

Mike Dunleavy, Governor

ALASKA STATE
PROFESSIONAL TEACHING PRACTICES COMMISSION
ADOPTED Minutes – October 6-7, 2025

The Alaska State Professional Teaching Practices Commission (PTPC) will meet October 6-7, 2025.

A. The Commission will virtually meet in General Session on Monday and Tuesday October 6th and 7th, from 8:30 until 4:30 or until business is concluded.

GENERAL SESSION

- Call to Order – Emma Melkerson 8:32 am
- Roll Call
 - Emma Melkerson
 - Deborah Riddle
 - Michael Robbins
 - Stephanie Green
 - Kathryn Baird
 - Angela Alston
 - Heidi Barnes
 - Patrick Frymark not yet present- (joined at 8:52am)
- Quorum established
- Melody Mann present, no additional visitors at this time
- Introductions/Questions
- Motion to approve agenda - Michael Robbins, 2nd – Deborah Riddle
 - Emma Melkerson – add discussion item: elect new secretary
 - Unanimous approval
 - Stephanie Green appointed interim secretary
- Public Comment—No one present for public comment. Closed

[NOTE: Some of the following agenda items may be taken out of order.]

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- April 11-12, 2025, meeting
 - Michael Robbins moved to approve April 11-12, 2025 minutes, Kathryn Baird 2nd.
 - Unanimous approval.
- June 5, 2025, special meeting
 - Deborah Riddle moved to approve June 5, 2025 minutes, Angela Alston 2nd.
 - Unanimous approval

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

- Activity Report -received.
 - Discussion – Commission members would like to seek approval to attend trainings
 - Michael Robbins will submit the request for approval.
- Financial Report – received.
- Case Report – received.

EXECUTIVE/DELIBERATIVE SESSION

AS 44.62.310 (b) If permitted subjects are to be discussed at a meeting in executive session, the meeting must first be convened as a public meeting and the question of holding an executive session to discuss matters that are listed in (c) of this section shall be determined by a majority vote of the governmental body. The motion to convene in executive session must clearly and with specificity describe the subject of the proposed executive session without defeating the purpose of addressing the subject in private. Subjects may not be considered at the executive session except those mentioned in the motion calling for the executive session unless auxiliary to the main question. Action may not be taken at an executive session, except to give direction to an attorney or labor negotiator regarding the handling of a specific legal matter or pending labor negotiations.

AS 44.62.310 (d) a governmental body performing a judicial or quasi-judicial function when holding a meeting solely to make a decision in an adjudicatory proceeding.

This is Kathryn Baird. I move to enter into executive/deliberative session as outlined in AS44.62.310(b) and (d). 2nd Heidi Barnes - Unanimous approval, 9:28am.

PTPC staff left the room and recording was stopped.

This is Patrick Frymark. I move to leave executive/deliberative session as outlined in AS44.62.310(b) and (d). 2:03pm 2nd: Michael Robbins - Unanimous approval

This is Katherine Baird. In the matter of PTPC Case **24-03**, I move that the Commission the **accepts Decision and Order for the revocation for life** of the Professional Teaching Certificate of Nathaniel E. Erfurth. 2nd Patrick Frymark.

- Roll Call Vote:
 - Angela Alston – yes
 - Kathryn Baird - yes
 - Heidi Barnes - yes
 - Patrick Frymark - yes
 - Stephanie Green - yes
 - Emma Melkerson - yes
 - Deborah Riddle - yes
 - Michael Robbins – yes
- 8-0 Motion Carries.

This is Angela Alston. In the matter of PTPC Case **24-35**, I move that the Commission **accepts the Decision and Order of a reprimand** of the Professional Teaching and Administrative Certificates of April D. Hoy. 2nd Heidi Barnes

- Roll Call Vote:
 - Angela Alston – yes
 - Kathryn Baird - yes
 - Heidi Barnes - yes
 - Patrick Frymark - yes
 - Stephanie Green - yes
 - Emma Melkerson - yes
 - Deborah Riddle - yes
 - Michael Robbins – yes
- 8-0 Motion Carries.

This is Heidi Barnes. In the matter of PTPC Case **25-04**, I move that the Commission **accepts the Decision and Order of a one-year suspension effective July 10, 2024**, of the Professional Teaching Certificate of Sandra Graves. 2nd Stephanie Green.

- Roll Call Vote:
 - Angela Alston – yes
 - Kathryn Baird - yes
 - Heidi Barnes - yes
 - Patrick Frymark - yes
 - Stephanie Green - yes
 - Emma Melkerson - yes
 - Deborah Riddle - yes
 - Michael Robbins – yes
- 8-0 Motion Carries

This is Kathryn Baird. In the matter of PTPC Case **25-09**, I move that the Commission **accepts the stipulation of a one-year suspension effective September 4, 2024**, of the Professional Teaching Certificate of Marian D. Ritter. 2nd Patrick Frymark.

- Roll Call Vote:
 - Angela Alston – yes
 - Kathryn Baird - yes
 - Heidi Barnes - yes
 - Patrick Frymark - yes
 - Stephanie Green - yes
 - Emma Melkerson - yes
 - Deborah Riddle - yes
 - Michael Robbins – yes
- 8-0 Motion carries.

This is Kathryn Baird. In the matter of PTPC Case **25-13**, I move that the Commission **accepts the stipulation of a one-year suspension effective September 26, 2024**, of the Professional Teaching Certificate of Michelle Lickfield. 2nd Deborah Riddle.

- Roll Call Vote:
 - Angela Alston – yes

- Kathryn Baird - yes
 - Heidi Barnes - yes
 - Patrick Frymark - yes
 - Stephanie Green - yes
 - Emma Melkerson - yes
 - Deborah Riddle - yes
 - Michael Robbins – yes
- 8-0 Motion carries.

