

Land Managers endorse Jackson

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Anchorage Bureau

The Alaska Native Land Manager's Association met last week in Anchorage and unanimously re-elected Dan Alex of Eklutna as Chairman of the Association.

The Association, which acts in an advisory capacity to the Alaska Federation of Natives Board of Directors, also voted to recommend to the AFN Board that the Federation request the Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission to conduct an assesment of the impact on non-federal lands of proposed D-2 legislation, and that the Commission report directly back to Native people.

The Association also endorsed Gordon Jackson for the position of Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Interior for Alaska. Jackson addressed the

group and told them that the position has not yet "reached or obtained its full potential" for being the liaison between Alaska and the Secretary of the Interior. Jackson went on to say that should he be appointed to the position his office would be an extension of the open government policy of the Carter administration.

The position is expected to be filled within the next month.

The Land Manager's tentatively scheduled their next meeting for March 8 in Juneau to discuss pending legislation concerning coastal zone management, forest practices, and resource development.

Although still awaiting endorsement by the AFN Board of Directors, the Land Manager's Association has virtually an open

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membership to persons "having positions of responsibility in implementing the land provisions of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act."