand the procedures for securing revenue sharing funds. For this reason, letters are being sent to all of the Regional Native Associations requesting their assistance in reaching the villages with this vital lifesaving information.

Persons desiring further information, contact:

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