

ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH TRUST AUTHORITY

FULL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

November 14, 2018

8:30 a.m.

Taken at:

3745 Community Park Loop, Suite 120
Anchorage, Alaska

OFFICIAL MINUTES

Trustees Present:

Mary Jane Michael, Chair
Jerome Selby
Paula Easley
Carlton Smith
Chris Cooke
Verne' Boerner

Trust Staff Present:

Mike Abbott
Steve Williams
Miri Smith-Coolidge
Kelda Barstad
Andy Stemp
Luke Lind
Michael Baldwin
Carrie Predeger
Katie Baldwin-Johnson
Jimael Johnson
Valette Keller
Eric Boyer
Autumn Vea

Trust Land Office:

Wyn Menefee
Jusdi Doucet

Other participants:

Alison Kulas; Patrick Reinhart; Judy Brady; Kathy Craft; Crystal Blair; Cynthia Scott; April Wilkerson; Laura Brooks; Karen Cann; Jake Wyckoff; Monique Martin; Jillian Gellings; Lauree Morton; Kristin Vandagriff; Faith Myers; Dorrance Collins; Robin Minard (via Speakerphone); Alison Sebastian (via Speakerphone).

CALL TO ORDER

CHAIR MICHAEL called the meeting to order and called the roll.

ROLL CALL

TRUSTEE SELBY, TRUSTEE SMITH, TRUSTEE BOERNER, TRUSTEE COOKE, TRUSTEE EASLEY were present. TRUSTEE DERR was absent.

REVIEW OF GUIDING PRINCIPLES

CHAIR MICHAEL stated that the Guiding Principles were in the packet and asked that they be looked at today.

ETHICS DISCLOSURE

There were no Ethics Disclosures.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: A motion to approve the agenda was made by TRUSTEE SELBY; seconded by TRUSTEE BOERNER.

There being no objection, the motion was approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (September 5-6, 2018)

MOTION: A motion to approve the minutes of the September 5-6, 2018, was made by TRUSTEE SELBY; seconded by TRUSTEE EASLEY.

There being no objection, the motion was approved.

CURRENT BYLAWS

CHAIR MICHAEL stated that in the packet is a copy of the current bylaws.

MISSION MOMENT

ACCESS ALASKA TRAUMATIC & ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY PEER SUPPORT

MS. JOHNSON introduced Crystal Blair and Cynthia Scott, who are both with the Access Alaska Traumatic and Acquired Traumatic Brain Injury Peer Support Program are here to discuss their experiences with the program. There is currently a funding request for a much needed service for this program that is not in the packet, but is being processed internally.

MS. BLAIR stated that she is the independent living manager for Access Alaska in the Mat-Su office, one of four offices. The biggest program that is in need is the traumatic and brain injury support. There is a State-funded program in the Anchorage and Fairbanks office, but not in Mat-Su. She explained that there are two separate programs, TBI, which is advocacy services; and TABI, which provides intensive case management. She stated that Cynthia Scott is a TABI case management client, and needs that extensive case management that she cannot get anywhere else in the Valley.

MS. SCOTT stated that she joined the program two years. She explained that she worked at the

Pioneer Home in Palmer, and fell at work, hit her head, leg, and her whole body, and got a brain injury and had a stroke. She continued that she has four kids at home, all teenagers.

MS. BLAIR explained about the Mat-Su Area Partnership -- that has 32 agencies within it. A program call Echo has been started for consumers who get services from agencies, and they get a team to work for them.

TRUSTEE COOKE stated that one of the issues is in the area of financial support and how services are paid for. He asked how services are provided to individual cases and what are the resources.

MS. BLAIR replied that Access Alaska is a free service and works with anyone with a disability. The TABI program requires a verification of diagnosis within six months.

CHAIR MICHAEL thanked them for their presentation which helped in understanding what the needs are in the community and how important case management is.

