

Plan is developed for Rural homeowner financing

Perry R. Eaton, Chairman of the Board of Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC), announced that a recent meeting in Anchorage with regional housing authorities and governmental housing agencies was a first step in initiating the AHFC's proposed rural housing loan program.

The meeting was sponsored by AHFC to exchange information between agencies which have been involved in rural housing programs and to address recurrent housing problems in rural Alaska.

At the meeting AHFC director Bob Sullivan presented AHFC's proposed new rural loan program. The new program provides that loans will be originated and serviced by regional housing authorities.

The plan calls for formation of a rural program policy group composed of representatives of housing authorities on a rotating basis. The group would designate individuals to serve on a loan committee; function as an advisory loan committee to the corporation; and designate individuals who are employees of

the authorities to act as loan underwriters and processors.

AHFC has proposed to train these individuals in the technical aspects of mortgage lending, and is designing a training program for this.

Tax exempt public borrowing by AHFC is planned to finance the program. The Legislature will be asked to appropriate money for an insurance fund as additional security. This fund would secure private mortgage insurance.

AHFC reportedly devised the plan to serve rural home owners after considerable prompting by Eaton and AHFC Board Member Charles Guinn of Bethel.