

Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Monday, September 21, 2026
via teleconference
Nullagvik Hotel, Kotzebue, Alaska

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kendig called the meeting of the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority to order on September 21, 2026, at 5:09 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL BOARD MEMBERS

Members present: Chair Bill Kendig (Public Member); Albert Fogle (Public Member); Julie Sande (Commissioner, DCCED) (Arrived Late); Lee Cruise (Deputy Commissioner, DOR); Randy Eledge (Public Member); Al Haynes (Public Member) (Arrived Late); and Rick Solie.

A quorum was established.

3. AGENDA APPROVAL

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Eledge to approve the agenda. Motion seconded by Mr. Solie.

The motion to approve the agenda passed with no objection.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Eledge to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing the following legal and financial matters with Northwest Arctic Borough, other matters related to AIDEA, and matters that are subject to specific legal advice, which is subject to the attorney-client privilege. These matters, which if discussed publicly, could have an adverse effect on the finances of AIDEA, are matters that are attorney-client privileged, 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 herein are proper subjects for executive session under the Alaska Open Meetings Act, reference Alaska Statute 44.62.310, Sections (C)(1), (3), and (4), and the Alaska Public Records Act. Motion seconded by Mr. Solie.

The motion to enter into Executive Session passed with no objection.

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION: 5:12 p.m. Confidential and deliberative matters related to: Legal and financial matters with Northwest Arctic Borough. All of which is subject to the deliberative process privilege or other legal exemptions from the Open Meetings Act. Also, matters related to AIDEA subject to the attorney-client privilege will be discussed.

The Board reconvened its regular meeting at 8:45 p.m. Chair Kendig advised the public that the Board did not take any action on the matters discussed while in Executive Session. The session was limited to discussion of matters directly protected from public disclosure by the Open Meetings Act.

5. DIRECTOR COMMENTS

An unidentified speaker commented that it has been a long day. There were no other comments or questions.

6. BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Eledge noted that he has traveled to several places in Alaska, and Kotzebue is the most welcoming. On Sunday, he toured the powerplant, solar and wind turbine spread. He commented that the people in Kotzebue are treating him like family rather than like a stranger. Mr. Eledge expressed appreciation to the venue for being able to hold the meeting in Kotzebue. Seeing the infrastructure in-person and experiencing it makes a big difference compared to just seeing drawings on a map.

Commissioner Sande echoed the comments of Mr. Eledge.

Mr. Solie noted it was a wonderful day. He expressed appreciation for the Red Dog tour. He said he was proud to see a mine that has provided for the people of the area for years. The mine has provided environmental stewardship and has been safe. They have a solid culture and a big future. He commented on the good discussion with the Borough that will hopefully be beneficial for AIDEA, the State, and the community.

Chair Kendig echoed the previous comments, and added his expression of appreciation to staff for their coordination efforts and seamless planning of the travel and meetings.

7. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business of the Board, the AIDEA meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Ruaro", is written over a horizontal line.

Randy Ruaro, AIDEA Executive Director

Secretary