MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CITY OF KODIAK HELD WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 2011 IN THE BOROUGH CONFERENCE ROOM

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Mayor Carolyn L. Floyd called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. Councilmembers Patricia B. Branson, Josefina F. Rosales, Gabriel T. Saravia and John B. Whiddon were present and constituted a quorum. Councilmembers Charles E. Davidson and Thomas D. Walters were absent. City Manager Aimée Kniaziowski and City Clerk Debra L. Marlar were also present.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dave Kaplan thanked Bob Brodie for his outstanding work as a member of the Alaska Redistricting Board. He voiced opposition to a potential Senate district pairing of the Kodiak and Bethel districts.

III. ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD OPTIONS

Bob Brodie, via telephone, informed the Council that the Alaska Redistricting Board had not yet taken a position on final Senate district pairing recommendations and urged the City to provide its Senate pairing recommendation to the Board in writing within the next day. He further explained the Board is working under the constraints dictated by the Federal Voting Rights Act, which requires that a certain percentage of Alaska Native voters reside in each district. These requirements would be met if the newly proposed Kodiak House district is paired with the Bethel House district. Mr. Brodie acknowledged the Council's desire to be paired with Bristol Bay and the Aleutians, instead of Bethel, and stressed the importance of the Board also hearing from other municipalities about potential Senate pairings. He voiced concern that the required Native vote percentage may not be met with pairing Kodiak with Bristol Bay/Aleutians, but urged the Council to present its position to the Board.

Councilmembers thanked Mr. Brodie for his update and service on the Board. Councilmembers discussed potential Senate pairings for Kodiak. They noted that Kodiak and the Bristol Bay/Aleutians districts had stronger economic, cultural, and social similarities. The Council voiced that the differences between Kodiak and Bethel were numerous and were not conducive to an effective Senate district pairing. The Council voiced a consensus to send a letter to the Alaska Redistricting Board encouraging them to support a Senate district pairing between Kodiak and the Bristol Bay/Aleutians districts. They directed Manager Kniaziowski to draft a letter for the Mayor's signature.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Floyd adjourned the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

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ATTEST:

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Minutes Approved: June 23, 2011

