Alaska State Professional Teaching Practices Commission

550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 1236

Anchorage AK 99501

# ADOPTED MINUTES

# October 10, 2019

Call to Order**:** Maureen van Wagner called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m. There were 9 members present so there was a quorum.

Members Present: Chair Maureen van Wagner, Vice Chair Diane Kardash, Tony Graham, Kent Runion, Janine Todd, David DeVaughn (by phone), Tammy Van Wyhe, Chris Reitan, Lem Wheeles

Members Absent**:** None

Agenda Approval: Tony Graham moved and Diane Kardash seconded to approve the agenda as presented. The agenda was unanimously approved.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Approval of Minutes**:** It was moved by Tammy Van Wyhe and seconded by Janine Todd to approve the April 25, 2019 minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

## Executive Director’s Reports: Melody Mann delivered her reports in the following areas:

Financial Report: Melody presented the current financial report to the Commission. There have been some reductions in the travel budget for the current fiscal year, but all commissioners have been approved to travel to commission meetings. Travel to the NASDTEC PPI conference was not approved, but Melody will still attend. There were no questions.

Case Report: The commission was provided a summary of the cases the PTPC office has investigated since the last meeting. Melody explained her process for deciding when a case may be dismissed and the timeframe for making that determination. Melody gave a brief explanation of some of the closed cases. Melody also explained how she handles background checks and certifications. There was a question about open cases and potential hearings. Melody explained how investigations may work and how the timeframe may be impacted by other factors.

Activity Report: Melody gave a written report of her ongoing activities, including handling questions about the Commission and giving presentations. She has also fielded several complaints that are under the review of the commission. She has worked with these people to address these issues through the correct channels.

She has also worked to update the PTPC website and associated documents up to the current standard. The state standard is for websites and documents are now required to have accessible versions. This has been a lengthy process and is ongoing.

There was discussion about different types of professional practices trainings. Melody is exploring options about how ethics trainings may be adopted and distributed in the state.

DEED Report**:** Sandra Meredith was not available; Tammy Van reported in her place.

Tammy reported on a literacy grant recently awarded to the state. Money from that grant will be distributed to districts through a competitive process.

The state portal detailing district data that is available on the DEED website. This site provides a visual representation of district information and a more in-depth depth report about districts in Alaska. DEED would like any feedback on this new website. Maureen had several questions about how the scores were calculated and how they affect alternative schools.

School district information and designations under ESSA has also been reported. Tammy gave a breakdown of how Alaskan districts fall in those designations. DEED is reviewing how it works with school improvement plans.

On September 17, Sandra led a seminar on Alternative pathways for educators. The group included teachers, administrators, etc. The state school board hopes to discuss this at its spring meeting

Three finalists have been chosen for Alaska Teacher of the Year. Candidates were interviewed and the panel has chosen a winner? The results will be announced at the annual principals’ conference in October.

Tony Graham asked about the possibility of more detailed PEAKS reports. He suggested a report that gives information about the standards or benchmarks that a district or school is underperforming. Tammy said DEED is discussing different options for state assessments and how they may be implemented. She explained some of the process that must be gone through to adopt a new system.

DELIBERATIVE SESSION: Lem Wheeles moved and Tony Graham seconded to go into deliberative session as permitted by AS 44.62.310(d) for the purpose of making a decision in an adjudicatory matter. The motion passed unanimously. The commission moved into deliberative session at 10:20 am.

A motion was made by Diane Kardash and seconded by Tammy Van Wyhe to move out of Deliberative Session at 3:29 pm. The motion passed.

## Action Items

Professional Teaching Practices Commission Cases

PTPC Case 17-37: The Commission accepted the stipulated agreement ordering a warning with conditions to an educator who holds a Professional Teaching Certificate.

Moved: Kent Runion Second: Diane Kardash

AYE

Tony Graham

Kent Runion

Diane Kardash

Janine Todd

Maureen van Wagner

Tammy Van Wyhe

Lem Wheeles

David DeVaughn

Chris Reitan

NAY

Motion passed unanimously.

PTPC Case 19-05: The Commission accepted the stipulated agreement ordering a warning to an educator who holds an Initial Teaching Certificate.

Moved: Lem Wheeles Second: Janine Todd

AYE

Tony Graham

Kent Runion

Diane Kardash

Janine Todd

Maureen van Wagner

Tammy Van Wyhe

Lem Wheeles

David DeVaughn

Chris Reitan

NAY

Motion passed unanimously.

PTPC Case 19-18: The Commission rejected the stipulated agreement issuing a reprimand to an educator and directed staff to pursue a reprimand.

Moved: Kent Runion Second: Tammy Van Wyhe

AYE

Tony Graham

Kent Runion

Diane Kardash

Janine Todd

Maureen van Wagner

Tammy Van Wyhe

Lem Wheeles

David DeVaughn

Chris Reitan

NAY

Motion passed unanimously.

PTPC Case 19-34: The Commission accepted the stipulated agreement ordering a warning to an educator who holds a Professional Teaching Certificate.

Moved: Janine Todd Second: Lem Wheeles

AYE

Tony Graham

Kent Runion

Diane Kardash

Janine Todd

Maureen van Wagner

Tammy Van Wyhe

Lem Wheeles

David DeVaughn

Chris Reitan

NAY

Motion passed unanimously.

PTPC Case 19-50: The Commission rejected the stipulated agreement to an educator and directed staff to pursue a 1 year suspension.

Moved: Diane Kardash Second: Tammy Van Wyhe

AYE

Tony Graham

Kent Runion

Diane Kardash

Janine Todd

Maureen van Wagner

Tammy Van Wyhe

Lem Wheeles

David DeVaughn

Chris Reitan

NAY

Motion passed unanimously.

