

ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH TRUST AUTHORITY

FULL BOARD MEETING

November 6, 2019

8:30 a.m.

Taken at:

**3745 Community Park Loop, Suite 120
Anchorage, Alaska**

Trustees Present:

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

Trust Staff Present:

Mike Abbott
Katie Baldwin-Johnson
Mike Baldwin
Eric Boyer
Jimael Johnson
Steve Williams
Miri Smith-Coolidge
Sarah Morrison
Luke Lind
Carrie Predeger
Valette Keller
Kelda Barstad
Travis Welch
Allison Biastock
Autumn Veal (via Speakerphone)

Trust Land Office:

Wyn Menefee
Sarah Morrison
Becky Carpenter
Katie Vachris
Aaron O'Quinn

Also participating:

Kristin Vandagriff; Bev Schoonover; Brenda Moore; Lesley Thompson; Gordon Glaser; Deputy Commissioner Al Wall; Jillian Gellings (via Speakerphone); Gennifer Moreau-Johnson; Charlene Tautfest (via Speakerphone); Summer LaFayre; Jessica Clarkson; Faith Myers; Dorrance Collins; Dr. Aaron Wolf; Lisa Nolan; Yvonne Denman; Laurel Bennett; John Lee; Dave Branding; Leah Van Kirk; Sharon Fishel; Eric Morrison; Sara Hannan; Sharon Jackson; Peter Micciche; Tom Begich; Monique Andrews; Barbara Franks.

PROCEEDINGS

CALL TO ORDER

CHAIR MICHAEL called the meeting to order, acknowledged the trustees that were present, and asked for any announcements. There being no announcements, she moved to approval of the agenda.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

There being no objection, the MOTION was approved.

TRUSTEE COOKE stated that he had a couple of questions about the TLO consultation summary for Mr. Menefee and would like some information on some of the items. He asked to either add it to the agenda or the CEO's report.

CHAIR MICHAEL replied that it would be added to the CEO report,

MR. ABBOTT requested, before trustee comments, a discussion item on the January meeting location.

CHAIR MICHAEL stated that there are a couple changes to the agenda and asked for a second.

TRUSTEE HALTERMAN seconded.

There being no objection, 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 for July 16, 2019.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: A motion to approve the minutes of July 16, 2019, was made by TRUSTEE

COOKE; seconded by TRUSTEE BOERNER.

There being no objection, the MOTION was approved.

CHAIR MICHAEL asked for a motion to approve the minutes of August 1, 2019.

MOTION: A motion to approve the minutes of August 1, 2019, was made by TRUSTEE COOKE; seconded by TRUSTEE BOERNER.

There being no objection, the MOTION was approved.

CHAIR MICHAEL asked for a motion to approve the minutes of August 28 and 29, 2019.

MOTION: A motion to approve the minutes of August 28 and 29, 2019, was made by TRUSTEE COOKE; seconded by TRUSTEE BOERNER.

There being no objection, the MOTION was approved.

CHAIR MICHAEL stated that the Bylaws are also in the packet, and moved to the Mission Moment.

MISSION MOMENT

MR. WELCH stated that the Mission Moment is in regard to the Palmer Family/Infant Toddler Court which operates in the Mat-Su Borough. He introduced Jessica Clarkson, the project coordinator for this program and Summer LaFayre, with the Center for Human Development, who works with Ms. Clarkson.

