

Introduced by: Ogle
Date: 01/08/19
Action: Adopted
Vote: 9 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION 2019-006**

**A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH CLERK TO
ESTABLISH AN ELECTION STAKEHOLDERS GROUP TO EXPLORE
IMPLEMENTING OPTIONAL ELECTION MODELS TO BETTER SERVE KENAI
PENINSULA VOTERS AND RATIFYING A STATE OF ALASKA COMMISSION FOR
HUMAN RIGHTS CONCILIATION AGREEMENT**

WHEREAS, the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly (“assembly”) recognizes that while local elections directly impact the everyday lives of borough residents, voter turnout in borough and municipal elections is typically low and the current election process consumes considerable community resources; and

WHEREAS, the Kenai Peninsula Borough (“borough”) currently conducts regular elections both by traditional polling locations open only on election day and by mail for more remote precincts and through absentee in person voting sites; and

WHEREAS, the assembly supports increased voter participation by developing a sustainable election process that maximizes accessibility and inclusivity while conserving public resources; and

WHEREAS, the assembly supports establishing an Election Stakeholders Group (“Stakeholders Group”) for the purpose of evaluating and soliciting constituent comments about various election models to better serve borough and municipal voters; and

WHEREAS, the borough prioritizes accessibility for all voters to be able to exercise private and independent voting; and

WHEREAS, the borough further prioritizes security and accuracy in the administration of all elections;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:

SECTION 1. The Stakeholders Group is established to research ways to increase voter participation by developing sustainable election processes that maximize accessibility and inclusivity while conserving public resources.

SECTION 2. The Stakeholders Group is directed to explore all aspects of administering borough and municipal elections including the traditional polling site model and the by mail hybrid model currently being explored by the State of Alaska Election Policy Work Group which includes by-mail voting with vote centers available two weeks prior to the election.

SECTION 3. The Stakeholders Group members shall include a representative of the borough administration, one community representative qualified to represent the interests of persons with visual impairments, two members of the borough's canvas board, one member representing the League of Women Voters, the municipal managers and one council member from each municipality within the borough, and two assembly members.

SECTION 4. Staff support for the Stakeholders Group shall include representatives from the Kenai Peninsula Borough's Clerk's Office, the borough legal department, the borough IT and GIS departments and municipal clerks from the other municipalities within the borough.

SECTION 5. Appointments to the Stakeholders Group shall be appointed as follows:

- The borough assembly shall appoint two assembly members
- The borough mayor shall appoint the administration representative
- The borough clerk shall appoint two members from the canvas board, one member of the League of Women Voters and one visually impaired representative
- The city council of each participating city shall appoint one council member

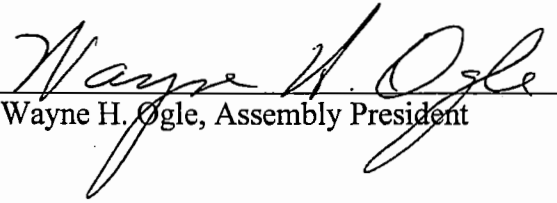
SECTION 6. The Stakeholders Group is subject to the Alaska Open Meetings Act and will use Robert's Rules of Order to conduct business.

SECTION 7. The Stakeholders Group shall have no authority to act on behalf of the assembly or administration or communicate on the borough's behalf other than to make recommendations to the assembly, city councils, and borough and city administration.

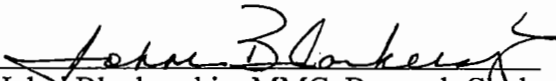
SECTION 8. The Stakeholders Group will report to the assembly no later than the first meeting in August of 2019.

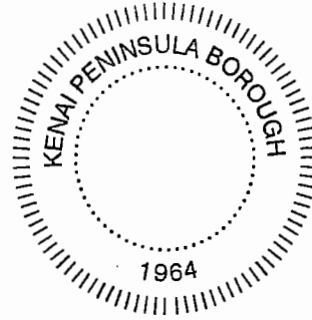
SECTION 9. The Stakeholders Group shall terminate on August 31, 2019, unless extended by the assembly.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 8TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2019.


Wayne H. Ogle, Assembly President

ATTEST:


John Blankenship, MMC, Borough Clerk



Yes: Bagley, Blakeley, Carpenter, Cooper, Dunne, Fischer, Hibbert, Smalley, Ogle
No: None
Absent: None