STAFF REPORT CEO UPDATE

MR. ABBOTT stated interest in the outcome of the gubernatorial transition and the Legislative transitions that are underway. That will have a lot to do with how the plan will build for the Legislative session and the January meeting. He continued that the gubernatorial transition and some key appointments will directly influence the work of the Trust over the next four years. He moved to the letter received from the Legislative Budget & Audit Committee chair asking for a status report on the response to the Legislative Audit. That is in the process of being drafted. A copy will be sent out to the trustees as soon as it is ready. He moved to the Southeast Land Exchange which seems to be close to bringing forward a recommendation to be accepted. The tentative plan is to bring that for approval at a special board meeting that would be held on the day of the committee meetings in early January. Last is API which will be presented by Alison Kulas later this afternoon on behalf of the Mental Health Board and ABADA.

COMMITTEE REPORT/UPDATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

TRUSTEE SELBY reported that the Finance Committee reviewed the cash management report with the CFO, and we are on track year to date. The committee picked up other matters that resulted in four recommended actions of the board.

MOTION: A motion that the Full Board of Trustees approve setting a target level for Trust Authority Development Account funds at \$4.05 million was made by TRUSTEE SELBY; seconded by TRUSTEE COOKE.

MR. STEMPE explained that the target level of \$4.05 million is needed to fulfill the previously made commitments that the trustees authorized from that account. This will wrap up all of the outstanding open items, which should be fully funded.

TRUSTEE SELBY clarified, for the record, that the \$4.05 million is being used to continue to develop land opportunities that the Trust has historically done for almost 25 years. This is no variance from the way funds have been used for that entire 25-year time period. He stated that this is changing the way that business is being done fairly significantly, but is fully in keeping with the way the Trust has operated to present using principal funds to develop additional development of land that will result in significant increases of principal gain coming back to the Trust in the future.

TRUSTEE COOKE echoed what Trustee Selby said and stressed that this application is necessary to preserve, protect, enhance and realize value from the land that was transferred to the Trust at the outset so that the Trust and beneficiaries can realize the value of this asset. He asked if this \$4.05 million is sufficient to cover the obligations that have been discussed.

MR. ABBOTT replied that the belief is that all of the funds allocated for Icy Cape and all the funds allocated for the Southeast Land Exchange will be needed. Although there is a possibility that the Southeast Land Exchange will require additional funds. This is the \$6 million that was allocated from the TADA account. He added that the recommendation would not be to use TADA funds.

There being no objection, the motion was approved.

MOTION: A motion that the Full Board of Trustees authorize the Chief Financial Officer to transfer TADA funds that exceed the target level, \$16,883,000, to the Permanent Fund for investment was made by TRUSTEE SELBY; seconded by TRUSTEE COOKE.

MR. STEMPE explained that this recommendation would move the cash into the Permanent Fund. They would then put that money to work as part of their regular investment strategy and help build up the Trust's portfolio.

TRUSTEE SELBY pointed out that this works in conjunction with the motions that were just adopted because this is shutting down the TADA account, which was used for almost 25 years for this process.

MR. ABBOTT stated that this move makes good sense for the Trust and recommended that this motion be adopted. This has the effect of essentially increasing the value of the corpus of the Mental Health Trust Fund by about 4 percent. The corpus will go from \$400 million to about \$417 million as a result of this move, and this will be one of the larger contributions historically.

TRUSTEE COOKE noted, for the record, that historically the Trust, has transferred funds from the TADA account to the Permanent Fund Mental Health Trust Fund account. That function and need has been reexamined, and as a consequence of the Legislative Audit, we are closing out that account by transferring all that money to the Mental Health Trust Fund except for the \$4 million as previously explained for the obligations already undertaken. He added that he supported the motion.

TRUSTEE SELBY stated that he may have misspoken and the TADA account is not going to go away. It will be where the principal is collected as it comes in, and each year at the November

meeting the approval for transfer to the Permanent Fund from the TADA account will occur.

MR. ABBOTT stated that there is a revenue impact of this choice and right now the TADA account is held in a relatively liquid investment state. It earns the lowest rate of return of any of the Trust assets. He continued that it is essentially managed like cash and is available for a variety of uses. Because of this, it was not wanted to be tied to the Permanent Fund or the Department of Revenue for management. By transferring it to the Permanent Fund, it will be subject to the 4.25 percent draw. That will have a material impact on the revenue over time.

CHAIR MICHAEL stated that there is a motion on the table and a second. She asked for any objections.

There being no objection, the motion was approved.

TRUSTEE SELBY moved to motion No. 3.

