

ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH TRUST AUTHORITY

FULL BOARD MEETING

**August 28, 2019
9:00 a.m.**

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

Trustees Present:

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

Trust Staff Present:

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

Trust Land Office:

Wyn Menefee
Jusdi Doucet
Sarah Morrison
Becky Carpenter
Katie Vachris
Mike Franger
Aaron O'Quinn

Also participating:

Kendra Kapotak (via Speakerphone); John Klaus (via Speakerphone); Dianna Schollmeir (via Speakerphone); Gloria Burnett; Kristin Vandagriff; Bev Schoonover; Brenda Moore; Michael Bailey; Michelle Girault; Commissioner Al Wall; Jillian Gellings; Tom McRoberts, Marcus Sanders; Denise Daniello; Charlene Tautfest; Teri Tibbett; Eliza Eller (via Speakerphone); Michael Bailey.

PROCEEDINGS

CALL TO ORDER

CHAIR MICHAEL called the meeting to order and began with a roll call. She acknowledged the trustees that were present and welcomed Trustee Anita Halterman to her first official meeting. She moved to the approval of the agenda.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

There being no objections, the MOTION was approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHAIR MICHAEL asked for any announcements.

TRUSTEE HALTERMAN stated that she would be present today and part of tomorrow, but needs to leave before the election votes are cast.

TRUSTEE COOKE suggested revising the agenda to accommodate Trustee Halterman.

MOTION: A motion to amend the agenda to move the elections to 9:35 Thursday morning was made by TRUSTEE DERR; seconded by TRUSTEE BOERNER.

There being no objections, the MOTION was approved.

CHAIR MICHAEL stated that the review of the Guiding Principles was in the packet.

ETHICS DISCLOSURES

CHAIR MICHAEL asked for any Ethics Disclosures. There being none, she moved to the approval of the minutes of March 28, 2019, May 8 and 9, 2019.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: A motion to approve the minutes of March 28, 2019, May 8, 2019, and May 9, 2019 was made by TRUSTEE COOKE, seconded by TRUSTEE STURGEON.

There being no objections, the MOTION was approved.

CHAIR MICHAEL stated that the bylaws are also in the packet, and turned the Mission Moment over to Eric Boyer.

MISSION MOMENT

MR. BOYER stated that some of the work that he does is around workforce, and he introduced Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority 2

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Gloria Burnett, the director of the Alaska Center for Rural Health and Health Workforce at the University of Alaska, Anchorage. She is also the director of the Alaska Area Health Education Centers, AHEC, which has been supported by the Trust for a number of years.

MS. BURNETT thanked all for the invitation and stated that she would be talking about the Alaska Behavioral Health Clear Pathways which exists because of the Trust. The stem funds to pilot this program were provided in 2015, and 19 students participated that year. It was such a success that additional funding was received, and we since have served over 300 students throughout the state, with 90 percent of those students from rural and underserved communities. She continued that all of those students are tracked, and we try to connect them to opportunities for higher education and careers in social work, human services, and behavioral health. The funds have made an important impact on the individual students that have been reached. She stated that there are three representatives from the Southwest Regional School District on the line, Kendra Kapotak, Dianna Schollmeir, and John Klaus.

MS. KAPOTAK stated that she learned a lot of information at once. She took it all in and has been able to use it currently. She continued that she was able to help a lot of other students. There have been some past experiences with mental health issues, and it was cool getting an inside look about what is going on and learning what to do to help. She added that a lot of the other careers were interesting, and she realized that she did not want to be in that field, but knows that she has tools to help other students and future people in her life.

MR. KLAUS stated that he has been working with AHEC for at least three years and has been able to offer the behavioral health camp through a program with other school districts to provide courses for students around the Bristol Bay region. One of them being the behavioral health camp that has become an integral part of the Allied Health Pathway. He continued that this partnership has been able to provide the support for bringing high-quality instruction to students in this area in a mindful, positive environment in a classroom setting. He added that the people at AHEC are very passionate about what they do in providing high-quality programming for the kids.

MS. SCHOLLMEIR stated that the behavioral health camp is a starting point to beginning the Allied Health Pathway to health careers. It gets students to see the different pathways they can go through for an allied health field. There have been quite a few success stories. Last year, students that started with this behavioral health camp finished their senior year by becoming certified nurse aide assistants. She continued that six went through the program, and six of them completed the program. One of those students continued and is in a fast-track dental hygienist program and will be done with that in the next four to five weeks. She added that this cannot be done without the partnership with AHEC. They provide topnotch instructors and information to help success in these pathways.

MS. BURNETT thanked them and stated that one of the things she loves most about the behavioral health program is that, regardless of whether the students decide to go into behavioral health or not, they learn the key skills about understanding and reducing the stigma around mental health. She continued that, this past year, the curriculum was formalized into a manual that is being sold and spread to other states. The first purchase was the Kentucky AHEC, which will be utilizing this curriculum that was developed with Trust support; and we will use those funds to further sustain the program and reinvest that in getting out in the communities.