This is Angela Alston. In the matter of PTPC Case **25-20**, I move that the Commission dismisses the stipulation of an educator. 2nd Patrick Frymark.

- Roll Call Vote:
 - Angela Alston – yes
 - Kathryn Baird - yes
 - Heidi Barnes - no
 - Patrick Frymark - yes
 - Stephanie Green - no
 - Emma Melkerson - yes
 - Deborah Riddle - yes
 - Michael Robbins – no
- 5-3 Motion carries.

This is Patrick Frymark. In the matter of PTPC Case **25-22**, I move that the Commission **accepts the stipulation of a one-year suspension effective December 21, 2024**, of the Initial Teaching Certificate of Julie J Cowles. 2nd Heidi Barnes.

- Roll Call Vote:
 - Angela Alston – yes
 - Kathryn Baird - yes
 - Heidi Barnes - yes
 - Patrick Frymark - yes
 - Stephanie Green - yes
 - Emma Melkerson - yes
 - Deborah Riddle - yes
 - Michael Robbins – yes
- 8-0 Motion carries.

This is Kathryn Baird. In the matter of PTPC Case **25-23**, I move that the Commission **accepts the Decision and Order of a one-year suspension effective December 21, 2024**, of the Provisional Certificate of Michael A Kusmitch. 2nd Deborah Riddle.

- Roll Call Vote:
 - Angela Alston – yes
 - Kathryn Baird - yes
 - Heidi Barnes - yes
 - Patrick Frymark - yes
 - Stephanie Green - yes
 - Emma Melkerson - yes
 - Deborah Riddle - yes
 - Michael Robbins – yes
- 8-0 Motion carries.

This is Stephanie Green. In the matter of PTPC Case **25-24**, I move that the Commission **accepts the stipulation of a one-year suspension effective November 26, 2024**, of the Professional Teaching Certificate of Nikolas V. McGraw. 2nd Michael Robbins. (Kathryn Baird was recused during discussion and abstained from voting)

- Roll Call Vote:
 - Angela Alston – yes
 - Kathryn Baird – abstained
 - Heidi Barnes - yes
 - Patrick Frymark - yes
 - Stephanie Green - yes
 - Emma Melkerson - yes
 - Deborah Riddle - yes
 - Michael Robbins – yes
- 7-0 motion carries.

This is Stephanie Green. In the matter of PTPC Case **25-28**, I move that the Commission **accepts the stipulation of a one-year suspension effective January 7, 2025**, of the Emergency Teaching Certificate of Devin E. Lawrence. 2nd Heidi Barnes.

- Roll Call Vote:
 - Angela Alston – yes
 - Kathryn Baird - yes
 - Heidi Barnes - yes
 - Patrick Frymark - yes
 - Stephanie Green - yes
 - Emma Melkerson - yes
 - Deborah Riddle - yes
 - Michael Robbins – yes
- 8-0 Motion carries.

This is Kathryn Baird. In the matter of the denial of a complaint, I move that the Commission **overturns the denial of a complaint**. 2nd Patrick Frymark.

- Roll Call Vote:
 - Angela Alston – yes
 - Kathryn Baird - yes
 - Heidi Barnes - yes
 - Patrick Frymark - yes
 - Stephanie Green - yes
 - Emma Melkerson - yes
 - Deborah Riddle - yes
 - Michael Robbins – yes
- 8-0 Motion carries.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- NCAE/PPI update
 - Melody Mann was nominated as new Vice Chair.

- Revisions to the Code of Ethics of the Education Profession
 - Model language for the possible addition of “grooming” regulation and definition provided.

----- Recess 3:08pm until 9:30am Tuesday October 7th, 2025 -----

GENERAL SESSION

- Call to Order – Emma Melkerson 9:35 am
- Roll Call
 - Emma Melkerson
 - Deborah Riddle
 - Michael Robbins – not yet present (joined at 10:05)
 - Stephanie Green
 - Kathryn Baird
 - Angela Alston
 - Heidi Barnes
 - Patrick Frymark
- Quorum established
- Melody Mann present, no additional visitors at this time

EXECUTIVE/DELIBERATIVE SESSION

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AS 44.62.310 (d) a governmental body performing a judicial or quasi-judicial function when holding a meeting solely to make a decision in an adjudicatory proceeding.

This is Patrick Frymark. I move to enter into executive/deliberative session as outlined in AS44.62.310(b) and (d). 2nd Kathryn Baird. Unanimous

Complete Annual Goal Review for Executive Director Melody Mann.

This is Deb Riddle. I move to leave executive/deliberative session as outlined in AS44.62.310(b) and (d). 12:56 pm. 2nd Kathryn Baird. Unanimous approval.

ACTION ITEMS

- Election of new secretary
 - This is Angie Alston, I nominate Kathryn Baird as secretary of commission.
 - This is Kathryn Baird, I accept.
 - Roll Call Vote:
 - Angela Alston – yes
 - Kathryn Baird - yes
 - Heidi Barnes - yes
 - Patrick Frymark - yes
 - Stephanie Green - yes
 - Emma Melkerson - yes
 - Deborah Riddle - yes
 - Michael Robbins – yes

DEED REPORT – Colleen Walker, Teacher Certification Administrator, will join at 1:00
Tuesday, October 7.- Received

- Current processing time: 4-5 weeks
- Now hiring – Lead teacher certification analyst
- Teacher registered apprentice program has grown to 7 districts, Principal registered apprentice program coming soon
- Praxis List is updated, and Pearson Flex offerings have been added
- Refer to AERRC for J1 and HB1 Visa educators

ADJOURNMENT

This is Michael Robbins. I move to adjourn. 2nd Stephanie Green 1:32 pm. Unanimous.