



## RurAL-CAP

## ACTION REPORTS



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## EDA AWARDS CITY OF YAKUTAT \$600,000

## Summary of RurAL-CAP's 26th Meeting

The 26th meeting of the RurAL CAP Board of Directors was held February 5, 1970 in Juneau.

RurAL CAP Executive Director Byron Mallott introduced new board members Mr. Hank Ostrosky of Naknek, representative for the Bristol Bay area, Mrs. Mabel Walsh, Mayor of Kotzebue as representative for Northwest Mayors, and George Navarre from Kenai, representing the Southcentral Boroughs.

Mr. Walter Charley of the Prince William Sound-Copper Valley Development Corporation reported that a D-8 cat used for training in Seward will be returned to Copper Center.

RurAL CAP will be providing them with a 6 x 6 and a Ford pickup. Mr. Charley also reported that the Department of Health, Education and Welfare will be hiring people to work on the Mentasta project, and an RDA grant has been obtained for the Kenny Lake Telephone project.

Reporting for the Upper Yukon Development Corporation, Mr. Robert Mott advised the board the Corporation is committed for a housing project on Barter Island, and has set up two adult education programs, one in Fort Yukon and one in Stevens Village.

Mr. Hank Ostrosky reported for the Bristol Bay area Development Corporation that work is proceeding on the air field at Clark's Point. A number of community buildings are in various stages of completion. A project is under way to add a shop to the present high school facility.

Mayor Mabel Walsh of Kotzebue informed the Board that a Day Care Center under PCC is between 16 and 24 children of working mothers. There is a water project with PHS which is training local people in pipefitting etc., and when it is completed the whole town of Kotzebue will have running water.

A Head Start Program is in operation with four year old children.

Mayor Walsh also advised the board that a program of education by lawyers through Alaska Legal Services is planned to inform people of their legal rights and also to give training in Real Estate Law.

Legal Services has been working in Kotzebue on regular adoptions, divorce actions, and other legal problems that have never been done before in a legal manner.

Mr. Lucian Poussard of the U.S. Public Health Service reported that under the present budget cuts at federal level to curb inflation, the PHS has been hard hit in the area of contract health services, particularly with hospitals where there are no direct care facilities such as are in Juneau, Fairbanks, etc.

PHS asked for a budget increase, particularly for the Kodiak area, but were not successful.

Mr. Poussard also advised the Board that Dr. William Deak has been hired as Medical Director to coordinate the Alaska Federal

## Anna's New Job Lasts 8 Hrs.— Phone Proposal Of Marriage Gets Prompt Attention

Miss Anna Riley, well known Eskimo girl from Unalakleet, who has been working as a secretary for the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Washington, D.C. recently returned to Alaska.

In looking for employment, Anna was referred to RurAL CAP and was hired last Friday, February 27th as a secretary for the Head Start Program.

Sunday night Anna received a long distance call from Washington, from Professor James McLeer of Catholic University, with a proposal of marriage.

Anna resigned her Head Start position and flew to Washington on Monday, thereby establishing something of an employment record by remaining on the payroll exactly one full working day.

Anna's fiancée is a Graduate Professor of Biology at Catholic University in Washington, D.C. and the couple plan to make their home in the Washington area. Anna also plans to return to college.

tion of Natives Healthright program and develop advanced health aid training programs and an out-patient center there.

Mr. Frank Cox of the State Planning and Research Commission reported that a recently completed housing study will entitle the State to be eligible for FHA funds for rural villages, and they are attempting to launch a program to complete a study of sewers and water so that rural communities will be entitled to federal funds for sewage and water treatment plants.

Mr. William Jermain of the State Department of Labor reported that manpower centers have been established in certain areas, using people who have knowledge of the language of the area, and also that a highly skilled team has been traveling to rural areas to make studies of manpower in the locality. By next year, the teams will have gone into every area in the State and all agencies can utilize this information. Mobile skill centers are planned, in which units can be moved for classrooms, and for housing where needed. In another new program, "HIRE," 200 Alaska Natives will be trained, basically through OJT for jobs in the Department of Defense.

According to work received from Senator Ted Stevens, five major oil companies have committed themselves to conduct vocational educational training at Beltz and Mt. Edgecumbe schools. Once industry becomes involved, they are committed to hire. Mr. Jermain also advised the Board that the Department of Labor has been designated as sponsor of Title I-B Programs in Alaska which covers New Careers, Neighborhood Youth Corps, and Operation Mainstream.

Mr. Bennie Leonard of the Alaska Municipal League reported that the Anchorage City Council has a new Drunk in Public (DIP) ordinance which has resulted through the efforts of various alcohol symposiums and groups, whereby people will have a jail record for being drunk in public. DIP's will be retained at the jail for their own protection because of the cold weather and the possibility of being taken advantage of, and when sober, they will be released with no record. But, if picked up more than twice, a misdemeanor charge will be brought. Mr. Leonard also reported that the City Council appropriated money for the Welcome Center.

