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Meeting ID: 891 9749 5682
Passcode: SEC2026

**Southeast Conference
Board of Directors**

Katie Koester, President

Gracia O'Connell, 1st VP

Liz Cabrera, 2nd VP

Alec Mesdag, Treasurer

KC Hostetler, Secretary

Zakary Kirkpatrick,
Past President

Jason Custer

Mark Scheer

Michael Ganey

Emily Deach

Peter Amylon

Richard Peterson



**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP BUSINESS MEETING
AGENDA FOR OCTOBER 1, 2026- 8:35 AM
TED FERRY CIVIC CENTER, KETCHIKAN, AK**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call – President Katie Koester
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Minutes from the 2025 Annual Meeting
6. Announce Elected Board Members for 2026
 - a. Approve Ballot Results
 - b. President Elect Gracia O'Connell takes office
 - c. Dismiss Outgoing and Seat Incoming Board Members
7. Action Items
 - a. Election of Officers (1st VP, 2nd VP)
 - b. Proposed Bylaws Amendment
 - c. Vote on Location of 2027 Annual Meeting
September 28-30, 2027 in Sitka (proposed)
8. Member Recommendations to the Board
9. Information and Announcements
 - a. 2027 Mid-Session Summit – February 9-11
10. Membership Remarks
11. Adjournment, President Gracia O'Connell

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Case Sensitive Password: SEC



**2025 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
ROOTED IN RESILIENCE
SEPTEMBER 18, 2025 AT 8:35AM**

MINUTES

Southeast Conference

Board of Directors

Katie Koester, President

Gracia O'Connell, 1st VP

Liz Cabrera, 2nd VP

Alec Mesdag, Treasurer

Zakary Kirkpatrick,
Past President

KC Hostetler

Chelsea Goucher

Jason Custer

Mark Scheer

Michael Ganey

Emily Deach

Peter Amylon

Call or order. At 8:39am the SEC Annual Membership Meeting was called to order by President Zak Kirkpatrick.

Roll Call: Board Members: Zak Kirkpatrick, Katie Koester, Jason Custer, Michael Ganey, Liz Cornejo, Markos Scheer, Alec Mesdag. More than 45 additional members including Richard Harney, Andi Story, Sherry Artzen, John Leach, Steve Eisenbeize, Kasey Smith, Milo Booth, Dan Kelly, Ron Curtis, Abby Bramburg, Kelly Moore, Deborah Hayden, Bianca Carpeniti, Rachel Roy, Nathan Green, Robert Sievertson, Sally McLaughlin, Joel Jackson. **Staff:** Dan Lesh, Darrin Snyder, Abigail Bromberger, Sara Shutt, Sarah Woodruff, Jamey Young, Aaron Morrison, Robert Venables, Kaitlyn Jared.

Approval of Agenda. Motion/Second by Mesdag/Sheer, passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes. Motion/Second by Mesdag/Sheer, passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report. Presented by Treasurer Alec Mesdag. Reports that the organization has increased its budget over the last few years and particularly with the large federal grants. We have now completed 2 federal audits successfully with zero material findings, thanks to the help of CFO Stephanie Cameron. Despite a couple of uncertain moments when approved federal funding was "paused", the organization has done very well this year. Membership is welcome to reach out with any questions.

Announce Elected 2025 Board Members

Election results. Winners of the 2025 ballot are as follows: Public Northern Region is Emily Deach, Private Northern Region is Michael Ganey, Private Southern Region is Mark Scheer, and Public Southern Region is Peter Amylon. Motion/Second by Scheer/Mesdag, passed unanimously.

Zak Kirkpatrick, now Past President, excused himself from chairing the meeting and Katie Koester, now President took over. President Koester thanked Mr. Kirkpatrick for his service as President and presented him with a plaque honoring his service on the board. She acknowledged the dedication and service that the outgoing board members have given to this organization, their communities, and the region; Lacey Simpson, Dennis Gray Jr., and Elizabeth Cornejo will be missed, and we thank you for all you do and will continue to do. President Koester welcomed the newly elected board members present to the table, Emily Deach and Michael Ganey, and excused the outgoing members.

Action Items.

Election of Officers. Motion/Second by Scheer/Mesdag, passed unanimously approving Gracia O’Connell as 1nd VP. Motion/Second by Mesdag/Scheer, passed unanimously approving Liz Cabrera as 2nd VP.

Location of 2026 Annual Meeting – Sept. 22-24, 2026 Ketchikan, AK. Mayor Severson of Ketchikan invited Southeast Conference to host the 2026 Annual Meeting in Ketchikan, Alaska. Motion/Second by Deach/Scheer, passed unanimously.

Resolution 26-02 Sea Otter Resolution. Motion/Second by Mesdag/Scheer. Following membership comments Resolution 26-02 passed by majority approval with one (1) no vote.

Member Recommendations to the Board.

- Request to visit other communities for hosting meetings; Ketchikan and Sitka are wonderful but let’s spread the knowledge and fun. (SEC will work to promote meetings and workshop events within the region, but with 300+ attendees, the smaller communities do not have the capacity at this time to host the Annual Meeting)
- SEC should have more committee meetings should be convened that are focused on manufacturing and technology, things that can diversify our economy.

Information & Announcements.

2026 Mid-Session Summit. Feb 10-12, 2026, in Juneau, Alaska.

Membership Remarks. None provided at this time.

Adjournment. President Koester adjourned the meeting at 9:09am.