MS. CLARKSON stated that she is the project coordinator, also called community coordinator because it is really engaging the community in this project. She explained that the Palmer Families with Infants & Toddlers Therapeutic Court is a collaborative mission to help young children that are in the child welfare system that have been removed from their home. It is based on the model of Zero to Three, a national organization that does all things related to the ages between zero and three. Developed was a court model called Safe Babies, also called FIT Court, or the Safe Babies Court. The first why for this was the realization that a disproportionate number of children are very young in the child welfare system. She continued that in Palmer, on any given month, it is 33 percent of the children between zero and three. The second why is based on science and neurodevelopment and what is known about young children. This age group is so important because this is setting children up for lifelong healthy development. She added that this is where the adverse childhood trauma can be disrupting to the neurodevelopment of a young child. She added that their mission is to ensure that any trauma these kids have endured are wrapped in protective and resiliency factors to make sure that their development can be healthy long-term. She explained that the court's docket is under Superior Court Judge John Woodman, and the court team has the dedicated OCS worker, Yvonne Denman. This is a collective group that is pushing these families towards healthy well-being and being safe, positive parents for their children. She explained the process, the training, which focuses on the child/parent psychotherapy which the Trust has been really supportive of in the state. That is described as a double scoop; scooping that parent and that trauma that parent has, and scooping that child and that trauma the child has endured, and making sure that relationship and

neurodevelopment are being repaired. She stated that frequent family contact is strived for and rapid entry into services, which is similar to all the other therapeutic courts. The hope is to decrease the time of permanency, having these children in permanent homes quickly with a goal of 12 months. Wanted is the reduction of repeat maltreatment. She continued that the children have already been neglected and abused, and the goal is to make sure that does not happen again and to improve child well-being. She added that there is a maximum capacity of 12 families at any one time. Families are counted a little uniquely: The adults and children are counted, and if there is a time that the parents are not able to continue parenting, the child and his needs continue to be tracked until they exit the system. She went through some of their success stories.

TRUSTEE McCARTY asked if 12 months is the cutoff for reunification.

MS. CLARKSON replied that the goal is 12 months to get that child either reunified on a trial home visit or the case is closed in 12 months. She added that there have been situations where the time has been extended.

TRUSTEE McCARTY asked what was being done on the aspect of nutrition and with the children affected with substances in early development.

MS. CLARKSON explained that they work with Ptarmigan Connections, and the children all get ILP evaluations to make sure their development is very closely tracked. She stated that they also try to get all of their children into Early Head Start. The folks at the centers in Palmer and in Wasilla have a phenomenal program. They really track development and support the parents around nutrition and providing a holistic care towards education.

TRUSTEE COOKE thanked Ms. Clarkson for her presentation and asked what the underlying circumstances are that bring someone or a family into the situation where the court may be an alternative.

MS. CLARKSON replied that eligibility is based on the child. OCS determines if a petition is filed, and if there is a child between three and younger she gets that petition and reviews it for eligibility. She explained that what is different about this therapeutic court is that there is a period of time where you can opt out, which is at month four. Both parents have to opt in to the court.

TRUSTEE COOKE asked if anyone is evaluating the success of the program and seeking to employ it elsewhere or expand it.

MS. CLARKSON replied that NBC Research is an independent evaluator evaluating the FIT Court.

MR. ABBOTT explained that one of the reasons why the Trust is funding this is to test and validate it; and then if the results are positive, to try to work with application of this statewide. He stated that this was an opportunity for the Trust to try something, evaluate it, and then if the evaluation merits that, advocate for the expansion beyond just the Palmer system.

MR. WELCH added that other communities have looked at this with interest. He stated that this is a joint venture between the Trust and many partners such as the Rasmuson Foundation, the

Mat-Su Health Foundation, which funds the largest portion of this program. The Trust funding goes towards providing services for the families. He continued that about \$70,000 out of the Disability Justice Focus Area, as well as flex funds, which are a larger pool that go to some various therapeutic courts, including FIT. That funding simply goes to housing issues, transportation, and bridging gaps that may be impediments to the families' success. He added that there are multiple partners, including the Court System, OCS, the Public Defender Agency, and OPA, as well.

CHAIR MICHAEL thanked all and moved to the CEO update.