MOTION: A motion that the Full Board of Trustees approve establishing a new account to support the Trust Land Office development projects, with an initial funding commitment of \$8 million from reserves, (staff are authorized to develop and implement a cost recovery plan that will facilitate replenishing this account from the proceeds of future development projects), was made by TRUSTEE SELBY; seconded by TRUSTEE BOERNER.

MR. STEMPEL walked through the work plan for the cost recovery model. The goals were set up in consultation with the Land Office and with the advisers of the Department of Law. There are two key pieces: First is to protect the Trust and working through the regulatory process there is a presumption of regularity; second, by undertaking the process and opening it up for public comment and public consideration it will give people the opportunity to have input. It also protects from someone showing up at some future point with an objection, which was not raised during the process. He continued that it gives some certainty to be able to rely on the cost recovery plan in working through this. There is an informative effort and a mechanism where there is due process by having this go forward in a public way. People have equal protection because they have the opportunity to comment. He added that this was not a short process.

MR. ABBOTT stated that this represents a fundamental shift in how to fund TLO-related development works. He continued that by funding the TLO development account from reserves, as stated in the proposed motion, is a fundamental shift away from the use of principal and toward the use of income. He added that it means, as recommended by the Legislative Audit, a funding type is being deployed that could also be used for programs, which is a big shift from what has been done in the past. He also pointed out that no funds from the TLO Development account can be used without explicit authority of the trustees.

CHAIR MICHAEL stated that there is a motion on the table, and asked for any objections.

There being no objection, the motion was approved.

TRUSTEE SELBY moved to the final motion, motion No. 4.

MOTION: A motion was made that the Full Board of Trustees approve an allocation of \$4.8 million from reserves for addressing facility needs, subject to additional review and approval of specific projects by the Board, was made by TRUSTEE SELBY; seconded by TRUSTEE SMITH.

MR. STEMPEL stated that this recommendation is intended to provide some resources to address some items that fall outside the regular Trust operating budget. He continued that there will be some recommendations at a future point that will detail some potential uses of this money. This is the same amount discussed at the Finance Committee.

MR. ABBOTT stated that the allocation of the \$8 million and the \$4.8 million that is proposed here reflects roughly 50 percent of the surplus reserves at this time. He added that staff recommends adoption of this motion. He stated that this gives staff the guidance needed to know how much money there is to be able to bring forward recommendations.

CHAIR MICHAEL stated that there is a motion on the table, and asked for any objections.

There being no objection, the motion was approved.

TRUSTEE SELBY concluded the Finance Committee report. He requested staff to bring to the January 3rd meeting potential for some actions to deal with the real estate holdings currently in discussion with the Permanent Fund about potentially moving that whole group of real estate into the Permanent Fund. He stated that another option would be to figure out a way to recover the \$39 million of original principal that was invested into those properties. He would like a comprehensive look at the options and what the results of each of those options might bring down the road.

CHAIR MICHAEL called a recess.

(Break).

CHAIR MICHAEL called the meeting back to order.

FY19 APPROVALS & ALLOCATIONS

HILAND MOUNTAIN

MR. ABBOTT stated that there are a variety of important facility needs that are not currently being met for a variety of reasons around the state. He continued that the Trust has historically, often through the Program-Related Investment tool, been able to intervene in those situations and create a more sustainable service level for the beneficiaries in a variety of areas. The proposal is to advance three more of those program-related facility opportunities. One is a grant request that is related to expanding the substance abuse treatment capability at Hiland Mountain women's prison. The two others are program-related investment opportunities around peer support services and crisis stabilization.

MOTION: A motion that the Board approve a \$1,145,000 FY19 Authority Grant from the Trust Reserve Funds for the Hiland Mountain Correctional Center – Women’s Mental Health Unit Remodel project, granted to the Department of Corrections through a reimbursable services agreement, was made by TRUSTEE SELBY; seconded by TRUSTEE EASLEY.

MR. WILLIAMS noted that the Trust funds requested would be used to cover half of the costs of the mental health unit portion of the remodel. This project will be used to reconfigure existing space that will not only enhance the mental health unit, but also give the medical unit for the correctional center more bed capacity and will also add four new detoxification beds for women, which are not currently available. He stated that the Department is also contributing about 70 percent of the costs of the project. He added that this project will not require any additional operating costs to the Department.