PTPC Case 20-05 and 20-06: The Commission accepted the surrender of the Initial Teaching Certificate of Shawn D. Hansen.

Moved: Chris Reitan Second: Diane Kardash

AYE

Tony Graham

Kent Runion

Diane Kardash

Janine Todd

Maureen van Wagner

Tammy Van Wyhe

Lem Wheeles

David DeVaughn

Chris Reitan

NAY

Motion passed unanimously.

Uncontested Hearing PTPC Case 19-08: The Commission accepted the Decision and Order of a 1 year suspension of the Initial Teaching Certificate of Peter J. Reba effective October 10, 2019.

Moved: Lem Wheeles Second: Diane Kardash

AYE

Tony Graham

Kent Runion

Diane Kardash

Janine Todd

Maureen van Wagner

Tammy Van Wyhe

Lem Wheeles

David DeVaughn

Chris Reitan

NAY

Motion passed unanimously.

Uncontested Hearing PTPC Case 19-09: The Commission accepted the Decision and Order of the revocation of the Administrative Teaching Certificate of Grant L. Kashatok.

Moved: Tony Graham Second: Tammy Van Wyhe

AYE

Tony Graham

Kent Runion

Diane Kardash

Janine Todd

Maureen van Wagner

Tammy Van Wyhe

Lem Wheeles

David DeVaughn

Chris Reitan

NAY

Motion passed unanimously.

Administrative Review PTPC Case 19-33: The Commission upheld staff’s decision to dismiss the case.

Moved: Tammy Van Wyhe Second: Chris Reitan

AYE

Tony Graham

Kent Runion

Diane Kardash

Janine Todd

Tammy Van Wyhe

Maureen van Wagner

David DeVaughn

NAY

Motion passed unanimously.

Administrative Review PTPC Case 19-43: The Commission upheld staff’s decision to dismiss the case.

Moved: Lem Wheeles Second: Kent Runion

AYE

Tony Graham

Kent Runion

Tammy Van Wyhe

Maureen van Wagner

NAY

RECUSE

Diane Kardash

Janine Todd

David DeVaughn

Motion passed unanimously.

Administrative Review PTPC Case 19-51: The Commission upheld staff’s decision to dismiss the case.

Moved: Chris Reitan Second: Tony Graham

AYE

Tony Graham

Kent Runion

Diane Kardash

Janine Todd

Tammy Van Wyhe

Maureen van Wagner

David DeVaughn

NAY

Motion passed unanimously.

Administrative Review PTPC Case 19-52: The Commission upheld staff’s decision to dismiss the case.

Moved: Diane Kardash Second: Janine Todd

AYE

Tony Graham

Kent Runion

Diane Kardash

Janine Todd

Tammy Van Wyhe

Maureen van Wagner

David DeVaughn

NAY

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to recess by Lem Wheeles and seconded by Tammy Van Wyhe. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was recessed at 3:40 pm and will resume Friday at 8:30 am.

## Maureen called the meeting back into order at 8:31 am

Members Present: Chair Maureen van Wagner, Vice Chair Diane Kardash, Tony Graham, Kent Runion, Janine Todd, Tammy Van Wyhe, Chris Reitan, Lem Wheeles

Members Absent**:** David DeVaughn (excused)

## Discussion Items

PTPC Website and Handbook for Alaskan Educators: Melody has updated the PTPC website to include a link to the NASDTEC Model Code of Ethics. She has also updated the policy brochure and made it accessible for the website. The section on Highly Qualified Teachers was removed from the brochure since it is no longer applicable. Diane Kardash asked about updates to other parts of the handbook, like teacher certification, and whether they should also be updated. Melody will look in teacher certification issues and what updates may be needed.

DELIBERATIVE SESSION: Tony Graham moved and Diane Kardash seconded to go into deliberative session as permitted by AS 44.62.310(d) for the purpose of making a decision in an adjudicatory matter. The motion passed unanimously. The commission moved into deliberative session at 8:47 am.

A motion was made by Lem Wheeles and seconded by Chris Reitan to move out of Deliberative Session at 9:27 am. The motion passed.

Case Language: Maureen questioned why language was different in stipulations. Melody explained the language sometimes changes based upon defendants. While the language may not be exactly the same the requirements for disclosure of sanctions remains the same whether it is listed or not. Lem Wheeles also mentioned the language of reporting to NASDTEC was different between cases. Melody explained any case, except warnings, will be reported to NASDTEC. Melody will work toward consistency in language between cases.

Commission Information: There was discussion about how commission information is disseminated to commissioners. Melody will look into state email addresses for commissioners when dealing with PTPC business.

DELIBERATIVE SESSION: Diane Kardash moved and Tony Graham seconded to go into deliberative session as permitted by AS 44.62.310(d) for the purpose of making a decision in an adjudicatory matter. The motion passed. The commission moved into deliberative session at 9:43 am.

A motion was made by Tony Graham and seconded by Diane Kardash to move out of Deliberative Session at 9:58 am. The motion passed.

Melody will send commission certain information ahead of future meetings and time will be taken at meetings to distribute any additional information.

Teacher Certification: Melody inquired about any questions she should direct to Teacher Certification. Janine Todd expressed appreciation for the timeliness of the department in issuing renewals. Tammy Van Wyhe reported the department is moving toward an all online application process.

Future Meeting Dates: The Winter meeting will be held January 30-31, 2020. The Spring meeting will be held April 23-24, 2020.

Adjournment: Chris Reitan moved and Tammy Van Wyhe seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved. Maureen van Wagner adjourned the meeting at 10:05 am.

Submitted by,

Kent Runion

October 11, 2019