

Jenks appointed village townsite trustee

Robert L. Jenks of Fairbanks, formerly President of the Interior Village Association, has been appointed by the Department of

Community and Regional Affairs to the new position of Municipal Lands Trustee under section 14(c)(3) of the Alaskan Native Claims Settlement Act.

That provision of ANCSA requires that village corporations convey to the local municipality or, in the case of unincorporated settlements, to the State in trust patent to a minimum of 1280 acres for future community planning. Department of Community and Regional Affairs was designated by the Alaska Legislature to be the State agency to administer this trustee program.

At present, there are about 90 unincorporated eligible villages scattered throughout the State which are affected by this trust provision and thus about 100,000 acres of municipal trust lands potentially to be managed.

Jenks has had a quarter-century of varied experience in Alaska at land planning, management, selection, appraisals and leasing and similar land-related matters. At one time, Jenks served as Land Office Manager and Chief Land Adjudicator for the Bureau of Land Manage-

ment Fairbanks District Office. More recently, he has been Director of Lands for the Tanana Chiefs Conference, and Vice-President of Lands for Doyon, Ltd., and in those positions was closely involved in implementation of the ANCSA.

In announcing Jenks' appointment, Commissioner McAnerney said "The Department is extremely pleased and

fortunate to employ an individual of the professional standing and experience of Mr. Jenks for this important position. His years of experience in all aspects of land management in Alaska, his close working knowledge of the Settlement Act and, most important, his personal familiarity with rural communities ideally equip him to manage the trust program.