

ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH TRUST AUTHORITY

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

April 20, 2017

2:33 p.m.

Taken at:

Alaska Mental Health Authority  
3745 Community Park Loop, Suite 120  
Anchorage, Alaska 99508

**OFFICIAL MINUTES**

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Trustees present:

Larry Norene, Chair  
Carlton Smith  
Laraine Derr (via Speakerphone)  
Jerome Selby  
Paula Easley  
Russ Webb  
Mary Jane Michael

Trust staff present:

Greg Jones  
Jeff Jessee  
Steve Williams  
Miri Smith-Coolidge  
Valette Keller  
Carley Lawrence  
Amanda Lofgren  
Mike Baldwin  
Luke Lind  
Katie Baldwin-Johnson  
Heidi Wailand  
Carrie Predeger

Trust Land Office present:

John Morrison  
Wyn Menefee  
Aaron O'Quinn

Also participating:

Kathy Craft; Chris Cooke; Randall Burns; Heather Ireland; Jacqueline Bergstrom; Alan Green;  
DeWayne Harris; Francine Harbour (via Speakerphone); Elaine Dahlgren; Paul Jones (via

Speakerphone); Trina Sears (via Speakerphone); Gary Wolf (via Speakerphone); Dave Kulper (via Speakerphone); Angela Larson (via Speakerphone).

## **PROCEEDINGS**

CHAIR NORENE calls the Finance Committee to order and notes that all trustees are present or on the phone. He asks for any announcements. There being none, he moves to the agenda and asks for any changes.

MR. JONES states that the CEO report is not on the agenda. The agenda has 45 minutes reserved for a detailed CEO report. He asks if it is wanted today.

CHAIR NORENE replies that a report would be appreciated to keep the trustees up to date. He asks for any other changes to the agenda. There being none, he asks for any ethics disclosures. There being none, he moves to the minutes of January 5, 2017.

TRUSTEE WEBB makes a motion to approve the agenda, as amended.

TRUSTEE SMITH makes a motion to approve the minutes of January 5, 2017.

TRUSTEE WEBB seconds.

*There being no objection, the motions are approved.*

## **CEO REPORT**

MR. JONES states that the legislative confirmation process is stalled, and the Governor's office does not know when it will proceed. He moved on to the TLO's community outreach with John Morrison working with the Trust's PR contract. The understanding is that the TLO would RSA the money back into the Trust budget. He continues that the Commissioner of DNR held that RSA up, decided to not release it, and wanted to wait for the Legislature to resolve the PR contract controversy in Juneau. He states that, in his opinion, it is not acceptable for the Commissioner of DNR to take Trust funds away from the Trust; which is what is being done. He continues that he contacted the Trust's outside legal counsel, who agrees. The Attorney General's office was contacted and agrees and has contacted the Commissioner's office to see if this can be resolved quickly. He adds that the goal in this case would be to meet with DNR and resolve this as soon as possible; if not, then go to the Governor; and then go to the courts. He moved to the CFO hire status. Round two of the interviews have been completed with some promising opportunities. He continues that the hope is to decide within ten days. He moves to the CEO search firm contract status. He states that several proposals have been received, and the selection committee met. There are two trustees on the committee, and Trustee Smith strongly felt that more trustees should be involved in the selection. There was no action taken to review the proposals, which all met the minimum requirements and have been deemed to be responsive to the RFP. He adds that an email was sent to all the trustees to see if they can participate in a future meeting, which will need to be advertised. Then, we will move into executive session at that meeting. He continues that the organizational assessment contract was unsuccessful in attracting proposals that the selection committee felt was acceptable to use under the abbreviated

process. He adds that at the current sequencing it will not be completed before a CEO is hired. He states that he is not convinced that continuing this project is necessary. It seems that the problems that are trying to be resolved with this organizational study are not as complex as the scope that was proposed would indicate. One major organizational issue that is not resolved is the relationship of the Trust to the Trust Land Office, which has been the source of most of the controversy that has happened among the board. He continues that he is working on a framework, a rewrite of the governance documents, to reflect the way the organization is changing organically. He adds that he needs some guidance on whether to continue pursuing an organizational evaluation, and how to address these things.