TRUSTEE BOERNER stated that her daughter was enrolled in the Biomedical Career Academy at Service High School and was invited to apply for the behavioral health camp and was accepted. She noted that her family hosted two other behavioral health camp members, one from Kenai and the other from the YK region. Her daughter remains friends with both and has stated that she would like to work in mental health. She was able to learn the skills, create friendships and was able to converse with adults about the importance and the need to share the experiences of rural Alaska, and was also exposed to other students from across the state. She stated that it was a great family experience.

TRUSTEE McCARTY asked about the different career paths and if there is some sort of certification to get started in the field early.

MS. BURNETT replied that virtually every career path in behavioral and allied health is talked about. A major exposure is done because a lot of the students have only seen a community health aide. She talked about building a stronger connection with the tribal health facilities this year so that when behavioral health aide positions are looked for, the lists can be cross-referenced to see who is in the behavioral health pathways. If they are still around, this is a great way to connect providers with someone that has already had mental health first-aid trainings, someone who understands the self-care pieces that are so essential in the behavioral health workforce.

TRUSTEE COOKE stated appreciation for the information and especially the concept that the career horizons are being expanded in a way that is relevant to the lives they are living. He asked about the structure and the funding path of the Trust participants.

MS. BURNETT explained that the AHEC is funded through HRSA, the Health Resources and Service Administration. There is a federal grant that provides the base funding. There are six regional centers throughout the state hosted by a variety of different organizations. The Trust funds were stem funds used to start the pilot. The Department of Education funds \$150,000 per year, and the Trust funded the formalizing of the curriculum.

CHAIR MICHAEL thanked them for their presentation, and recognized Mike Abbott.

STAFF REPORT

MR. ABBOTT stated that the plant owned in the Mat-Su Valley has an old oil well that never produced. Because of the drilling activity, the Trust inherited an obligation to plug and abandon the well. That process was completed earlier this summer. It cost a little over \$100,000, which came out of the FY19 budget. He added that the Trust was under an Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission requirement to do so. This property was unsuccessfully marketed for a number of years. He added that the Commission should have and perhaps has collected a bond from whomever originally drilled the well to plug and abandon it. Now that work has been completed and, if the bond is still in good order, the costs may be recouped from that. He moved to the acquisition of a piece of property in Anchorage and converting it to a program-related use. After a significant amount of due diligence, that property will be very expensive to rehabilitate. It would have been cheaper to tear the building down and reconstruct new. Other options are being looked at to address the same need. He gave a brief update on three of the big resource development projects: Forest Service land exchange; the short field season planned for Icy Cape this summer has been completed; the latest plan of operations request for Constantine

Exploration program for the mining prospect north of Haines. He continued that Andy Stemp has announced his plans to move back to Barrow and take a position on the North Slope. Denise Daniello, from the Commission on Aging, has announced her plans to take a position with the University of Alaska Fairbanks in a few weeks. Teresa Holt, the long-term care ombudsman, has accepted the State director position with AARP. Staff will be working to fill that position. The last transition is that Mike Franger has announced his retirement, and a lot of TLO history will leave with him. He congratulated him. He stated that Sarah Morrison has become a 15-year state employee this month, and congratulated her for her 15 years of state services.

(Applause.)

MR. ABBOTT stated that Sarah will be the acting CFO starting September 1st. The plan at this point is to get Ms. Morrison into place and take the month of September to make sure that the position description for the CFO and the org chart still makes sense. Then, no later than October 1st we will aggressively be recruiting to fill the position permanently.

TRUSTEE STURGEON asked about Fort Knox. He stated that gold prices have gone up a fair amount and asked if the Trust gets paid a fixed amount or a percentage of the profit.

MR. ABBOTT replied that it is a net smelter royalty with a price component to it. He added that the net smelter royalty is declining significantly, and we are at the end of that mine's productive life, and the end of the royalty revenues.

CHAIR MICHAEL moved to the comp plan presentation.

COMP PLAN PRESENTATION

MR. ABBOTT stated that Deputy Commissioner Al Wall was invited to this presentation. There is a new comp plan, and the credit goes to Department leadership and specifically to some really strong staff work from a couple of folks. This plan is, according to statute and the settlement, supposed to guide the work of the Trust and, to a certain extent, guide the work of the Department. Staff wanted to build a system whereby the trustees would be updated on the status of the work to live the plan regularly. This would be an update of the status of the work against the comp plan at most trustee meetings. The Department leadership will be invited to join these presentations with the hope of developing a process of working together to advance the work described in the plan. He stated that Jillian Gellings from the Department and Autumn Vea from the Trust will start the presentation. He also welcomed Deputy Commissioner Wall to join in and participate.

TRUSTEE COOKE asked if this is an Alaska creation, or if it is required nationally.

MS. VEA replied that it is part of the Trust Settlement Act, and is unique to Alaska.

MS. GELLINGS stated that she is the Department representative that led this project from the Commissioner's office. She thanked everyone for their participation in putting together this plan, including the Trust Staff, the Department staff, and the Commissioner office leadership.

CHAIR MICHAEL welcomed Commissioner Adam Crum, and thanked him for attending.