CEO UPDATE

MR. ABBOTT began with the Dashboard which reflects the first quarter of the fiscal year's activity, which is the three months ending at the end of September; and continued with a few highlights. He stated that there was no concern about any risk of exceeding the administrative budgets. He then highlighted the investment activity to date. He continued that the Permanent Fund is still anticipating that their annual year-end projection will be made, and it is expected that the variance numbers would turn around at least some, if not entirely. He added that the better they do, the better the Trust will be generally, and in terms of annual spending capability. He moved to the description of the reserves condition and stated that the current reserve status is \$120 million, over reserve by about \$28 million, which is great.

TRUSTEE DERR asked if there was a need to do a transfer of Trust principal to the Permanent Fund.

MR. ABBOTT replied that is anticipated being one of the primary discussion items at the January Finance Committee Meeting and then, likely, Board action based on a Finance Committee recommendation at the end of January.

CHAIR MICHAEL asked if the reserve sits in the budget until it is drawn upon.

MR. ABBOTT replied yes, all \$11.6 million resides in the reserves until it is expended. In the case of Hiland Mountain, the money will move from reserves when it is required. The other funds will all stay in reserves until the Board authorizes their expenditure. He explained that when the operating budget was finally adopted by the State, one of the pieces of intent language in that established a request that the Trust send the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee a report determining compliance with the statutes and the initial Trust settlement regarding the commercial real estate investments. This is a byproduct of the Legislative audit from a year and a half ago. That report is due to the LB&A committee on November 15th. It is in the process of being developed, and a copy will be given to the trustees as soon as it is sent to the State. He continued that the FY19 financial audit has been completed and will be presented to the Audit Committee in January.

TRUSTEE COOKE asked if the letter to the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee would be distributed to the trustees before being sent out.

MR. ABBOTT replied that a draft is likely by Friday, and he would like to get trustee comments by the close of business Monday. He stated that, as required by the changes made to the Asset

Management Policy Statement, the services of a real estate investment consultant have been secured. The name of that outfit is Harvest, based out of Boston. They were the successful proposer in an RFP process that was completed last month. He continued that trustee recruitment is underway as there will be two trustee vacancies early next year. The statutorily required process for the Trust and the Governor's office to solicit applications was underway and just closed. He added that the Chair appointed Trustee Cooke to represent the trustees on the evaluation team, which will begin next week. He stated that they are continuing to work with CHOICES and the Consumer Web to find better facilities for their use. For a variety of reasons, the transaction on the commercial property on Commercial Drive is not moving forward. Another property was identified which originally housed the Alaska Oil & Gas Conservation Commission, and the Municipality is looking for someone to buy it and put it to use. This may be a good fit. A recommendation will hopefully be brought forth in January. He reported that the lease with the State of Texas for the Promontory Point commercial real estate investment in Austin has been fully executed. It is a great deal for the Trust, whether or not the property sells as a result of the option or not. Having a quality tenant like the State of Texas will ensure the viability of that property as an investment for the Trust for several years. He continued that the Trust Land Office has secured the services of an external consultant; ECI/Hyer to complete a master plan for the Community Park Campus, most of which are being leased to third parties at this point, and are coming towards an expiration date in the next four to ten years. He talked about their interests and how they may fit in this land-base asset. There may be ways to support those partners in different ways and gain more revenue for the Trust. That is what the consultant is working on right now. He added that this is to let the trustees know the discussion on this work is underway.

CHAIR MICHAEL stated that this is some of the very last land in the City that has institutional zoning and, personally, she has a lot of history with it. She would like to be involved because the leadership of this project has to be balanced with the values of the Trust and its mission and the values of programs. There has been a lot of work done to make the Trust, the land office and the administration offices integrated because the community needs to see the Trust caring about both equally.

MR. ABBOTT stated that the product received from the consultant will be options which will be discussed with the trustees before any decisions on land use are ultimately made. He commented that the Forest Service land exchange is still progressing. Phase II was divided into two sections: Phase IIA will have the benefit of keeping the timber operator partner in business while the rest of Phase II is completed. He concluded the CEO report.

