



# Alaska Film Incentive Review Commission

Meeting Minutes – August 20, 2014

The Alaska Film Incentive Review Commission (commission) met in Anchorage in the Atwood Building located at 550 W. 7th Ave, 18th Floor and in Juneau by video-conference in the State Office Building located at 333 W. Willoughby Ave, 11th Floor. The meeting of the commission was open to the public and members of the public were invited to testify by calling 1-800-315-6338 and using the code: 23011#. A notice of public meeting was posted on <http://aws.state.ak.us/OnlinePublicNotices/> on August 12, 2014.

## I. Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 10:05 am.

## II. Roll Call and Attendance

- The Commission Roll Call: In attendance in Anchorage were Commissioner Rodell - Department of Revenue (DOR), Commissioner Balash – Department of Natural Resources, Commissioner Blumer – Department of Labor and Workforce, and in Juneau Commissioner Bell – Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development. A quorum was established.
- In attendance in Anchorage were Kelly Mazzei – Executive Director of the Film Office, Matt Fonder – Director, Tax Division, Brandon Spanos – Deputy Director, Tax Division, Amy Franz – Film Office staff, and Heather Hintze – Reporter KTVA.
- In attendance in Juneau were Lacy Wilcox – DOR Commissioner's Office, and Todd Araujo – Attorney, Department of Law.
- No members of the public were in attendance by phone.

## III. Agenda

- Commissioner Blumer moved to approve the agenda and Commissioner Balash seconded. The agenda was approved.

## IV. Elect Chair

- Commissioner Bell moved that Commissioner Rodell serve as Commission Chair. Commissioner Balash and Commissioner Blumer seconded. Commissioner Rodell accepted.

## V. Policy Discussion

- Post-production expenditures: The general consensus is that post-production applications would be welcomed and evaluated the same as any other application in terms of merit and meeting the thresholds of being in the best interest of the state.
- Logo and commercials: The general consensus is that we must conform to what the statutes say. The statutes are clear under AS 44.25.125(i)(1) that in order to qualify for a film credit, the producer must include the logo and verbiage in the end credits of each film. AS 44.25.125(i)(2) as an alternative, still requires an advertisement. AS 44.25.125(j) is specific in that the department may not issue a tax credit that fails to meet the requirements under AS 44.25.125(i). Lastly, AS 44.25.190(2) defines "film" to include commercials.

- Roles and responsibilities of the film commission, film office and DOR: The film commission has very specific and limited responsibilities under the statute language, as a body, and not as individuals. The specific roles under AS 44.25.150(b) and (c) include to review and approve qualification applications and the final amounts of credits. The commission also employs the executive director and film office staff and provides general direction to the executive director. If a member of the public contacts a member of the commission with an issue, the commissioner should contact the executive director directly and the executive director shall address the film commission as a group.
- Future film commission meetings: The film commission will continue to hold monthly electronic meetings to conduct routine business that doesn't involve deliberation. The film commission will hold quarterly meetings, open to the public, as schedules allow. Tentatively, meetings are scheduled quarterly in advance beginning November 2014. Prior to each meeting, after confirmation of commissioner availability, meeting date, time and location, a public notice of agency meeting will be published.

## **VI. Public Testimony**

- No public testimony

## **VII. Executive Session**

## **VIII. Meeting Adjourned**

### Agenda

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL COMMISSION MEMBERS
3. ATTENDANCE
4. ELECT CHAIR
5. POLICY DISCUSSION
  - A. Post-production expenditures
  - B. Film office logo as it relates to commercial advertisements
  - C. Roles and responsibilities of the film commission, film office and DOR
  - D. Scheduling of future film commission meetings (Nov 2014, Feb/May/Aug/Nov 2015)
6. PUBLIC TESTIMONY
7. EXECUTIVE SESSION
  - A. To discuss confidential matters. See AS 44.62.310(c).
8. ADJOURNMENT