MS. GELLINGS continued that this process of renewing the comp plan began as the new administrative change began, midway through the process. There were a lot of concerns about administrative support, but we got it done by the goal date of July 1st with a large amount of support from Commissioner Crum and Deputy Commissioner Wall. She continued that this comp plan has created a platform for a large integrated comprehensive mental health program for the State which was needed badly when the settlement occurred. This is the fourth plan, and it is really improving the system. It is named “Strengthening the System.” The benefits of this plan encompasses all beneficiary groups, all Alaska, and crosses anyone that may come in contact with the Trust. This five-year plan delineates Alaska’s publicly funded mental health program and establishes program-level visions and priorities. It serves as the glue that connects reform efforts, and will continue to evolve not only as the years go by, but also looking at the next five-year plan.

MS. VEA stated that her role in working with the plan was to rebuild the partnerships and relationships that were necessary to bring the individuals and partners together to collaborate and have a meaningful, useful plan to manage the logistics and the content of the plan itself. She explained the process, and stated that the public comment was published and included a summary of the concerns broken out by themes around the plan, eligibility, workforce development, service array, general questions, comments and concerns about the plan. She added that there were 388 individual revisions made based on public comment.

MS. GELLINGS focused on data that was included in how the resources that will be created can affect the change. The Alaska Scorecard was created from past versions of the comp plan and has been a useful tool for many agencies; and that shows how Alaska is doing on the things that were included in past versions of the comp plan. Based on the new strategies within the new comp plan, the format of the scorecard will be looked at and changed to really work with the new goals, new objectives, and strategies, and then give an annual update on the successes. She stated that the foundational goal is that the State of Alaska will provide adequate resources and funding to support a comprehensive behavioral health service system promoting independent, healthy Alaskans so they may live meaningful lives in the communities of their choosing. She explained that everything is going to circle around that goal and focus on the total lifespan from that prenatal moment all the way to the end of life.

MS. VEA stated that this is hosted under the Department of Health and Social Services, Office of Commissioner page. It is broken out by goal so anyone with a particular goal can print out the one that is appropriate to them. She then gave an example of what the Trust is already doing to support these efforts and went through Strategy A: establishing standards of care that ensure developmental screenings and caregiver education. She went through a few more examples that have tactics which are the steps that are necessary to help the strategies and objectives achieve the outcomes.

MS. GELLINGS stated that Goal 2 revolves around health care: “Alaskans have access to integrated healthcare options that promote optimal health, wellness, and independence.” The objective was narrowed down to: Alaskans have access to and receive quality health-care services. Medicaid is efficiently managed, and adequately resourced; and trauma-informed, person-centered health-care services are delivered.

MS. VEA stated that the Trust has made significant investments around this goal, around the 1115 waiver demonstration project, the ASO, the administrative services contract that is

currently being negotiated, all of the Medicaid-reform investments, working with DHSS to improve the behavioral health system as a whole to also include the dental grants that the Trust provides.

A brief discussion ensued.

MS. VEA responded that some of the investments that were highlighted were behavioral-health focused or substance-use-disorder focused. She explained more fully.

MR. ABBOTT stated that the resources should be focused to the greatest extent possible on the beneficiaries. He asked the trustees to challenge staff on funding recommendations that come through to make sure.

MR. WILLIAMS stated that he wanted to make sure that all recognize that this integration of physical health and mental health to include all of the beneficiary groups, which has been a movement for several years. He continued and challenged all to make sure that the term “behavioral health” includes all the beneficiary groups: Those with developmental and intellectual disabilities, as well as those who experience Alzheimer’s, dementia, other related disorders, traumatic brain injuries. This needs to be done from the Trust’s perspective and in working with the Department, as well.

MS. GELLINGS moved on to Goal 3 which focuses more on the economic and social well-being. “Trust beneficiaries have strong economic and social well-being.” There are four objectives under this goal, and she explained them.

MS. VEA gave some examples of each of these objectives that the Trust has invested in.

A discussion continued.

CHAIR MICHAEL recognized Deputy Commissioner Wall.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER WALL stated appreciation for the conversation. One of the things focused on the most was just approaching people holistically and being historically focused on the type of service being provided for a group rather than the needs of beneficiaries. He pointed out that the goals are all interwoven.

CHAIR MICHAEL recognized Bev Schoonover.

MS. SCHOONOVER stated that there were two initiatives happening that are very exciting. It is hard for Trust beneficiaries to keep minimal jobs, knowing that supported employment services are needed. The Trust is supporting an initiative that is happening which is an Empowerment Through Employment conference. Part of that is trying to get employment support services for Alaskans with severe mental illness and substance use disorders. She continued that OSMAP, the Office of Substance Misuse and Prevention, is working on a project, an employer toolkit for folks that want to hire Alaskans with substance use disorders. They have been relying on the fishing and timber industry on how to employ folks with those challenges and how to best stop the turnover and get folks gainfully employed. She added that there are some incredible things happening in the state with this goal.

CHAIR MICHAEL thanked Ms. Schoonover and asked for the presentation to proceed.

MS. GELLINGS moved to Goal 4, which is substance use disorder prevention and is a huge initiative happening across the whole state. “Prevention and treatment for drug and alcohol misuse is provided through collaborative, effective, and informed strategies.” This is a large part of what is happening now with the opioid epidemic in the state.

