



League of Women Voters of Alaska

Judy Andree, President
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Second Call to Convention-- April 17, 2021

March 15, 2021

Dear League Members,

We are holding our 2021 State Convention via ZOOM, as we did last year given the COVID-19 pandemic. By this time, we are all familiar with the ZOOM platform. My immediate concern continues to be the health and well-being of members, their families, and society as a whole, and the LWVAK Board agreed to hold the meeting via ZOOM.

We will attempt to handle the basic business of the State Convention as efficiently as possible. If you are a voting delegate, you should check the LWVAK website at lwvalaska.org, click on Convention at the top of the page, and read the material there in advance of the ZOOM meeting on **Saturday, April 17 at 9 a.m.** We will all need to read through this material before the Convention so that we may vote officially as efficiently as possible. There will be time for questions on each item.

Our LWVUS liaison, Leah Edward, has agreed to join us early Saturday morning with some updates from the National League. In addition, we will hear from Caren Robinson, our legislative liaison, with a report on important issues facing the Legislature. Jason Grenn of Alaskans for Better Elections will talk with us about educating the public on ranked choice voting prior to the next election. And Carolyn Brown will speak briefly on the HCR4US (Health Care Reform for the US).

You will need to register by sending an email as directed on the last page of this Second Call so that we can send you the email invite. There is no fee required and the convention meeting is open to all members who wish to attend.

I encourage all local League members to follow the LWVAK Facebook page as well as the local League Facebook pages. This is one way we can keep in touch across the vast Alaskan landscape.

If you have any questions, please contact me: Judy Andree, jagster42@gmail.com.

Judy Andree, President

Proposed FY 2021-2022 Program

The League of Women Voters of Alaska recommends the following proposed program for consideration at Convention:

1. Retain the existing positions:

GOVERNMENT:

1. Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure (2010): Supports public disclosure of campaign contributions of money, goods, or services as well as financial interests of public officials, both elected and appointed, to an independent commission with responsibility for monitoring and enforcement. Favors limitations on the length of political campaigns, time allowed for fundraising, amount of contributions, and the amount of expenditures.

2. Capital Budget Process (1985): Supports realistic budget preparation, clear project definition, use of standardized criteria for determination of need, and public involvement in the capital budget process.

3. Constitution - Amending the Alaska Constitution by Initiative (1998): Opposes amending the Alaska Constitution by initiative. The Constitution should not attempt to address the everyday problems of running government. Laws and regulations more appropriately address such issues.

4. Constitutional Convention (1982, reviewed 2010): Opposes a constitutional convention at this time. *(Note: position was reaffirmed in 2002 via member concurrence and action was taken in opposition to the ballot question "Shall there be a constitutional convention?" Ballot question was defeated.)*

5. Legislative Process and Procedures (1993) Supports a legislative system that is open, responsive, representative, accessible, efficient, and accountable, with clearly delineated procedures.

6. Statutory Initiative Process in Alaska (2001): Supports the current process with recommendations for tightening requirements.

7. Voter Registration (2014): Supports a simple, efficient voter registration system that encourages maximum interest and participation while minimizing fraudulent voting practices.

NATURAL RESOURCES:

8. Energy (2013) Favors the wise use and development of a variety of energy sources to ensure a sustainable long-term cultural, environmental, and economic future for Alaska and all Alaskans. Energy conservation and efficiency should be maximized through use of public education, energy research and the development of new energy techniques.

9. Land Disposal (1980): Supports a land disposal program within specific parameters, with continued emphasis on requiring land inventories, comprehensive land use plans, and public involvement and which allows for a variety of land uses.

10. Land Use (1985): Supports good land use planning by comprehensive plans, with coordination and cooperation among state, federal, municipal, and private landowners, with placement of responsibility for making and enforcing land use decisions on the lowest level of government immediately concerned with the land in question.

SOCIAL POLICY:

11. Career Education in Schools (2010): Supports equal opportunities and respect for all students. Basic curricula should include problem-solving skills, interpersonal communications and tolerance skills and provide opportunities for specific technical training and career experience in addition to academic skills.

12. Child Care and Early Childhood Education (Revised 2018): Supports state and local policies, legislation and programs committed to safe, nurturing care which is a societal as well as a family responsibility, are responsive to diverse needs of children and their families available to all socio-economic groups on an ability to pay basis, and paid parental leave as highly desirable.

13. Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (2018): All individuals have the right to live in a fear-free environment, and to be safe from sexual assault, physical abuse, neglect; and psychological and emotional abuse, including busying and stalking.. A special degree of protection is needed for vulnerable, dependent people of any age.

14. Youth and Adolescent Needs (2011): Supports comprehensive policies and services for youth. These services should be coordinated between all public and private agencies concerned with homelessness, education, vocational advancement, interpersonal relationships, mental and physical health, family stability, and peer empowerment.

15. Landlord-Tenant Relationships (1994, updated 2020): Supports programs and policies to provide equal opportunity for access to housing without discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national origins, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression. Supports an adequate supply of housing for low-income families. A uniform landlord-tenant act which specifies tenants' rights and landlord/tenant obligations is important to achieving this goal.

