Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Friday, September 26, 2025
Teleconference

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Pruhs called the meeting of the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority to order on September 26, 2025, at 11:00 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL BOARD MEMBERS

Members present: Chair Dana Pruhs (Public Member); Vice-Chair Bill Kendig (Public Member); Julie Sande (Commissioner, DCCED); Llewellyn Smythe (Policy Director, DOR); Albert Fogle (Public Member); Randy Eledge (Public Member); and Ely Cyrus (Public Member).

A quorum was established.

3. AGENDA APPROVAL

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Fogle to approve the agenda, as presented. Motion seconded by Mr. Eledge.

There was no objection to approving the agenda, as presented.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no members of the public online or in-person who wished to make a public comment. Chair Pruhs closed the public comment period. There was no objection.

5. NEW BUSINESS

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Fogle to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing the following items: 1) Ambler Access Project, 2) other matters related to AIDEA and matters that are subject to specific legal advice, which is subject to attorney-client privilege. These matters, which if discussed publicly, could have an adverse effect on the finances of AIDEA, are matters of attorney-client privilege, and matters involving consideration of issues and that by law are not subject to public disclosure due to the executive or deliberative process, privilege, or other law. The executive session and matters discussed therein are proper subjects for an executive session under the Alaska Open Meetings Act, reference Alaska Statute 44.62.310 (C)(1), (3), and (4), and the Alaska Public Records Act. Motion seconded by Mr. Eledge.

A roll call was taken, and the motion to enter into Executive Session passed unanimously, with Mr. Cyrus abstained from voting and requested to be excused from this portion of the

meeting.

Chair Pruhs made the ruling that Mr. Cyrus could be included in the discussion and excused from the voting due to a conflict of interest. Mr. Cyrus requested to be excused from that portion of the meeting. There was no objection.

5A. EXECUTIVE SESSION: 11:07 a.m. Confidential and deliberative matters related to: Ambler Access Project, which are subject to the deliberative process privilege, executive process privilege or other legal exemptions from the Open Meetings Act. Matters related to AIDEA subject to the attorney-client privilege will be discussed.

The Board reconvened its regular meeting at 11:45 a.m. Chair Pruhs advised the public that the Board did not take any action on matters discussed while in Executive Session. The session was limited to discussion of matters directly protected from public disclosure by the Open Meetings Act.

5B. Resolution G25-07 Ambler Access Project Memorandum of Understanding

Randy Ruaro, Executive Director, explained that Resolution G25-07 relates to the Ambler Mining Project and the Ambler Road Access Project. The resolution sets out a number of whereas clauses, including the background and history of the access project, and recitations of AIDEA's statutory mission, which is to create economic development and to provide jobs, particularly in areas of the state with high unemployment rates, which would include the areas near the road. The Ambler Road is proposed as a limited access industrial road with some use available to the communities that are near the road. The communities would be able to use the road to bring in materials for housing and fuel, and for medivac use. The resolution provides the authority to the Executive Director to negotiate and to enter into a nonbinding MOU with the property owners, including the NANA Corporation, the Doyon Corporation, and Northwest Arctic Borough. The MOU would have input and oversight from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and from the other offices of the State, including the Department of Law.

Chair Pruhs asked if any binding agreements would come before the Board. Mr. Ruaro agreed that any binding agreements would have to come before the Board for approval. There were no other comments or questions.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Fogle to approve Resolution G25-07, Resolution of the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority regarding adoption of a Memorandum of Understanding regarding the Ambler Road. Motion seconded by Mr. Eledge.

A roll call was taken, and the motion to approve Resolution G25-07 passed unanimously, with Mr. Cyrus excused.

5C. Next regularly scheduled AIDEA Board Meeting: Wednesday, October 22, 2025

(No Item 6.)

(No Item 7.)

8. BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Fogle expressed appreciation to Mr. Ruaro for developing the MOU. He hopes that all parties can work together as partners in the state to help the economic development for the state and for the communities along the road that are struggling to keep their culture, to keep their people, and to bring economic development and capital to those areas. Mr. Fogle emphasized the importance of the road on multiple levels. He hopes that all the parties can come to an agreement. He thanked Mr. Ruaro for taking on this monumental task.

Mr. Eledge commented that he is encouraged by the collaborative efforts that include NANA, Doyon, K Limited, Ambler, AIDEA, and the State of Alaska Department of Fish and Game. He believes this is a good format and that these stakeholders will encompass the forward movement of the MOU. Mr. Eledge thanked Mr. Ruaro.

Chair Pruhs thanked Mr. Ruaro and staff, and welcomed back David Kennedy, AIDEA. Chair Pruhs expressed appreciation to Board members for their participation, given the short notice.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business of the Board, the AIDEA meeting adjourned at 11:51 a.m.

Randy Ruaro, AIDEA Executive Director

Secretary