MS. CANN thanked the Trust for the support because this project would not be able to move forward otherwise.

MR. WYCKOFF thanked the board for the consideration and acknowledged all of the work Director Wilkerson and Director Brooks put into this, as well as all the staff.

CHAIR MICHAEL commented that this has been a long process and was well worth it. There was a visit to the facility and it was remarkable how dedicated the staff is to working with people that the Trust cares about, and this plan is reflective of that concern to provide a better-quality space for people to receive services. She thanked all and called the vote.

There being no objection, the motion was approved.

MOTION: A motion for the Board to approve the allocation of \$3,655,000 from the Trust Budget Reserve for Program-Related Investments, including Crisis Stabilization Center and Beneficiary/Peer Support Services Facility, which funds will be set aside, and additional trustee authorization will be required for expenditures, was made by TRUSTEE SELBY; seconded by TRUSTEE EASLEY.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON stated that this is a request to approve an allocation in the amount of \$3.655 million from budget reserve specifically for Program-Related Investments. There has been an attempt to work with partners in the Department to establish a crisis stabilization program specifically in Anchorage. She continued that the other item for consideration is a facility that would support the peer support, peer-based services that have been discussed and are specifically the outreach and engagement drop-in part of the continuum of care, and the intensive peer-based wrap-around services in the community. She began with crisis stabilization services and stated that the public safety response to the beneficiaries is not an adequate alternative to appropriately treat individuals in psychiatric crisis experiencing serious drug and alcohol issues. The Trust and the Department have continued working on the issue, and are keeping the options open in terms of the potential of the Trust playing a more significant role in potentially providing a facility or looking at other ways to support the community in implementing this service.

MR. ABBOTT stated that it was important for the Trust to make a commitment to ensure that

those services can be delivered in a sustainable manner. A key element of that is being able to secure facilities for those functions. He recommended approval of the motion, the allocation of those funds, knowing that no transaction will take place until the trustees explicitly authorize it.

TRUSTEE COOKE asked about the necessity of these motions, and why they are being done.

TRUSTEE SELBY explained that this tells the staff that the trustees are officially interested and think that a crisis intervention and peer operation are important additions to the programmatic network.

TRUSTEE EASLEY added that these kinds of services help keep people from entering the criminal justice system, which is very important.

CHAIR MICHAEL stated that there is a motion on the table, and asked for any objection.

There being no objection, the motion was approved.

(Break.)

COMP PLAN WORK GROUP UPDATE

VICE CHAIR SELBY called the meeting back to order and explained that the Chair had to depart. He moved to the comp plan and work group update. He recognized Steve Williams.

MR. WILLIAMS stated that all are here to give an update on the work that has been done since the October Program and Planning Committee.

MS. GELLINGS began by extending her thanks to everyone that has been working in this work group. Since the last update, the vision of the comp plan has remained the same, that Alaskans receive comprehensive prevention, treatment and support services at the appropriate level of care across the life-span to lead meaningful lives in their home communities. She identified “life-span” as a key term throughout the whole document and presentation. The focus is on those Trust beneficiaries and all Alaskans that need care, and services are throughout the life-span of them. She continued that a foundational goal has been identified, which is that the State of Alaska provides adequate resources and funding to support the comprehensive service system to promote independent healthy Alaskans so that they may live meaningful lives in communities of their choice. She highlighted that that is the overarching foundational goal of the comp plan. She continued that the goals were restructured and have been put into place that will make up this program.

TRUSTEE BOERNER stated that she fully believes in evidence-based approaches and suggested the need of being more cognizant of the underrepresented in populations, many of whom are also overrepresented as beneficiaries. She also suggested considering something like promoting policy and practices and evidence-based approaches.

MS. GELLINGS replied that was something that was discussed a lot, and we wanted to emphasize that throughout other things were looked at, other than just evidence-based

approaches. She pointed out that the goals were written in a way that does not emphasize action, but emphasizes what is wanted. She explained a few of the goals.

MS. KULAS added that a lot of the themes that are being addressed as goals or objectives are also present in other plans. Looked at were what other people were working on, striving for, and then we incorporated them into this plan. She continued that this is that big-picture systems approach that really referenced out to the existing plans for more detail.