16. School Finance (2016): The State has the major responsibility for setting minimum education standards and for financing elementary and secondary schools in Alaska. However, local school districts in organized and unorganized boroughs should be required to contribute a percentage of the financial support and should have the major responsibility for decision making in the expenditure of funds. Public monies should NOT support student vouchers or Educational Savings Accounts (ESA's) that are allocated to private or for-profit schools or Educational Management Organizations (EMO's).

17. Election Processes and Procedures (2015, 2019): Supports elections that are free, fair, and accessible to all eligible voters and voting systems that are secure, accurate, recountable, and transparent. It speaks to Redistricting, Methods of Voting, Felon Rights, Voter ID Requirement at Polls, Voter Information, and Voting Security.

18. Judicial Appointments (2016): Strongly supports a judicial appointment and retention process that is merit-based, transparent, representative of and responsive to the public and to the Constitutions of Alaska and the U.S. **Emphasis**

2. Continue review/revision of the following positions:

- 1. Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure (2010). Review for addition of any needed language to parallel Ballot Measure #2
- 4. Constitutional Convention (2010): Review before the 2022 vote.
- 5. Legislative Process and Procedures (1993) Note: Cheryl Jebe is working on this.
- 7. Voter Registration (2014): Review for inclusion of PFD registration language
- 17. Election Processes and Procedures (2015, 2019): Review for inclusion of ranked choice voting language

3. Recommended Study: New Comprehensive Position of Education

with this focus statement taken from work already done by Tanana Valley members with Juneau member Peg Cowan and Sue Sherif have done preliminary work on this. The members of LWVAK should create a position on public education that does the following:

- Supports a comprehensive pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade public education in the Alaska system that meets the needs of individual students, challenges all students to reach their highest potential, develops patterns of lifelong learning and responsible citizenship. We support improvements in PreK-12 education to provide both equitable and sufficient opportunities to earn for all students.
- Supports a robust and varied curriculum across all grade levels that includes STEM, career education, civics, and liberal arts.
- Supports adequate funding of the University of Alaska, including student financial aid, that is stable, predictable, sustainable, and timely in order to provide a comprehensive system of public higher education that serves the personal, professional, and occupational goals of all adult Alaskans and advances the social, economic, and civic needs of the state.

Note: Article XII, Section 3(d):

● d. Program items recommended by local Leagues prior to the convention, but not recommended by the state board, and changes to or new program items proposed by the state board or a local League at the convention may be considered and adopted by the convention, provided that they are (1) introduced for consideration by a two-thirds (2/3) vote at the first session of the convention, and (2) following affirmative consideration, voted on at a following session of the convention with a majority vote required for adoption. Section

4. Emphasis Areas: (for discussion)

- Education on Ballot Measure #2 and voting process in general
- Protection of Voting Rights/John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act
- Climate Change
- Health Care
- Protect Judicial/Take action on LWVAK Judicial Appointment & Retention
- Constitutional Convention
- Redistricting
- Equal Rights Amendment

Resolutions: Resolutions to be presented for action at LWVAK conventions must be in writing and made available to convention delegates before convening of the convention. If any are submitted, they will be included in the emails covering convention business. There are procedures in place for “last-minutes issues that arise.” Send proposed resolutions to Judy Andree, jagster42@gmail.com.

Proposed Per Member Payment

\$10.00 per member
\$5.00 per second member of the household
\$ -0- Students
\$35.00 Member at Large

Proposed Slate of Officers and Directors – FY 2021-2022

President:	Judy Andree (Jnu)	1 year term expiring 2022
Vice President	Shari George (TV)	1 year term expiring 2022
Treasurer:	Shirley Pittz (Anc)	2 year term expiring 2023
Past President :	Pat Redmond (Anc)	1 year term expiring 2022
Director:	Cathleen Rolph (CKP)	2 year term expiring 2023
Director:	Gayle Garrigues (TV)	2 year term expiring 2023

Nominating Committee:

Chair:	Phyllis Tugman-Alexander	1 year term expiring 2021
Member:	Lois Pillifant	1 year term expiring 2021
	3 rd member appointed by the Board	1 year term

Continuing Board Members and Officers:

Secretary:	Sandra Garity (CKP)	2 year term expiring 2022
Director:	Carrie Henson (CKP)	2 year term expiring 2022
Director:	Marianne Mills (Jnu)	2 year term expiring 2022

Proposed Budget FY 2021-2022

The proposed budget is attached.



**Convention Registration for State Convention
on April 17, 2021**

**We will be holding our 2021 Convention via
ZOOM as we did in 2020. All League members are invited. In order to**

receive a ZOOM invite, you will need to send the following information in an email to both Judy Andree (jagster42@gmail.com) and Carrie Henson (courageoustiger@gmail.com).

Name: _____ **League:** _____

Daytime phone: _____ **Mobile:** _____

Email: _____

***Be sure to indicate one of the following:

_____ I am an official convention delegate.

_____ I am a non-voting member/visitor.

Materials such as agenda, etc. will be available at this website where they can be downloaded and printed: www.lwvkalaska.org. Find the Convention button at the top of the home page. **Please save this Second Call for the pertinent information on voting items.**

For questions, please contact Judy Andree at jagster42@gmail.com or 907-780-6767 (h) or 907-321-1559 (c).

There is no registration fee required.

Return this info in an email to both Judy Andree at jagster42@gmail.com and to Carrie Henson at courageoustiger@gmail.com. **Use the heading Convention 2021.**

We look forward to seeing you at Convention!