STATUTORY ADVISORY GROUPS

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL EDUCATION

MS. VANDAGRIFF stated that she was the Director of the Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education. She recognized that 26 member positions were filled. On the staffing piece, Anne Applegate is the new planner and is doing an awesome job. She reported taking part in the planning for the Disability and Aging Summit, working with Special Olympics Alaska. There were 102 attendees this past year that came from 53 different agencies. She asked Ms. Applegate to continue.

MS. APPEGATE reported that her colleague performed amazingly on the great legislative and Policy Panel. The discussion that was generated was a great capper on the whole summit; it was clear and really understandable.

MS. VANDAGRIFF stated that the Council supports the summit held by Peer Power Alaska, the statewide self-advocacy organization for individuals with intellectual and development disabilities. She thanked the Trust for continuing to fund this, which was the third annual summit, and commented that there was a 64 percent increase in participation from last year. The preliminary analysis of the outcome surveys was that there was knowledge gained by all participants in each of the areas. The entire number of topics covered looked at aligning the deep shared vision, a meaningful, person-directed life. She stated that October was Disability Employment Awareness Month, and the Council worked jointly with the State Voc Rehab Council in obtaining a proclamation from Governor Dunleavy. This proclamation was read at the Empowerment through Employment Conference by DVR Director Duane Mayes. Project Search, a transition program for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the last year of high school, immersed them in host business sites with the end result of competitive and integrated employment after nine months.

MS. APPEGATE explained that the Education Committee is the work group for the Special Education Advisory Panel for the Department of Education and appraises them of unmet needs to review all of the reporting to the Office of Special Education Programs and to look over some of the methodology for their various indicators of compliance and outcome-based reporting. The SEAP has a membership requirement, and there is constant work done to make sure that is compliant with the IDEA.

MS. VANDAGRIFF continued through the presentation explaining and touching on the different activities and projects the Governor's Council has been working on and will continue to work on. She stated that June 30, 2021, is the sunset date for SESA. If it was not to be reauthorized, they would have a year from that date to close up shop. She continued that the Council is looking at doing a position paper that will at least talk to all of the work that SESA does and the integral nature of SESA. She added that the Council is the majority of the governing board for SESA.

CHAIR MICHAEL thanked Ms. Vandagriff for the detailed report, and moved to a ten-minute break.

(Break.)

CHAIR MICHAEL called the meeting back to order.

ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH BOARD ADVISORY BOARD ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE

MS. SCHOONOVER stated that she is the executive director of the Alaska Mental Health Board and the Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse, and she just got notice of the approval to hire herself as an executive director. She thanked all for the support, and to the Deputy Commissioner, Commissioner, and her board for advocating for her.

CHAIR MICHAEL congratulated Ms. Schoonover.

MS. SCHOONOVER used her statutory partner update time to share information on joint efforts for suicide prevention statewide. She highlighted how the Alaska Mental Health Trust is supporting these efforts. She stated that there are three behavioral health advisory boards and council at DBH: Mental Health Board; The Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse, which work together; and then there is also the Statewide Suicide Prevention Council. She explained that she provides executive leadership for all three of those boards; the same office, but separate staff. Her goal is to collaborate together more between these boards and councils and external partners to really focus on some systemic suicide prevention efforts fostering resiliency and protective factors statewide. She added the hope to invite the trustees to the next board meeting and give an update on the board's activities in January. She moved to the Statewide Suicide Prevention Council, which is authorized by statute, and serves in an advisory capacity to the Legislature and the Governor regarding suicide awareness and prevention. There are 17 members total, with 13 voting members appointed by the Governor. There are two nonvoting members representing the Alaska House of Representatives, and two representing the Alaska Senate. This council advises the Legislature on suicide awareness and prevention, and we work with local suicide prevention coalitions, organizations, schools, wellness coalitions, and tribes. The main work is a five-year prevention plan and following up on the recommendations of the plan that came out in January of 2018. She briefly went over some updated suicide data from the state and talked about the Reducing Lethal Means Campaign, which has been supported by the Trust.