MS. VEA talked about the strategy in developing research-based health education campaigns. The Trust has partners with Recover Alaska to do anti-stigma campaigns which have been really successful and a good investment. Many organizations can apply directly to the Trust for grant funding to access evidence-based practices that can help improve the provided quality of care.

MS. GELLINGS stated that Goal 5, suicide prevention: “Individuals, families, communities, and governments take ownership to prevent suicides and self-harm in Alaska.” This speaks volumes to work that is done by the Suicide Prevention Council.

MS. VEA stated that one recent partnership was with the Suicide Prevention Council, the Division of Behavioral Health, and the Trust to create brochures on gun safety that will be passed out to emergency rooms, primary\care settings that will be given directly to beneficiaries or their loved one in those times of crises. This talks about safety.

MS. GELLINGS moved to Goal 6 which focuses around protecting vulnerable Alaskans. “All Alaskans are free from abuse, neglect, self-neglect, and exploitation.” The Alaska Resiliency initiative was encouraged by this goal. We are excited to continue working and focusing on the prevention. This next objective, a new one, came from the public comment. Goal 7 is “Services in the Least Restrictive Setting: Trust beneficiaries’ behavioral health needs are accurately assessed and met in the least restrictive environment.” She went through the objectives of this goal.

MS. VEA highlighted the first strategy, which is ensuring that crisis stabilization services are available statewide. The Trust was allocated around \$900,000 for this strategy to help build the infrastructure necessary to support that crisis continuum of care.

MS. GELLING stated Goal 8, “Services in an Institutional Setting. Trust beneficiaries who are in an institutional setting receive the necessary services and recovery supports to return to the community of their choice.” She went through the objectives.

MS. VEA stated that quite a bit of input was received from the Department of Corrections and DJJ, and we will continue to work with them in the details, the tactics of Phase II.

MS. GELLING moved to the last goal which is: “The State of Alaska has the workforce capacity, data, and technology systems in place to support the resources and funding of the Alaska’s Comprehensive Integrated Mental Health Program.” This one has a number of objectives.

MS. VEA stated that the first strategy is engaging and preparing Alaska’s youth for health careers. One of the projects that the Trust has helped support is the Path Academy to create that career path for individuals to become direct services providers.

MS. GELLING moved to the Alaska Scorecard which has been updated annually by the Division of Public Health and Vital Statistics. This is put out annually with the coordination of the Trust, and it watches all of the indicators. This started with prior comp plans and is something to look at to change and update so it can better coordinate with the current version. The new goals will be able to be better tracked on the updated Alaska Scorecard.

MS. VEA explained that any agency can look at the plan and see what evidence-based practices or resources were used to design the strategies that are outlined in the plan by a goal. There are the resources that would be necessary to implement some of those strategies, programs and evidence-based practices.

MS. GELLING continued that upcoming is the start of the implementation action plan, and another work group will get together to focus and fill in the gaps of the tactics. She stated the hope of having a leadership summit where everyone gathers to coordinate this effort and make sure all are working together on this comp plan.

MS. VEA added that part of the leadership summit purpose will be hearing what data the Department currently collects, how it is used, what data gaps they may have so that the progress can be demonstrated on turning the curve by any one of the goals identified.

CHAIR MICHAEL asked for any questions from the trustees.

TRUSTEE HALTERMAN observed that there was no mention to the OCS populations and would have liked to have seen a bit more about the conflicts of interest. She thanked them.

CHAIR MICHAEL asked the Commissioner to say a few words.

COMMISSIONER CRUM apologized for being late and thanked them for all the work on this Comp Plan. He stated that this is a paradigm shift in looking at how mental health and behavioral health is being approached across the board for all the beneficiaries in the state. One of the important aspects of this, the key goal overall, is to live the life they want in the community of their choosing. This goes beyond just preparing the individuals who go to work and train in resources. A missed aspect is training employers how to actually respond to and know how to properly employ resources and supports to hire individuals with disabilities, developmental disabilities, and the like. He continued that he has worked with Commissioner Ledbetter with the Department of Labor to tackle this across the board. A physician that is entirely dedicated towards empowering foster youth to transition into the workforce has been hired. This is something that needs to be tackled moving forward in the Phase II process. The input on this was tremendous across the board. He added that the comment process was tremendous and was a buy-in from everyone in the state.

CHAIR MICHAEL thanked the Commissioner and, on behalf of the trustees, thanked the staff and stakeholders involved. It was a long time coming, and we have needed the leadership, the Commissioner's support and partnership on this to make it happen with everyone working together. This is greatly appreciated. She asked for any comments from the trustees.

TRUSTEE COOKE had a procedural comment about having just a summary of the things in the report. This report was seen today, and it has a lot of valuable data, charts, the narrative that accomplishes each of the goals, objectives and strategies to reach them.

MR. ABBOTT echoed the Chair's comments on the support received from the Department and for stepping up and supporting as ambitious a plan as the one described. The last plan was written in 2006 and was effective until 2011. The Trust has a statutory requirement to implement such a plan, and it is great to be back in compliance with that requirement. He continued that this is a great plan from the Trust's point of view, and we are thankful that the Department embraced it. They will continue to be invited to participate, and this plan will be talked about consistently. He thanked the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner for their presence and participation.