MR. REINHART stated that we want to have some opportunity to educate the beneficiaries about their rights in terms of reporting what is actual harm and actual abuse.

TRUSTEE EASLEY stated that this says there are 40-plus optional services. She suggested that staff be ready to defend each one of them with some data. It will be very tenuous to see what happens with that. The other thing is under Trust beneficiaries being able to work, become employed and maintain employment, which is a major Trust goal. She stated concern on them losing their Medicaid benefits because of working.

MS. VANDAGRIFF replied that the expanded resources that promote successful long-term employment has strategies within the section that include a lot of information on the Alaska disability benefits 1-on-1 tool that explains the resources. There are a couple of programs to keep Medicaid in, maintain waiver services and everything else.

TRUSTEE EASLEY stated concern on making sure that the Medicaid services continue and asked if the Office of Children's Services participated in the discussions.

MS. GELLINGS replied that she had gotten information from them, but they have not yet gone through the document. That is actually the next step, each Division will go through the document and more information will be gathered. She continued her presentation, going through the different goals.

MS. KULAS stated that now that it has been presented to the Trust it will be shared with the boards for their review and comments. She added that they are committed to supporting the process of public input to make sure that no one or nothing is left out; and by the time it gets to that March/April time frame, there will be a solid product that the new Administration and all can support.

MS. GELLINGS stated that this was an update as to where the group is within the process of developing it; and it will be sent out for public comment. She explained that one of the strategies in developing this plan was to keep it at a very high level, and to keep it updated and moving.

VICE CHAIR SELBY thanked all for providing this update and also for all the hard work done by all. He stated that there is a fair amount of work left to do to get to a final overall plan that can be used to evaluate projects, how they contribute to accomplishing objectives, or, if they do not, then why are they being considered to be funded. He called for a break.

(Break.)

VICE CHAIR SELBY called the meeting back to order. Next on the agenda is the statutory advisor update from the Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education.

**STATUTORY ADVISOR UPDATES
GOVERNORS' COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL EDUCATION**

MR. REINHART stated that there has been a lot going on in the last month. He moved to the 4th annual Disability & Aging Summit and stated that there were 100 people there on Wednesday and Thursday, and another 30 or so that came for the signing of the supported decision-making bill that was passed this last year. The Trust, again, supported that Self-Advocacy Summit, which was very much appreciated. He explained that October was Disability Employment Awareness Month, and we were able to get another proclamation from the Governor. There was a "thank you" ad in the newspaper to employers that are known to be really good about employing people with disabilities, with a lot of positive feedback. He talked about a follow-up to the Disability Employment Initiative, with an opportunity to meet with folks from the National Governor's Association Madison, Wisconsin. He moved on to the new Administration on Community Living Grant that started September 30th. A five-year grant of \$392,000 per year, was awarded, and it is about moving the DD Vision forward. He stated that they will look at putting model approaches around community monitoring, community capacity-building to enhance the independence of integration and safety, health, and well-being of individuals living in the community; and also targets working with individuals with developmental disabilities and their families, guardians, and service providers. He explained this grant in greater detail, going through some of the specific strategies. The FASD work group has been moving along with the strategic plan, and they have a new logo. The Early Intervention Committee is working on the Universal Developmental Screening and all the efforts around that as they are looking at branding a campaign about universal screening. The Autism Ad Hoc Committee continues to push the ECHO Charter Collaboratives throughout the State, focusing their discussions on transitioning youth and adults. He continued with the new Web site that has gone up on supported decision-making, which is very comprehensive.

VICE CHAIR SELBY stated his appreciation for the report. He moved to Alison Kulas, with the Alaska Mental Health Board and Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse.

**ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH BOARD/ADVISORY BOARD ON ALCOHOLISM AND
DRUG ABUSE**

MS. KULAS stated that part of the funding provided by the Trust is to provide planning services. One of the key areas is participating in the Comprehensive Integrated Mental Health Plan. She continued that the Traumatic and Acquired Brain Injury Work Group has been looking at updating that statewide plan for TABI Services and creating a statewide TABI registry. She moved to the Comprehensive Plan and stated they are really committed to making it successful, and it really will provide a good framework in going forward. Feedback will be taken in and we will support the public comment process to make sure that everybody, from providers to consumers, understand that process. She talked about addressing the psychiatric care in the state and shifted the API work group to a psychiatric care work group. There are currently four board members on it, all sharing information. It is understanding what communities are dealing with and how that should move forward. There are a lot of moving parts in understanding the system.