TRUSTEE BOERNER stated that it is key and very important to have representation of Alaska Natives on the Council. It was suggested and recommended to bring the program people that are familiar with the Alaska Tribal Health System into that fold. She continued that one area of resource is the tribal behavioral health directors, and being able to tap into that group of subject-matter experts and those that are familiar with the programs that may be developed and implemented in Rural Alaska. She added that would be a great place for the Council to look for expertise.

MS. SCHOONOVER stated that that recommendation was advocated for to both of those sponsors, and we highly support it. She has heard all the time, and agrees, that not enough is being done for rural communities. The issues for suicide prevention are very big: historical trauma; intergenerational trauma; adverse childhood experiences. There is the need for the State to provide more leadership and resources to this issue. She moved to how suicide impacts Trust beneficiaries and explained the data. She then shared a current outreach and education campaign which is reducing lethal means; a research-informed strategy that puts time and space between someone in crisis and things that can be lethal. The specific education outreach campaign focuses on firearms because 75 percent of all Alaskan gun deaths are by suicide. She continued that all of the trustees received a gunlock, and asked that they make sure it goes to someone able to use it. She added that the State of Alaska is required to provide, free of charge, suicide prevention training and certification to educators as part of the Alaska teaching certification process.

MS. FISHEL stated that there are four courses on suicide prevention and seven courses that are trauma related. AIDS, opioids, and Narcan have been supported through this funding. She continued that it has been phenomenal. All of the educators are required to take one of the suicide prevention courses, and most of them choose to use the online courses that were

developed.

MS. SCHOONOVER continued that working with the partners will continue, and we will keep on collaborating with local suicide prevention groups, partners, and programs.

TRUSTEE STURGEON stated it was a great presentation. He continued that when a gun is purchased, a gun lock and a paper is included. What is not included is the suicide component, and he suggested that that would really expand the program.

MR. BOYER replied that they are working with the Department of Behavioral Health to look at how to advance this kind of communication to groups. This is good education.

TRUSTEE DERR stated that several years ago the Trust funded a gun safe and gun locks for every person out in Togiak. She asked if there are any results of that action.

MR. BALDWIN stated that that project has been out of touch for a few years. He explained that the Trust helped fund gun safes in the Togiak and Bristol Bay region; it was an evidence-based practice for removing access to lethal means. He continued that the results were difficult to show that suicides were reduced. The update showed that people were also using the gun safes for medication storage that were potentially abusable or useful in an attempted suicide. Another byproduct was a large percentage that were reporting that they knew what their family members, especially teenagers, were doing because they had to ask the parents for access to the gun safes. Increased awareness and connections were reported, and communication was improved.

CHAIR MICHAEL thanked them and stated that it was really beneficial to focus on one issue and have time to discuss it in more detail. She recognized Trustee Boerner.

TRUSTEE BOERNER stated appreciation to the Council for welcoming her at their meeting. She especially thanked Corey Gilmore and added that the whole meeting was truly inspiring. She continued that she was impressed by the engagement, sophistication, and the passion that was shared; and appreciated seeing how the priorities pulled together, how they worked with their partners. Staff was completely impressive and are true advocates.