CHAIR MICHAEL asked for any other comments or questions from the trustees.

TRUSTEE McCARTY stated that this is huge in the aspect of purpose of an individual. There is an opportunity if Alaska takes on being open for businesses to do things; otherwise there is a lot of compassion that cannot be implemented.

TRUSTEE COOKE echoed the comments about the participation of the Department and how much that is appreciated. He thanked all for their efforts.

CHAIR MICHAEL called a break.

(Break.)

CHAIR MICHAEL reconvened the meeting and moved to the statutory advisory groups' presentations.

STATUTORY ADVISORY GROUPS

MS. DANIELLO stated that the plan for the presentation is to give a bit of background information about the respective boards and to share some concerns about recent budget and policy actions with respect to the beneficiary populations; and to give an update on some of the activities. She began with the Alaska Commission of Aging, which began in 1981, for the purpose of working with seniors, helping them to maintain their health, dignity, and honor. The Commission satisfies a federal requirement through the Older Americans Act that each state have an advisory council to advise the State on aging matters; and the Alaska Commission on Aging fills that obligation. That also helps to fulfill the requirement for the State to draw down federal funds through the Older Americans Act. The Commission does education, community education outreach, which is done in collaboration with many partners, which includes the Trust. She moved to the senior population growth, which is almost 135,000 Alaskans age 60 and older; representing 18.2 percent of the state's total population. Almost 1 in 5 Alaskans are seniors. The fastest growing age are people between the ages of 60 to 64. She stated that the senior population is going to continue on aging and growing until about 2030 before it is stabilized. People age 80 years and older are the fast-growing populations, with more than 14,500 seniors. She continued that the Commission also focuses on seniors with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

MS. VANDAGRIFF stated that she is the Director of the Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education. The Council was instituted in 1978 by the Alaska State Legislature to bring together one entity to meet all of the different roles. The Developmental Disabilities Act, a

Federal law, states that every state is required to have one of these councils; a planning council that creates a five-year plan regarding developmental disabilities services and planning for those services. That is one of the Council's main roles. The next one comes from the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, IDEA regards infants and toddlers. Essentially, this is working with the infant learning program at Senior and Disabilities Services. In regard to the education lines, the Council is the governing body for SESA, Special Education Services Agency, which looks at getting resources out in the more rural parts of the state, low-incidence disabilities. Another role is the Statutory Advisory Board to the Trust with respect to beneficiaries with developmental disabilities. The Council has 26 members; each one of them fulfills a unique role. She continued explaining and commenting as she went along.

MS. SCHOONOVER stated that she was the acting executive director of the Alaska Mental Health Board and the Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse. She explained that the advisory boards are charged with advising, planning, and coordinating the state and private stakeholders on behavioral health issues in Alaska. The mission is to advocate for programs and services that promote healthy, independent, productive Alaskans. She stated that these citizen-led advisory boards have connected the voices of Alaskans with mental health and substance use disorders to the Governor, Legislature, the Department for over 20 years. The community-based work created the Opioid Policy Task Force and Opioid Policy Task Force recommendations. There are a total of 32 board members, six full-time staff, and the Statewide Suicide Prevention Council is also co-located with the boards. There are 18 members and one full-time staff. She continued that they are partner advisory boards to the Trust, as well as grantees. Then, the statutory advisory roles for the Trust includes collaborating on the comprehensive plan, advising on the use of the money, and the Mental Health Trust Settlement. She added that they are also the hiring committee for the Trust CEO, among other projects and duties as assigned.

MS. DANIELLO continued the presentation and talked about the various budget impacts from the FY20 budget and went through some of the impacts that were seen for Trust beneficiaries. She shared the good news that full funding was restored for the Alaska Senior Benefits Program; of all the budget impacts that affected seniors, this program was most appreciated. She continued that not only was the funding restored for the FY20 budget for senior benefits of \$20.7 million, the supplemental funds of \$800,000 for senior benefit recipients were also restored. She thanked Governor Dunleavy for putting that money back into the budget.

TRUSTEE STURGEON asked to explain what the Senior Benefits Program is exactly.

MS. DANIELLO replied that this program was established in 2006, which included the senior care longevity bonus. It was created as a needs-based program. It is for seniors 65 and older. She explained the three levels of payment assistance, and explained what was happening with Medicaid. She added that the Department released an announcement that the Medicaid adult dental program went back into effect for this quarter. There will still be payments made until the end of September for Medicaid beneficiaries to finish their dental work. Going forward, we will be figuring out a new plan of how to serve people who are Medicaid beneficiaries with their dental health-care needs. She added that the Department is currently recruiting for a dental director. This is a new position that will work on developing a plan on oral health. She moved to more good news about funding that was restored for Alaska Legal Services. She also mentioned that Alaska's six Pioneer Homes currently have about 495 residents, and are almost at full capacity. She explained that the average age of a Pioneer Home resident is 87 years old. When they were first established, they were more like nice senior living places for people, and

over the years have changed and evolved. They are servicing a higher number of people with Alzheimer's and related dementias, as well as higher forms of care. The Department has made a few changes that are going forward through regulation, and one of them has to do with increasing rates for the residents. Another is that currently there are three levels of care, and after the new regulations go into effect there will be five progressive levels of care. The two new levels of care will focus on people with behavioral health needs as well as complex behaviors, and will include all the different types of services received at the lower levels of care.

