



Mead Treadwell was elected as Alaska's lieutenant governor in November 2010. He is committed to helping Governor Sean Parnell strengthen Alaska's economy by filling the TransAlaska Pipeline, facilitating a gas pipeline, bringing affordable energy to Alaskans and standing up to the federal government to ensure access to our natural resources. On a national level, he has been influential in bringing about a national missile defense system, in shaping U.S. Arctic policy and in establishing circumpolar cooperation.

Lt. Governor Treadwell is recognized as one of the world's Arctic policy experts. Treadwell was appointed to the United States Arctic Research Commission by President George W. Bush in 2001 and designated by the president as the commission's chair in 2006. Under his leadership, a new United States Arctic policy was developed and adopted by President Bush and is now being implemented by the current administration.



Susan Bell was appointed Commissioner of the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development in July 2010. She serves as vice chair of the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA) and the Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) board of directors, as state co-chair of the federal Denali Commission, and as a member of the Alaska Railroad board of directors.

She has held numerous senior-level business management and marketing positions in Alaska. In her recent role as a Special Assistant to the Governor, she contributed to several initiatives that enhanced small business financing, increased marketing for Alaska's industries, and provided tax relief. As a principal for the research and consulting firm McDowell Group, Susan managed a wide array of economic and community development projects. In her previous role as a Vice President for Goldbelt, she was responsible for managing nearly a dozen separate business ventures.



Roberta Graham is the Executive Vice President of Alaska Publishing, parent company of Alaska Dispatch News. Previously, she served as the Assistant Commissioner to the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development and a member of the Broadband Task Force.

The former CEO of Bernholz & Graham, a public relations and public policy firm with offices in Alaska and New York, she is a senior fellow at the Institute of the North specializing in Arctic public diplomacy and strategic communications issues, and she works on public diplomacy issues at the Edward R. Murrow Center for Public Diplomacy at the Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy / Tufts University. She earned a master's degree in international relations and public diplomacy from The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University, and a bachelor's degree in journalism from Michigan State University.



Bill Popp has spent more than 40 years in both the Alaska private and public sectors. As President and CEO of the Anchorage Economic Development Corporation, he sets the strategic direction in marketing Anchorage and Alaska to companies and global industries considering Anchorage as a place in which to do business and assists local businesses looking to expand both within Anchorage and Alaska as well as Lower 48 and international markets.

Popp is a past elected and appointed municipal government official for the Kenai Peninsula Borough and is currently Chairman of the Governor's Broadband Task Force and a board member of the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce, Visit Anchorage, Anchorage Downtown Partnership, the Alaska Partnership for Economic Development and Anchorage Concert Association. Popp is also a member of the Alaska Command (ALCOM) Civilian Advisory Board. He is the Co-Chair of the 49th State Angel Fund Advisory Committee and a member of the leadership team for the United Way 90% by 2020 initiative.



Jim Bates has been connecting with diverse audiences globally for over 20 years as a technical trainer, senior instructor, motivational speaker, collegiate educator, and as mentor and coach. He is a lifelong Alaskan family man with business experience spanning from Metlakatla on the panhandle to the Aluetian Islands, above the Arctic Circle and everywhere in between. He also has international experience including Africa and Asia.

A highly motivated and experienced Executive/Consultant who continuously delights customers by delivering high value solutions to everyday business challenges, Mr. Bates currently serves as the Director of Enterprise Technology

Services for the State of Alaska and represents our State as its' Chief Information Officer. Jim's diverse career spans 34 years and includes Business Administration and Management, Information Technology, and Consulting including many successful F500 engagements.



Chris Brown presently serves as the Director of Business Planning and Management for AT&T Alaska. Chris has over 35 years of telecom experience, including senior and executive management positions in the interexchange, competitive local, international, and wireless applications sectors, in technical, marketing, strategy, finance and operational departments.

Mr. Brown holds a BSEE from the University of South Florida in Tampa, and earned an MBA from Emory University in Atlanta. He has served on the Broadband Task Force as Technical Committee chairman since its inception. Mr. Brown is past chairman of the Board of Directors of the Anchorage

Economic Development Corporation, and currently serves on the Alaska Commission on Judicial Conduct. Chris, his wife Margaret and son Matthew have resided in Anchorage since 2004.



As Chief Policy Counsel, Tom Koutsky provides vision and leadership for Connected Nation's research and policy initiatives. Tom joined Connected Nation from the Federal Communications Commission where he served as a senior attorney advisor and was a member of the team that wrote the first U.S. National Broadband Plan. Prior to his involvement with the National Broadband Plan, Koutsky served as chair of the FCC's North American Numbering Council. Koutsky also was a resident scholar for the Phoenix Center for Advanced Legal and Economic Public Policy Studies, a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) think tank that focused on developing and advancing pro-entry telecommunications and video policies.

Koutsky also previously served in these roles in Washington DC: vice president, Law and Public Policy, for Z-Tel Communications, Inc.; assistant general counsel for Covad Communications Company; senior attorney, Competition Division, Office of the General Counsel, Cable for the FCC; and associate attorney for Steptoe and Johnson.