

ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH TRUST AUTHORITY

SPECIAL FULL BOARD MEETING

**August 1, 2019
2:15 p.m.**

**Taken at:
3745 Community Park Loop, Suite 120
Anchorage, Alaska**

Trustees Present:

Mary Jane Michael, Chair
Chris Cooke
Paula Easley
John Sturgeon
Laraine Derr
Ken McCarty
Verne' Boerner

Trust Staff Present:

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

Trust Land Office Present:

Wyn Menefee
Jusdi Doucet
Sarah Morrison
Becky Carpenter
Katie Vachris

Also participating:

Anita Halterman; Dan Gummo; Mary Elizabeth Rider.

PROCEEDINGS

CALL TO ORDER

CHAIR MICHAEL called the Special Full Board meeting of the Trustees to order, and stated that all trustees were present. She asked for any announcements.

TRUSTEE DERR stated that at the board meeting at the end of August there will be an election of officers. The Nominating Committee was done away with some time ago. She asked if someone will be in charge of that, and how the Chair would like to handle that. She volunteered to do that.

CHAIR MICHAEL asked Trustee Derr if she would talk to everyone and see if they are interested in serving. She announced that this would be Trustee Easley's last board meeting, and has asked Trustee Sturgeon to serve in the capacity of Chair of the Resource Management Committee until the appointments are made. She asked for any other announcements. There being none, she asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: A motion was made to approve the agenda by TRUSTEE DERR; seconded by TRUSTEE COOKE.

There being no objection, the MOTION was approved.

ETHICS DISCLOSURES

CHAIR MICHAEL asked for any Ethics Disclosures. There being none, she recognized Mr. Abbott.

MR. ABBOTT thanked the trustees for their willingness and ability to meet for this Special Board Meeting. Discussed a few weeks ago was the benefit of the Trust to do good work for the beneficiaries by being nimble in deploying the resources. He recommended that the trustees endorse a series of budget amendments for FY20. He explained that these amendments take two basic forms, and the first is the largest number of individual changes; the same as the ones that were proposed in a memo two weeks ago.

CHAIR MICHAEL asked for a proposed motion.

MOTION: A motion was made by Trustee Cooke that the Board of Trustees adopt the amendments to the FY20 budget as included in this memo. The amendments and corresponding amounts total a net increase of \$995,400. The amended FY20 budget will be \$32,771,500; seconded TRUSTEE BOERNER.

MR. ABBOTT stated that the first two items on that list are new and were not described in the memo. The following four pages are the same as the proposed amendments that were sent in advance of the last special board meeting. They were, ultimately, not adopted in anticipation of this conversation. He explained that this is the million dollars from the previously unallocated FY20 revenue that is being recommended to be expended in these two program types. We are not proposing to use all of the unallocated revenues. The recommendation is to use approximately two-thirds of what is available. The proposal is to use 250,000 of additional

dollars to the dental programs. The Trust currently supports beneficiaries with dental issues in a couple of different ways, which he described. The other \$750,000 of new funding in the FY20 proposal would go towards the partnership account. This is the funding account that gives the maximum flexibility for grant-making that is typically at staff level; although occasionally partnerships are large enough to require trustee approval. The FY20 \$2.15 million would be increased to \$2.9 million. The proposal is to use this \$750,000 to assist entities that had been relying on State funds that are at a risk of losing those funds as a result of the decision-making process going on between the Legislature and the Administration right now. He continued that it is expected to support the housing and homelessness area, and the behavioral health area. He explained that the approach is not to provide replacement, but would spread them among the impacted provider community and help get through the next four to six weeks without having to make any service reductions. This would be bridge funding. He asked for questions.

CHAIR MICHAEL stated that the million dollars in funds will be used to bridge gaps right now. The rest is in funds that are already in the budget with a recalculation of where it can be most effectively utilized within focus areas. She stated that there is a motion on the table, and asked for any further discussion.

There being no objection, the MOTION was approved.

MR. ABBOTT thanked the trustees and would have a report at the board meeting later in August. He stated that there will be a report on the status of this bridge funding.

CHAIR MICHAEL stated that the budget adjustments had been completed and asked for trustees' comments. She took this opportunity to thank Paula Easley for all her service.

TRUSTEE EASLEY thanked all.

TRUSTEE COOKE stated that he has known Paula Easley for many years, and she is a selfless, dedicated, hard-working person and has been a huge asset to this board. He thanked her and appreciated all of her hard work.

TRUSTEE STURGEON stated that he has also known Paula Easley, and thanked her for all of her service on this board, and all the other boards she served on over the years.

TRUSTEE DERR commented 13 years, 6 months, and 31 days, and added that she had been on 6 months longer.

TRUSTEE BOERNER stated appreciation for the mentoring by Paula Easley and loved her dedication. She also thanked the staff, as well, and appreciated them all.

TRUSTEE McCARTY also appreciated all and stated that they were all in together trying to help others. He added that it was a pointed day for him in that his dad, who had some mental health issues, is right now meeting Trustee McCarty's kids for the first time after 40 years.

MR. WILLIAMS stated appreciation for Paula Easley's leadership on several levels, and noted how she used the assets to increase the Trust's assets, and increase the impact.

TRUSTEE EASLEY stated that she will write a note to trustees expressing her appreciation. She added that this staff is the most professionally run operation in the entire state, and thanks them for that.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MICHAEL asked Trustee Easley for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by TRUSTEE EASLEY; seconded by TRUSTEE DERR.

There being no objection, the MOTION was approved.

(Special Full Board Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.)