



LOCAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION

550 West 7TH Avenue, Suite 1640
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
PHONE: 907-269-4559

STATE OF ALASKA LOCAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION

Minutes of Meeting for December 16, 2025 at 10 a.m.
Via Zoom

Chair Larry Wood called the meeting to order at approximately 10:03 a.m. Commissioners Christopher Coutu, Ely Cyrus, Clayton Trotter and Clay Walker were present. Also present were DCRA staff Jedediah Smith, and Assistant Attorney General Gene Hickey.

Commissioner Walker moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Cyrus seconded the motion. **The motion was adopted 5-0.**

Commissioner Cyrus moved to adopt the minutes from the February 18, 2025 meeting. Commissioner Trotter seconded the motion. **The motion passed 5-0.**

Commissioner Walker moved to approve the minutes from the March 20, 2025 meeting. Commissioner Cyrus seconded the motion. **The motion passed 5-0.**

During public comment, Sally McLaughlin, from Gustavus, commented the annual report should include the fact that LBC staff recommended against approval of the Xunaa Borough petition.

Senator Mike Cronk said he didn't believe it is the Commission's job to advocate for more government and said the report should focus on the positive work groups in the unorganized borough which do without government funding, citing volunteer fire departments and private dumps. He also questioned how the section on school funding related to Local Boundary Commission's work.

LBC staff reported conducting an informal technical review for the Eaglexit group on their second draft petition to detach the Chugiak-Eagle River area from the Municipality of Anchorage. Eaglexit submitted a previous draft in 2023. The review should be completed by January.

Assistant Attorney General Gene Hickey reported on the status of the Xunaa Borough appeal pending in superior court. The appellate brief is due the following week.

Commissioner Trotter moved to adopt the draft annual report to the legislature. Commissioner Walker seconded the motion.

Chair Wood discussed several edits to the report, many of which were grammatical. Commissioner Walker moved to amend the report by accepting Chair Wood's suggested edits. Commissioner Cyrus seconded the motion. **The motion passed 5-0.**

The commission reviewed comments on the annual report from Pamela Goode.

Commissioner Cyrus questioned information related to a media article referenced in the report, and suggested the information was not used as a factual source.

Chair Wood suggested revising the section on the Xunaa Borough to reflect Sally McLaughlin's comments. He discussed Senator Cronk's comments and suggested a statewide discussion on the unorganized borough. He also suggested tabling the report to make further edits.

LBC staff stated the deadline to deliver the report to the Governor's Legislative Office on January 8. Chair Wood reviewed the section on school funding and explained why it was in the report.

Commissioner Coutu said section on school funding section did not relate to the work of the commission from the previous year. Commissioner Walker said school funding and the required local contribution are big disincentives to borough formation. Commissioner Trotter said he agreed with Commissioner Walker. Commissioner Coutu said as a new commissioner the section stood out, and suggested expanding the section to provide more context.

Commissioner Trotter moved to table the report until January 6 at 11 am to allow LBC staff to revise the draft. Commissioner Coutu seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Sara Chambers discussed Governor Dunleavy's Administrative Order 360 and the deliverables in the mandate.

Commissioner Walker moved to adjourn the meeting at approximately 11:42 a.m. Commissioner Cyrus seconded the motion. **The motion passed 5-0.**

APPROVED: January 26, 2026

LOCAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION

LARRY WOOD, CHAIR

ATTEST:

JEDEDIAH SMITH, STAFF