TRUSTEE EASLEY agrees to not going ahead with the major organizational review, believing that pursuing the framework would manage it quite well, especially with what has already been accomplished.

TRUSTEE WEBB states that he would like, for the May meeting, an outline of what the process looks like; the contracts that will be needed to carry that forward; any aspects of what was outlined as the organizational review that would be met through that process; and any parts of that that would establish the kind of comprehensive governance structure that the Permanent Fund has.

MR. JONES replies that he can get a framework and an outline of the process readied for the May meeting.

CHAIR NORENE suggests, because of the notice requirements, scheduling a minimum of two-day meetings every two weeks for the next couple of months to get this done.

MR. JONES asks Jeff Jessee to give a brief legislative update on the program-related legislation.

MR. JESSEE begins with the budget and states that they are close in terms of a Permanent Fund agreement between the two bodies. The House is determined to have a change in tax credits in the oil tax scheme; and the Senate is insisting on a spending cap and no broad-based tax. He continues that there are various milestone deadlines that push toward a decision, and we will see by mid-May how it will work with the 120-day session. He adds that there is a rumor that there will be a confirmation hearing next week. He states that, as far as the budget goes, there is quite a list of items of concern to the beneficiaries that have differences between the House and the Senate. He explains the Pioneer Homes issue in greater detail and continues going through the effects of the budget on the Trust. He shares that the Legislature, as a body, has made the shift from thinking the problem is just Medicaid into recognizing that the problem is healthcare costs in general.

TRUSTEE SELBY thanks Jeff Jessee, on behalf of the Mental Health Trust beneficiaries in the state of Alaska, for being their tireless advocate for the last 30 years, doing an amazingly excellent job on their behalf. He wishes him the best of luck with the University system.

(Applause.)

CHAIR NORENE moves to approvals.

## APPROVALS

TRUSTEE WEBB makes a motion that the Finance Committee recommends that the Trust Authority board of trustees concur with the recommendation to approve the incremental building expenditures totaling \$8,538,000 budgeted for the fiscal year 2018 to be paid by the property manager from rents and other income collected from the properties.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL seconds.

*There being no objection, the motion is approved.*

TRUSTEE WEBB makes a motion that the Finance Committee recommends that the Trust Authority board of trustees approve funding the expenditures for the noninvestment program-related real estate Trust-funded properties in the amount of \$555,000 for the fiscal year 2018, which appropriation shall not lapse.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL seconds.

*There being no objection, the motion is approved.*

TRUSTEE WEBB makes a motion that the Finance Committee recommends that the Trust Authority board of trustees instruct the CEO to transfer up to \$555,000 to the third-party property manager, as requested by the TLO, for management of the noninvestment program-related real estate Trust-funded properties and capital improvements to the noninvestment program-related real estate rent-funded properties.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL seconds.

*There being no objection, the motion is approved.*

## FOCUS AREA ALLOCATIONS

### ALZHEIMER'S RESOURCE OF ALASKA ITEM

MS. LOFGREN states that this is an important strategy within long-term services and support. In March of 2014, CMS significantly changed the final rule around home- and community-based services, requiring that individuals who received home- and community-based service waivers receive case management from an entity that is conflict-free; meaning they do not provide direct services. She appreciates Alzheimer's willingness to come forward and take on the case management. She states that this grant and partnership with Alzheimer's maintains the stability within the existing system so capacity is not lost while continuing to look at how to reform and modify care coordination going forward. She continues that a unified vision was created for home- and community-based services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, a person-centered system. This capacity is important because it recognizes that 600 to 800 new individuals are going to need care coordination in a conflict-free environment. She

adds that Alzheimer's Resource of Alaska has committed, from their reserves, 50 percent of the projected operational loss, and asks for a match for FY18.

TRUSTEE SELBY makes a motion that the Finance Committee approve a \$150,000 FY18 housing focus area allocation to the Alzheimer's Resource of Alaska for person-centered care coordination.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL seconds.