MS. VANDAGRIFF stated that for individuals with developmental disabilities, Medicaid continues to be one of the biggest things watched with many concerns over, and are brought as part of that stakeholder feedback. She continued that the Council provided a letter stating that these were some areas that are important for stakeholders, and they have some concerns with respect to the reductions and ensuring that beneficiaries will still be able to get those needs met. She moved to the 50 percent executive branch travel reduction just in the respect that Council travel tends to be an important facet of the work with bringing together individuals with developmental disabilities from all across the state. It is very challenging to ensure that everyone fully understands the issues while on the phone or even during video conferencing. She moved on to the early intervention services and childhood programs that the Council really follows. She stated that funding was restored to the Head Start programs, early childhood grants, Parents as Teachers, and Best Beginnings.

CHAIR MICHAEL asked how the waitlist for DD services was impacted.

MS. VANDAGRIFF replied that the Developmental Disabilities Committee continues to monitor the waitlist. It is important to remember the Individualized Supports Waiver was a new waiver that has the opportunity to offer 600 slots, and we are not quite at the point of having all of them filled.

MS. SCHOONOVER stated that the boards have long advocated for smart spending by the State and putting investments in now that will save the State money later. The great news is that there was funding restored in the human services community matching grants, the community initiative matching grants -- resources to the homeless shelters and food banks, Anchorage, Fairbanks, Mat-Su, and throughout Alaska. She then talked about Medicaid and the boards' role is describing who is using it, what it is being used for, and how it is helping communities to be safe, and improving the health of Alaskans.

MS. DANIELLO mentioned that there were no cuts to senior grant-funded services in the original budget which includes the services that provide senior meals, home-delivered meals, adult day programs, transportation and many important grant-funded services. There was also \$1.57 million in AHFC's budget with a senior housing component to help develop new or renovate existing senior housing projects.

CHAIR MICHAEL asked for any questions.

TRUSTEE COOKE asked Ms. Schoonover, with respect to the legalization of recreational marijuana adopted a few years ago, if she was aware of any specific impact or study of the impact in terms of treatment.

MS. SCHOONOVER replied that they are looking to Colorado, who was one of the first to Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority 12

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broadly legalize it. They are doing a number of studies on how it is affecting youth, if it is impacting drunk or impaired driving. She stated that how it contributes to treatment and recovery just does not have enough available data.

MS. MOORE added that there are significant issues with API, and all the cuts to treatment have resulted in some internal issues which was more of a systems problem.

MS. VANDAGRIFF highlighted a couple of joint impact items for FY20 that the boards are looking at based on stakeholder input: transportation, housing, behavioral health, beneficiary safety and well-being, increasing numbers of beneficiaries at risk for higher care settings, workforce shortages, as well as declining caregiver ratio projections. She stated that the Council had put forth a caregiver carrier survey recently, and we are going through the analysis on that, but we are really looking at what some of the extreme challenges are for caregivers, especially in obtaining and maintaining employment.

MS. DANIELLO talked about the importance of caregivers. They are the foundation for long-term care for seniors, for people with physical, as well developmental disabilities. As the senior population continues to grow, it is growing faster than potential caregivers. Caregivers are really important to the long-term care system. She gave an update about the activities of the Alaska Commission on Aging. She thanked the Trust for the supported effort. She continued that this would be her last presentation to the trustees in this position. She stated that she had taken a new position with the University of Alaska Fairbanks for a new project that was recently funded. It is a five-year federal grant through the National Institutes of Health to establish a center for biochemical research excellence. The application of these studies will be used to help and improve prevention and treatment for seniors with diabetes. She continued that Lesley Thompson, the planner, will fill in as interim executive director. She added that it has been an honor and privilege to have worked with the Commission, serving Alaska seniors, and working with everybody. She thanked all for all the support given to the Commission on Aging over the years.

CHAIR MICHAEL thanked Ms. Daniello for her service, and commented that she has been a powerhouse, helped change many things, and has been very positive to work with. She stated that it has been a pleasure to work with her and wished her the best with the new endeavor.

MS. VANDAGRIFF continued that the Council voted unanimously to hire her as the executive director, and the Governor approved that appointment. They are now tasked with hiring someone for her old position and completing the process. The Council has moved to the Atwood Building, which is a great cost savings, and we are excited about those changes. She stated that the DD Vision continues to be a huge facet of the work that the Council does.

MS. SCHOONOVER talked about some staff turnover. She stated that the current focus areas are Medicaid Reform, API Governance, system reform, alcohol misuse prevention, criminal justice reform, FASD awareness and education, early childhood interventions, suicide prevention, and employment supports. The boards are meeting in Kenai, and the Trust staff and trustees have been invited.

CHAIR MICHAEL asked for any questions. There being none, she broke for lunch.

(Lunch Break.)

CHAIR MICHAEL stated that next on the agenda are some approvals.

MOTION: A motion to approve transferring the fund source of the \$1,145,000 grant to the Department of Corrections for the Hiland Mountain Correctional Center; Women's Mental Health Unit Remodel project from FY19 Authority Grant funds to FY19 MHTAAR funds was made by TRUSTEE DERR; seconded by TRUSTEE BOERNER.