At the Department level, an emergency operations center structure began in October with an announcement of capacity issues at API. Mr. Mayes and Commissioner Butler are working together, along with other staff within DHSS and other key partners, to provide this emergency response. The focus is to make sure that the other less intense, less expensive, less intrusive service levels are provided around the state. She added that the Department and the boards agree that is the right step. She stated that a robust conversation on this is expected in Juneau next year. Their reaction is that expanding API at this time is probably not the right answer. It may be the ultimate answer, and getting API to the point that 80 people can be served at one time is important. She continued that they are currently, because of staffing limitation, serving between 40 to 60 daily, which floats with staff availability and patient acuity changes. She moved to the grievance process for psychiatric patients and stated that Faith Myers and Dorrance Collins have very strong opinions on what an appropriate grievance resolution process looks like for psychiatric patients around Alaska. There should be progress on that before January.

VICE CHAIR SELBY thanked Ms. Kulas and noted that there was a time conflict for the Alaska Commission on Aging for their report. He stated that the written report is in the packet, and any questions may be brought up at the next meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORT/UPDATE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

TRUSTEE SMITH stated that there were two consultations coming out of the Resource Management Committee for board concurrence.

MOTION: A motion that the Resource Management Committee recommends that the Mental Health Trust Authority Board of Trustees concurs with the Trust Land Office recommendation for the Executive Director to dispose of Trust parcel CRM-3392-02 through a negotiated sale or subsequent disposal was made by TRUSTEE COOKE; seconded by TRUSTEE BOERNER.

MS. DOUCET reported that on October 17th the TLO consulted the RMC on the disposal through a negotiated sale of 3.39 acres located about five miles south of Ketchikan. She continued that the Borough offered to purchase the parcel for 40 percent above fair market value. This offer came in after the TLO put in a request to rezone the parcel. She explained that the property is pretty wet and is currently used as a park. The total purchase price with the 40 percent premium is \$500,000.

VICE CHAIR SELBY asked for any objections.

There being no objection, the motion was approved.

TRUSTEE SMITH stated that the next is Item B, Icy Cape Closure.

MOTION: A motion that the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Board of Trustees concurs with Trust Land Office recommendations for the Executive Director to close the following Trust parcels to public use: CRM-0001, CRM-0002, CRM-0003, CRM-0004, CRM-0005, CRM-0006, CRM-0007-A, CRM-0008, and CRM-0009 was made by

TRUSTEE COOKE; seconded by TRUSTEE BOERNER.

MS. DOUCET stated that the RMC was consulted on the extension of the closure of the Icy Cape land block. This extension of the closure will preclude the public-use conflicts with the mining exploration of the timber harvests that are taking place in the Icy Cape area. She continued that this will likely generate more revenue in the future as the TLO moves forward in land blocks for taking and guiding.

VICE CHAIR SELBY asked for any objections.

There being no objection, the motion was approved.

TRUSTEE SMITH concluded his report.

TRUSTEE COMMENTS

TRUSTEE BOERNER thanked all that presented, and recognized the presenters for the Mission Moment. Their presentation helped her to understand the services provided by Access Alaska and their importance. She sent her best to Cynthia's family and all her children. That moment struck her, and she wanted to say something special about that.

TRUSTEE COOKE echoed Trustee Boerner's comments about the Mission Moment and added to that the value of the site visits. He encouraged continuing the visits whenever possible. He moved to the grant summary and the various additional documents that still need to be reviewed and to continue working on getting a useful format. He also asked for some additional time in the agenda format for questions and comments.

VICE CHAIR SELBY suggested including the number of grants and the amount of volume total in the CEO comments, so it becomes part of the actual meeting record.

MR. ABBOTT agreed and added that the TLO quarterly report will also be included. He noted that those reports are being posted to the Web site for general public awareness in realtime to get the information out to the community.