CHAIR MICHAEL welcomed Deputy Commissioner Al Wall who just joined, and asked Ms. Baldwin-Johnson to begin the API update.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON welcomed Deputy Commissioner Al Wall, acknowledged John Lee, the interim CEO at API, as well as the director of Senior and Disability Services. She also introduced Gennifer Moreau-Johnson, director of Behavioral Health. She asked the Deputy Commissioner to begin.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER WALL appreciated the invite and began with the Governor's board meeting where an amended set of bylaws were passed. That amended set of bylaws was pointed specifically on the composition of the governance body and who the voting and nonvoting members were. There are 13 voting members and 14 nonvoting members, which is a broad-based continuum of the community. He stated that the Trust has a voting seat on that governance body for the first time in the history of the organization, which is a step in the right direction. He added that Ms. Baldwin-Johnson is the representative of the Trust to the

governance body. He stated that there is an attempt to move the hospital more towards a hospital that is run by a governance board, as opposed to the Commissioner's office. He continued that there is also an attempt to change the conversation between API and the public to have the Department take responsibility for what they are responsible for and allow the hospital the freedom to operate as a hospital and care for its patients. He offered a copy of the bylaws with a full set of the representation on the governance body. He moved to a couple of ongoing pieces of litigation against the Department regarding API and inpatient care which are focused on the backup of individuals in emergency rooms and the civil side of the Department of Corrections. He asked John Lee to continue and talk about some of the other developments.

MR. LEE talked about a few patients that have been at API, one over 1600 days, and another over 1400 days. Neither of them will be able to be fixed because they have IDD issues. Another patient was admitted for the 25th time. He stated that those are some of the challenges, and he thinks that API is up to the challenge of providing great care for individuals that need great care provided to them. He continued that what is need at the State is: to develop home- and community-based and outpatient resources; keep people out of emergency rooms; keep people who do not need to be in API out of API; and people who are discharged from the hospitals or API need a safe place, and to be provided care in the communities. He stated that he has been the acting CEO at API for about four weeks, and we are still getting around some of the bigger challenges and issues.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER WALL stated that all are aware that the real fix to this problem is a more robust continuum of care in the state. He continued that the 1115 is designed to put more services on the street and provide a continuum of care than that has been historically provided in the state. He asked Gennifer Moreau to continue.

MS. MOREAU-JOHNSON stated that she is the director of the Division of Behavioral Health and thanked the Mental Health Trust for supporting Medicaid reform and the passage of SB 74, which gave about \$10 million in reform. She continued that \$4 million of that was to support the standing up of the 1115 waiver and the ASO. This is significant today because the waiver is approved. The substance-use disorder component was approved in November 2018; implemented on July 1st; and on September 3, 2019, the Federal approval for the behavioral health services in the waiver was received. There is a signed contract with the Administrative Services Organization.

(Applause.)

MS. MOREAU-JOHNSON thanked the Trust for all the support, and continued her presentation with visuals that show what continuum care looks like. She added that there are around 25 new services to the 1115.

TRUSTEE COOKE asked what percentage of API's capacity is currently being used.

MR. LEE replied that it is an 80-bed hospital and there is capacity right now for about 46. He stated that it was 25 at the start of the year, and has been 46 since August. In order to open up an additional unit, a baseline staff is needed, and we are close to being able to open an additional unit.

MR. ABBOTT stated that the Deputy Commissioner received recognition from a half dozen legislators at a meeting in Fairbanks for being engaged and really demonstrating the commitment that the Legislature and The Trust had been hoping for from the Department. He asked if there was anything that the Department was doing to address the concerns that Judge Morse highlighted.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER WALL talked about some of the hurdles that need to be overcome and began with the backup of individuals in the Department of Corrections that have not yet been evaluated. Some of them have been there for 180 days, which is longer than the term of their incarceration should they have been found guilty for their crime. He added that there has been a plan systematically working through the steps that need to be done to answer Judge Morse's concerns in the first place.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON went through a model that has been explored with the Department as a potential framework that aligns with the 1115 in terms of developing components of the system and what ones are missing. She stated that the overall goal of this is to find opportunities to reduce health-care costs, to reduce the engagement of law enforcement in being the primary crisis intervention, and to divert from use of the emergency room departments as the only location for folks in crisis.