CHAIR MICHAEL recognized Mr. Williams.

MR. WILLIAMS stated that this is a pretty straightforward request. As the motion, the detail and the background of the amendment suggests, trustees already approved this amount. He continued that these funds were approved to assist and partner with the Department of Corrections in remodeling the Hiland Mountain Women's Mental Health Unit and Mental Unit. It is the expansion of both. At the time, the plan was for the Trust to RSA these funds over to the Department. With the new Administration and the new budget, the fund source got switched to MHTAAR funds. This is switching the type of funds designated by the trustees, with the same amount for the same purpose, to complete the Hiland Mountain project. He added that the funds are there, and we just need the approval from the trustees to change it from Authority Grant funds to MHTAAR funds.

There being no objections, the MOTION was approved, with TRUSTEE COOKE abstaining.

MR. ABBOTT stated that staff will let the Department of Corrections know, and put those processes in place.

MOTION: A motion that the Alaska Mental Health Trust Board of Trustees approve the transfer of \$304,000 from the Central Facilities Fund (CFF) to fund improvements at the Cordova Street property and the Trust Authority building was made by TRUSTEE DERR; seconded by TRUSTEE COOKE.

CHAIR MICHAEL recognized Wyn Menefee.

MR. MENEFEE reminded the board that in May of '18, they created the Central Facilities Fund. It was created to deal with cash-flow-compression issues with commercial real estate buildings so that if there was no funding at a certain point in time for either the property costs that exceeded cash flows, some major repairs or replacement of building components that are outside or in advance of the regularly scheduled replacement, leasing obligations, tenant improvements, expansion or retrofit. The idea was to build it up to \$2 million by putting some money from the proceeds from commercial real estate in the potential facilities fund. It is an account that gives a balancing effect when it cannot be met with cash-flow compressions. This is the first request being made to the board for use of the Central Facility Fund. He asked Aaron O'Quinn to explain.

MR. O'QUINN stated that the two buildings are the Trust Authority building and the Cordova Street building where the TLO offices are. He explained the repairs that were made during the summer and then talked about the significant damage both buildings sustained in the earthquake; mostly cosmetic, but still expensive. Both buildings are covered by the State self-insurance

fund. Approximately \$50,000 was spent at each building after the earthquake. Claims have been submitted to have that repaid, but we have not yet received the money due to administrative difficulties. Additional funds are being requested to be disbursed to Cordova to cover the loan to the tenant should that be chosen to do, which would be paid over the life of that lease. He asked for any questions.

TRUSTEE DERR asked for an explanation of administrative difficulties and what that means in getting money from the State.

MR. MENEFEE replied that it was polite way of saying there are a bunch of errors in processing of something that normally is a fast turnaround.

TRUSTEE McCARTY asked about the guarantee that the people that are signing the lease will stay there.

MR. O'QUINN replied that there is no guarantee yet, but we will analyze their financial status and the projections for revenue. The tenant is Alaska Process Industry Construction Consortium. They rely on training for private entities and have been expanding their programming lately.

MR. MENEFEE added that on a loan like that interest is charged.

CHAIR MICHAEL asked for any other questions, and asked for any objections.

There being no objections, the MOTION was approved.

AMPS DISCUSSION

CHAIR MICHAEL moved to the next item on the agenda, and recognized Mr. Abbott.

MOTION: A motion that the Full Board of Trustees accept the Finance Committee recommendation to amend the Asset Management Policy Statement as proposed by Callan, LLC, was made by TRUSTEE DERR; seconded by TRUSTEE BOERNER.

MR. ABBOTT stated that this recommendation is that the board take action to endorse the Finance Committee action of a month ago. There have been no changes made in the draft Asset Management Policy Statement since the board reviewed it a month ago, and it was discussed with Callan. This was brought forth for final action.

CHAIR MICHAEL asked for questions or comments.

TRUSTEE DERR encouraged trustees to read through the Asset Management Policy Statement. There is a lot in there, and it determines the operation to the assets that have both finance, or cash and noncash. Some of the wording was changed. This is important.

TRUSTEE COOKE asked how this was integrated with the regulations changes that are being considered at this meeting.

MR. MENEFEE replied that the AMPS sets the policy direction, what is accomplished with everything from investments and how the funds are managed.

CHAIR MICHAEL asked for any objections.

There being no objections, the MOTION is approved.

TRUSTEE DERR thanked Mr. Stemp for all his work in putting this together. He performed a monumental task, and she wanted him recognized for it.

CHAIR MICHAEL moved to cost recovery regulations.

COST RECOVERY REGULATIONS

MOTION: A motion that the Full Board of Trustees authorize the Trust Authority staff to issue a public notice of proposed regulation change to 20 AAC 40.610 and 20 AAC 40.700 and start the regulation review public comment period was made by TRUSTEE DERR; seconded by TRUSTEE COOKE.

MR. ABBOTT stated that this is the first stage in the regulation-writing process necessary to implement the Board's action last spring in the establishment of the Trust Land Office Development Account. That is one objective. The other objective is to address one of the concerns that was raised in the Legislative audit which will be talked about later. He continued that the action today does not approve or adopt regulations; that will take place at a later trustee meeting. This authorizes the staff to start the public-comment process required of any state regulatory adoption proposal.