Mr. J. Kornfeinde of the Alas-

## Seeks 'Overrun' Funds To Meet Overage On Construction Bid

Byron Mallott, Executive Director of the Rural Alaska Community Action Program, was informed Friday, March 6, by the City of Yakutat that approximately \$600,000 in "overrun" funds have been awarded the City by the Economic Development Administration.

Mallott was Mayor of Yakutat at the time the City first made application for EDA funds for the project in 1965.

"The funds," Mallott said, "will be used to supplement a \$1,200,000 EDA grant made to the City in the fall of 1967 for the construction of a cold storage and deep water wharf facility."

However, it was not until January of 1970 that bids were opened for construction of the project and the low bid was some \$600,000 over the 1967 estimated construction cost.

"Inflation and spiraling costs during the three year period

necessitated seeking the overrun funds from EDA Washington," Mallott stated.

Instrumental in assisting the City obtain the necessary additional funding were Senators Stevens and Gravel and Congressman Howard Pollock, as well as Morris Thompson, Special Assistant to Secretary of the Interior Walter Hickel.

Jerry Nelson, Mayor of Yakutat and Larry Powell, City Council Chairman, expressed delight at the announcement, which was received by the City from both Senator Stevens and Gravel.

Nelson and Powell stated that construction could begin this spring and that the jobs created both by the construction of the cold storage and its operation will greatly increase employment opportunity for local people and will greatly expand the fishery in the Gulf of Alaska near Yakutat.

ka Federation of Labor reported that the AFL is insisting that employers in Alaska hire Alaskans, and will get first opportunity for available jobs. He stated that the AFL has found that organized labor in the state is making a concentrated effort to hire minority groups. A contract has been formed between the BIA and the Department of Labor for a minority apprenticeship program.

A number of people will be brought in from rural areas for training in crafts.

Mr. Kornfeinde also reported that the AFL is well aware that aliens and non-Alaskans are working in the cannery industry and steps are being taken to correct the situation.

Mr. George Navarre reporting for the Southcentral Boroughs stated that considerable progress has been made in the Seward skill center, for which the buildings have been donated by the Borough to the State.

Mr. Navarre also advised the Board that Southcentral Boroughs have acquired two BIA schools, one at English Bay and one in Port Graham, and although they are useable, they do not have plumbing.

Mrs. Marguerite Frelin reporting for the Alaska Congress of Parents and Teachers advised that the Homer High School has become accredited since the group sent the school enough reference books to make up the deficiency in their library.

The group also sent arts and crafts supplies, audiometers and projectors, and in addition sent 800 pairs of ice skates and hockey equipment to rural areas and 65,000 screened books to various libraries.

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## Also Met with Legal Services

A meeting between the Board of Directors of Legal Services and the Board of Directors of RurAL CAP was also held for the purpose of discussing the relationship between Legal Services and RurAL CAP.

A comment was made that it is sometimes difficult to get an overall picture of the direction Legal Services is taking, and a further comment was made that there was not enough publicity to prospective clientele as to what services are available. It was pointed out that more field trips are needed to educate the rural people in real estate law and the land claims issue, as well as handle family matters in a formal manner, but lack of staff makes this difficult.

It was further pointed out that RurAL CAP's top priority for this program year is education of the Natives on the land claims bills. Mr. Mallott advised that RurAL CAP in conjunction with CEDC and the Alaska Federation of Natives has contracted for a 30 minute film of public education on the land claims. It will cost approximately \$15,000 and will be finished about April 1st. It is planned that the film will be used in all villages, and also, hopefully, will appear on nation-wide television networks.

## UYDC Requests Two Major Changes in VISTA Program

A resolution passed by the Upper Yukon Development Corporation has requested two major changes in the VISTA program as it is presently operating in Alaska.

First, the Upper Yukon Development Corporation supported the request of the Association of Village Council presidents to sponsor their own VISTA program in Southwest Alaska.

Second, the Corporation requested that they be designated as the sponsoring agency for VISTA in the Upper Yukon area.

Part of the same resolution requested Rural Alaska Community Action Programs central staff to prepare a proposal of the Upper Yukon Development Corporation's sponsorship of VISTA. This proposal will be reviewed for approval by the Executive Director, Donald Peter of the Upper Yukon Development Corporation.

The resolution also requested that the Seattle Regional Office of Economic Opportunity give its full support and assistance to the Corporation's request for

sponsorship of VISTA programs.

The Upper Yukon Development Corporation is chaired by Mr. Bob Mott of Fort Yukon and represents the following villages: Fort Yukon, Eagle, Rampart, Beaver, Stevens Village, Venetie, Birch Creek, Chalkyitsik, Canyon Village, Arctic Village, Kaktovik (Barter Island) and Circle City.

One representative from each village is a director of the Corporation which is sponsored by the Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc.