

New Director Chosen by AIDEA/AEA Chairman, Vice-Chair Selected by Board

ANCHORAGE, AK—Anchorage resident and businessman Ronald W. Miller was appointed Executive Director of the Alaska Industrial Development & Export Authority/Alaska Energy Authority today by the Board of Directors at their first meeting of 2003.

The Board of Directors also elected incoming member Mike Barry as Chairman and Department of Community and Economic Development Commissioner Edgar Blatchford, as Vice-Chairman.

In appointing Miller executive director, board members commended his extensive background in a variety of key industries critical to Alaska's economy. Miller, who is an attorney and businessman, has been an exporter of U.S. consumer goods to the Russian Far East, was a co-founder of a joint venture responsible for a \$50 million housing project on Sakhalin Island, and has served as a Special Advisor to the North Pacific Fishery Management Council.

Miller has held state positions in the Governor's Office of International Trade and Director of Adjudications for the Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Russian studies from the University of Kentucky; a Masters of Business Administration from the International Institute for Management Development in Lausanne, Switzerland; a Juris Doctor from the University of Louisville School of Law; and an LLM (Law and Marine Affairs) from the University of Washington School of Law.

In other action, the Board of Directors unanimously selected Barry, an economic consultant, as Chairman, and Blatchford as Vice-Chairman. Barry is currently serving as economic consultant to the Denali Commission, most recently coordinating Ketchikan Maritime Project between the Denali Commission and AIDEA, along with other governmental agencies, businesses and foundations.

Barry has spent 10 years in property management and development in Anchorage, working primarily as the owner's representative of the Dimond Center, Alaska's largest retail multi-use commercial complex. He also spent 20 years working for National Bank of Alaska in a variety of positions, including commercial loans, trust investment, branch management and credit analysis.

"Along with the other members of the board, I share the strong desire for AIDEA to be as helpful as possible to the citizens of Alaska in terms of economic development," Barry said.

Blatchford, a former Seward mayor, is a lifelong Alaska resident who previously served on the AIDEA Board as Commissioner of Community and Regional Affairs in the 90s. He has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Alaska Methodist University, a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Washington School of Law, and a Master of Arts degree in Journalism from Columbia University. He has served on the Board of Chugach Alaska Corporation, including numerous terms as chairman.

AIDEA is a public corporation that helps finance industrial, manufacturing, export and other business enterprises to develop and diversify the state's economic base, to relieve problems of unemployment, and to create additional employment. Since 1999, AIDEA has also administered the Alaska Energy Authority.

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