TRUSTEE SMITH thanked the staff for making the effort on the site visits. He also commented on the continued terrific progress in the PR area and public awareness of who and what the Trust is, and who is being served.

VICE CHAIR SELBY thanked the staff for the outstanding work done on a regular basis. He wished the board and staff a Happy Thanksgiving and also the rest of the audience. He recessed the meeting until public comment.

(Break.)

PUBLIC COMMENT

VICE CHAIR SELBY called the meeting back to order and read the rules for the public

comments. He recognized Faith Myers.

MS. MYERS introduced herself and read the patient injury statistics. “In 2017 at Alaska Psychiatric Institute, there were 116 patients injured, 90 needing medical treatment or hospitalization. There are approximately 10,000 acute-care psychiatric patients annually in Alaska. Not one Trust beneficiary has access to a fair grievance and appeal process.” She asked that the Mental Health Trust Board commit staff and resources towards a Legislative improvement of the grievance rights for Trust beneficiaries. She stated that managers decide if psychiatric patients are informed of their right by law to bring their grievance to an impartial body, and patients are not informed of their rights. When psychiatric patients cannot file a grievance or appeal in a fair way, psychiatric institutions and units tend to develop very bad habits. She asked the Trust board to commit resources to revise AS 47.30.847 to include all Trust beneficiaries.

VICE CHAIR SELBY thanked Ms. Myers, and introduced Dorrance Collins.

MR. COLLINS stated that there is a loophole in the psychiatric patient grievance law that has allowed Trust beneficiaries to be mistreated for 25 years. He continued that psychiatric patients have a right, by the grievance law, to bring their grievance to an impartial body. In the same law, psychiatric facilities must have a trained patient advocate who will assist the patient in bringing a grievance or other redress. The loophole is that psychiatric facilities produce their own patient grievance procedure and explain it to the patients. They do not have to inform patients of their right to an impartial body because that was not put in the patient grievance procedure. Trust beneficiaries are being intentionally mistreated for the convenience and economics of psychiatric facilities, not just API. He asked the Trust board to commit staff, resources and money to improve the grievance rights legislatively for all Trust beneficiaries.

VICE CHAIR SELBY thanked Mr. Collins, and recognized Robin Minard, on the phone.

MS. MINARD stated that she serves as Chief Communications Officer for the Mat-Su Health Foundation. She called to thank the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority for their support of the Innovative Alaska Court Systems Therapeutic Court, known as the Palmer Families with Infants and Toddlers Court, or PFIT Court. It serves families with children ages zero to 36 months that have open child welfare cases and families can opt in with the primary goal of achieving permanency within 12 months to reunify young children with their families. She explained that the PFIT Court seeks to reduce child maltreatment by building strong supports around the family. It is currently serving ten families, and 30 percent of the cases have been identified as Alaska Native. She also mentioned that therapeutic courts in Alaska are planned with long-term sustainability plans and this one is being funded by the Trust and other funders.

VICE CHAIR SELBY thanked Ms. Minard, and asked for anyone else on the phone that would like to testify.

MS. SEBASTIAN stated that she is Alison Sebastian, calling from Haines. She is the executive director of Linknow Conservation, LLCC, grassroots conservation organization based in Haines with a mission to protect watersheds and the quality of life in Northern Southeast Alaska. Represented are 190 members, mostly local. She stated concern about the communities of

Haines and Klawock being left in the dark about ongoing plans for underground exploration in 2019 by Constantine Metal Resources on Mental Health Trust land at the headwaters of Glacier Creek. In the interest of maintaining the good relations with the Haines community, the public should be informed about Constantine's development plan on the Mental Health Trust Haines block. She continued that the LLCC would like to receive a copy of the Mental Health Trust document approving Constantine's plan of operations, and additional documents related to it. She also asked to be informed of any forms that may be needed or used to request these. She added that it would be helpful if the Mental Health Trust held a public presentation in Haines to keep the community informed about developing the Trust Haines block which is currently leased to Constantine. She thanked the Trust, and stated that she will share her contact information.

VICE CHAIR SELBY thanked Ms. Sebastian, and asked for anyone else on the phone that would like to provide public comment. He asked for any further business. There being none, he adjourned the meeting.

(Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Full Board meeting adjourned at 4:43 p.m.)