TRUSTEE DERR stated that AMPS was adopted, and AMPS are referred to in the regulations. She talked about changing the date of the AMPS policy in regulations.

MR. ABBOTT clarified that the recommendation is that not be included in this regulations-writing package. He stated that a subsequent proposal to adopt that regulatory change will be brought forward at a future meeting. He recommended a short briefing of what is in those regulations to inform the decision to initiate this regulations-writing process.

MR. STEMP stated that the motion is summarized in a briefing paper that was developed and circulated to the advisory boards. It complemented the motion language and talked about the rationale behind the approach, the goals that the Trust is attempting to accomplish, and how this fits within the mandate to look out for the best interests of the Trust beneficiaries. He continued that this shows how a proposed change might take effect, and the wording that we're seeking to implement to facilitate the things the Trust wants to do. He clarified what staff is trying to achieve in this process. He added that this is being brought forward for consideration to assist all of the beneficiary groups, and to facilitate the business needs of the Trust.

CHAIR MICHAEL asked for any questions.

MS. SCHOONOVER stated that the Mental Health Board very seriously sees its statutory duties to advise the trustees on the money in the Trust Settlement Account. She cautioned on inherently changing the language which could cause a change and start the public process of the use of the funds, the land, the trustee structure, of everything that is done. She also stressed focusing on the beneficiaries more than focusing on the investments and the commercial real

estate properties.

CHAIR MICHAEL appreciated the comments and got the whole focus on the programs and beneficiaries. She explained that in the ten years that she has been here the Trust has changed. It is not the same place it was when she started; it did not have the infrastructure and did not have the expertise. She continued that it needs to be protected because there is growth and there is a need to think about the future. Relying on one source of revenue will not be sustainable. She added that it is scary, but there is the need to go forward.

TRUSTEE DERR stated the need to spend time to develop the resources, otherwise where will the money come from. She continued that she started on the board 14 years ago and there was just concentration on programs, and now there is a need to start doing resource development. If not, there will be no money for the programs.

TRUSTEE COOKE stated that there have been some TLO-related issues over the past few months that he wants to free up the incomes so it can be used for programs and services to beneficiaries. He talked about the land, which costs money to own, and stated that it needs to be protected, insured and developed so that it can be converted into a usable form.

CHAIR MICHAEL asked for any further discussion. There being none, she asked for any objections to the motion.

There being no objections, the MOTION was approved.

MR. ABBOTT thanked the Chair, and stated that the schedule is to visit Southcentral Foundation.

MS. JOHNSON gave a short briefing on the visit schedule and the services that will be seen.

CHAIR MICHAEL called a recess.

(Break.)

(Trustees' on-site visit to Child & Family Development Services, 4441 Diplomacy Drive, Anchorage, Alaska.)

PUBLIC COMMENT

CHAIR MICHAEL called the meeting back to order for the public-comment period. She went through the protocol for public comment. She asked for anyone on-line that would like to testify. She then recognized Michael Bailey.

MR. BAILEY stated that he works at Hope Community Resources and also serves as the board president for an Alaska association on development disability providers consisting of 50 members. He continued that the ADD connection with the Trust was solidified in 2013 when it was a collapse of the Medicaid payment system. There was a tremendous amount of work and research done by the Trust on the impact of that, and we since have built a great partnership. He added that he was here to say thank you because everything that is done translates directly to beneficiaries, whether it is making access to services easier or the quality of services delivered.

He gave a short update on some of the happenings and was just overflowing with gratitude.

CHAIR MICHAEL asked for some advice and direction on where he thinks the Trust should be focusing the funding and energy on other than what is being done. She asked if the right cylinders were being hit.

MR. BAILEY replied that, from listening today, the answer is yes. He added that he thinks the great burden on providers is workforce.

TRUSTEE McCARTY asked if there has been more of a turnaround in staff than before and having to do more training.

MR. BAILEY replied that it is a combination. He is seeing a lot of migration of even nondirect service providers who had to cut back on some of the support services. Some people begin to leave because their job may be next to be cut back.

TRUSTEE BOERNER stated that some great points were raised as challenges go. A colleague and friend won a statewide award for their work with beneficiaries through home-care. That person only made \$26,000 for the year, with no health insurance. That is a challenge.

CHAIR MICHAEL thanked Mr. Bailey for the work he does and stated appreciation for it. She asked for anyone on-line that wanted to testify.

MS. ELLER stated that she is Eliza Eller and thanked the trustees and the Trust staff for the work they have been doing, resources that have been put into peer support around the state and working with the Division. She is from Ionia on the Kenai Peninsula and they are doing peer-support training and working with peers, working the fields, providing these support services to folks. It is an awesome pleasure and honor to work with people in recovery who are turning around, and empowering others to follow in their footsteps and learn how to take care of themselves.

CHAIR MICHAEL thanked Ms. Eller, and stated appreciation for the comments. She asked for anyone else to testify. There being no one, she recessed the meeting.

(Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Full Board Meeting recessed at 4:45 p.m.)