*There being no objection, the motion is approved.*

## **DISABILITY JUSTICE**

MR. WILLIAMS points out the memo outlining the focus area allocation for continued support of the re-entry coalition coordinators in Anchorage, Mat-Su, Fairbanks, and Juneau. He states that this is a continuation of the work that is being done, not only in those four communities, but through other resources starting up in Dillingham, Kenai, and Nome. He continues that this is part of looking at the roles of these coalitions to pull together the provider system, the services systems to look at what is available in those communities for re-entrants. He states that the coalition, as an entity, is not providing services. It is made up of many different organizations that provide services, supports, connections to healthcare and keeps the pulse on what is going on and helping identify what needs to be expanded, what is missing and needs to be implemented from the ground up.

TRUSTEE SMITH asks if this amount of money will be adequate for each one of the groups.

MR. WILLIAMS replies yes. It is funding the position to keep that group moving forward, talking, convening, and informing the larger system as well as the community system and individuals.

The discussion continues.

TRUSTEE SELBY makes a motion that the Finance Committee approve a FY18 focus area allocation in the amount of \$400,000 from the FY18 local re-entry coalition coordinator line and the criminal justice reform and reinvestment priority/disability justice focus area funds to support local re-entry coalition coordinators and coalition capacity development. The funds for this project will be allocated to the fiscal agents listed in the table.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL seconds.

*There being no objection, the motion is approved.*

## **SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT**

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON acknowledges Jacqueline Bergstrom, director of health services with Tanana Chiefs Conference, and Angela Larson, a grant writer that assisted in putting this proposal together. She states that at the last special board meeting the sobering center and a

combined solution for trying to support the organization and moving forward to be able to occupy the facility and implement the sobering center program was discussed. The decision was to invite them to submit a funding proposal that would assist with the costs for a period of three years. She continues that this proposal includes those costs, and with staff support and pairing up with the period of the grant funding from the Division, it will give them time to move forward on their sustainability plan.

A brief discussion ensues.

TRUSTEE SELBY makes a motion that the Finance Committee approve a \$210,939 FY17 substance abuse prevention and treatment focus area allocation to the Tanana Chiefs Conference for the Fairbanks sobering center lease cost assistance request.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL seconds.

*There being no objection, the motion is approved.*

## **BPI, BENEFICIARY EMPLOYMENT**

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON states that this request is seeking trustee approval for the FY18 grant allocations recommendations to the current beneficiary programs for operating funding. There are six current programs remaining: CHOICES; Alaska Youth and Family Network; the Web. She continues that these organizations provide very critical services to the beneficiaries, which she explains. They are helping people move between the complicated siloed systems who need their voice to help with those transitions.

A discussion ensues.

TRUSTEE EASLEY makes a motion to recommend approval of \$1,195,370 beneficiary employment and engagement focus area allocation for the purpose of FY18 BPI grant funding.

TRUSTEE SELBY seconds.

*There being no objection, the motion is approved.*

## **PARTNERSHIP GRANTS**

### **COOK INLET TRIBAL COUNCIL FOR THE ERNIE TURNER CENTER**

MR. JESSEE states that this project is the result of the Cook Inlet Tribal Council transferring the current Ernie Turner Center over to Southcentral Foundation. The Cook Inlet Tribal Council has been running detox and residential treatment in that building. In the transferring process, Cook Inlet Tribal will no longer be able to provide the residential part of what they were doing in that building. They have secured additional property and are proposing a \$5.5 million residential treatment program that would expand services and relocate them. This would serve Alaska Native and non-Native individuals, and they are requesting \$75,000 from the Trust to be part of the FF&E costs associated with the project.

MR. BURNS clarifies that the Ernie Turner Center could continue to provide residential treatment in that facility. Approval was received from CMS that would allow that building to be used by CITC to continue providing residential treatment there. They are not being forced out, but they just need better space. He states that they are working hard to remove the IMD exclusion and get that waived so there can be more beds to serve more people.

