

Sealaska Elects Board Members in Juneau Meeting Today

Shareholders of the Sealaska Corporation are meeting in Juneau today in the climax of a long, loud battle between the corporation's management and several dissident shareholders.

The management slate is led by John Borbridge, Sr. who has headed the southeastern regional Native corporation since it was incorporated shortly after passage of the 1971 Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

One group of six dissident

shareholders, including Frank Peratrovich of Ketchikan, Alaska's first Native legislator, Carl C. Nelson and Seattle attorney Frederick Paul have campaigned to gain membership to the 18-member Sealaska board of directors. Six board seats are open in this year's election.

A second group, supported by Goldbelt Corporation, urban Native corporation for Juneau, is putting three candidates forward.

The split between management and its opposition in the regional corporation with the most shareholders of any of the 12 organized under the land claims act consists of differences over the emphasis of the corporation's investment efforts. Dissidents want the corporation to be more involved in serving the social needs of shareholders, such as retirement and education. The management contends

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Sealaska . . .

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that its profit-making orientation is mandated by law and that other needs of shareholders are best served by other Native organizations.

Running for board seats in the Sealaska Corporation are: John Borbridge, Sr., Juanita Corwin, Clarence Jackson, Sr., Marlene Johnson, Ken Leask and Byron Mallott, all management candidates.

Candidates running under the banner of the Committee for Economy for Sealaska are Frank Peratrovich, Edward Thomas, Carl Nelson, Frederick Paul, Don Hamilton and William Vanguis.

Goldbelt candidates are Joseph Kahklen, Murlin Everson and Lawrence Jackson, Sr.

David Katzeek is also a candidate for the Sealaska Board of Directors.