A discussion ensues.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL makes a motion that the Finance Committee recommend approval to the Full Board of Trustees for a \$75,000 FY18 partnership grant request to the Cook Inlet Tribal Council for the Ernie Turner Center, Eklutna.

TRUSTEE SELBY seconds.

*There being no objection, the motion is approved.*

### **ANCHORAGE SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTER EXPANSION**

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON acknowledges Heather Ireland who was involved in the Begich school health clinic that the Trust was actively involved in supporting through funding. She states that the health clinic provides not only health-care services, but screening, mental health services. It is a partnership with Volunteers of America, the school district, and Christian Health Associates.

MS. IRELAND states that the school board approved the growth and, with the potential support from the Trust, will allow continuing the treatment in the school setting. The initial target is providing counseling at Bartlett High School. She explains in greater detail.

A discussion ensues.

TRUSTEE SELBY makes a motion that the Finance Committee recommend approval to the Full Board of Trustees for \$57,000 FY18 partnership grant request to Christian Health Associates for the Anchorage School-Based Health Centers' expansion project.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL seconds.

*There being no objection, the motion is approved.*

### **CIRCLE HEALTH CLINIC**

MR. WILLIAMS states that this is a partnership request to assist with the construction of a health clinic in Circle. He continues that the health clinic in Circle is woefully inadequate and is not in the best condition to care for beneficiaries or any Alaskans with health care needs. Historically, the Trust has worked with the tribal organizations around the state in terms of health clinics and making sure there is health-care space in the clinics so that beneficiaries and others are able to access primary health and behavioral health needs at a local level. The other element

is that these health clinics will often use video conferencing and telehealth capacities to reach back into the hub of the region for additional services and supports.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL makes a motion that the Finance Committee recommends the approval of a \$50,000 FY18 partnership grant with the Tanana Chiefs Conference for the Circle Health Clinic.

TRUSTEE EASLEY seconds.

*Trustee Norene objects. There being no other objections, the motion is approved.*

## **THE CHILDREN'S PLACE PARTNERSHIP**

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON states that The Children's Place is in the Valley and provides evaluation of children that have experienced abuse, neglect and different traumas. They work in very close partnership with the Office of Children's Service; those families that typically have engagement of Child Protective Services. She continues that forensic interviews, medical examinations, family advocacy and mental health services are provided to the individuals that they serve. She adds that the plan for the facility replacement has been worked on for more than ten years, and over \$600,000 has been raised toward this project. There is also a plan for the capital campaign of another \$350,000; and Mat-Su Health Foundation has committed \$750,000. She states that the land has been donated for the project, and the engineering plans are complete.

MS. SEARS states, in terms of the next steps, there is a request for qualifications out to contractors, and to pick a handful of contractors that submit to bids.

MS. JONES adds that there is a grant budget from Rasmuson Foundation for \$500,000. Once the notification on this funding is received, the construction project will move forward, with move-in being next spring or earlier.

A brief discussion ensues.

TRUSTEE SELBY makes a motion that the Finance Committee approve a \$25,000 FY18 partnership grant request to The Children's Place for the sustainable facility for The Children's Place project.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL seconds.

*There being no objection, the motion is approved.*

CHAIR NORENE states that that completes the agenda for the Finance Committee.

TRUSTEE SELBY commends Carley Lawrence for an outstanding job of PR for this organization. He states that the ads are very well done and present the Authority in a very positive light. More important is that a couple of average citizens that saw those ads went and looked up the Trust Web site and were duly impressed with all the things that the Trust Authority is doing. He continues that the second thing is that at the end of this stakeholder process for the



budget, he is looking for a list of three or four things that are next on the list; needs that are identified by the stakeholders that are not in the budget. He adds, that gives an opportunity over the next year to be thinking about alternative ways of meeting some of those needs.

MR. JONES replies that that is easily done.

CHAIR NORENE asks for any further comments. There being none, he asks for a motion to adjourn.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL makes a motion to adjourn the meeting.

*There being no objection, the Finance Committee meeting is adjourned.*

(Finance Committee Meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.)