MR. BOYER stated that the Crisis Now model is a relatively new system of thought of taking best practices like a crisis line and mobile crisis teams, crisis respite, bringing those together into a model to be able to come in a community like Anchorage. He went through his presentation and introduced a video that highlighted the three main aspects of the Crisis Now model.

(Video played.)

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON stated that there is an opportunity to really work to engage the right stakeholders and partners congruently with the work the Department is doing to rally interest, support, and enthusiasm of folks to contemplate how to build out the services and really explore who would be the potential operator of these types of services, knowing what assets are available in the communities. She continued that, in its current iteration, it is not necessarily the solution for Rural Alaska; but there are elements that could be adopted and adapted that could assist substantially in outreach and intervention in Rural Alaska.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER WALL stated excitement with this opportunity that has been worked on for years to stabilize the system of care and add to the continuum. He continued that this gets at the upstream issue of the psychiatric problem. This model addresses the problem before they get there, and leaves folks in the community.

MR. ABBOTT commented that there is optimism that this model can impact building the continuum of care that has been discussed in terms of its gaps rather than its benefits. He stated that staff should be bringing the beginnings of recommendations for how the Trust can advance this work in Alaska at the committee meetings in January.

CHAIR MICHAEL called for the lunch break.

(Lunch break.)

CHAIR MICHAEL reconvened the meeting and moved to the Commission on Aging.

COMMISSION ON AGING

MS. THOMPSON stated that she is the acting executive director for the Alaska Commission on Aging and has been there for about 15 years. She introduced Gordon Glaser, the committee chair. She read the mission statement of the commission: "It is to ensure the dignity and independence of all older Alaskans and to assist them to lead useful and meaningful lives through planning, advocacy, education, and interagency cooperation." The Trust is a big partner in this. She listed the current commissioners and stated that the Alaskans 60-plus is a huge constituency with many different dynamics. She continued that Mr. Glaser is a great chair and engages the commissioners and gets them working, which is very important. She went through some of the workings and issues affecting seniors, both in the state and nationally. She continued through her presentation, explaining as she went through the different activities.

CHAIR MICHAEL thanked Ms. Thompson for her hard work and moved to the TLO staff and their presentation on the OHA building and the U-Med lease extension consultation.

OHA BUILDING AND U-MED LEASE EXTENSION CONSULTATION

MR. MENEFEE stated that this consultation is about a building that the Trust already owns in the U-Med District.

MOTION: A motion that the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Board of Trustees approve the addition of three 15-year extension options to lease MHT 9200318, subject to further negotiation of commercial terms by the Trust Land Office, was made by TRUSTEE COOKE; seconded by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN.

CHAIR MICHAEL recognized Aaron O'Quinn.

MR. O'QUINN began with a background on the property which is at the intersection of Lake Otis and 40th Avenue. This is currently occupied by Orthopedic Physicians Alaska. It was one of the first commercial ground leases the Trust entered into. It was a 55-year lease that expires in June of 2058. The current lease has an extension option in it to kick it down the road another 15 years. He explained that the ground tenant recently approached to add three additional options to extend. Generally, the reason for this is to have an option to secure long-term financing in the future. Because this was a lease entered into early on, there are some undesirable conditions in that lease. There are fixed-dollar amounts that will not be meaningful by 2058. The thought is to negotiate escalating those along with the rent. The rent escalation is set at a ratio of CPIs year to year, which often does not track with asset appreciation. He stated that this is an opportunity in this long-term arrangement to renegotiate some key terms in order to facilitate their request.

TRUSTEE COOKE stated that this extension is basically leasing this property for 100 years, and asked why a lease instead of a sale.

MR. O'QUINN replied that it would be for 115 years, and the money for rent can be spent

immediately because it does not get invested in the Permanent Fund.

MR. ABBOTT added that more money will be done by leasing than by investing it.

CHAIR MICHAEL called the vote.

There being no objection, the MOTION was approved.

MR. ABBOTT recommended a recess to take the field trip and then come back to do the comp plan and the two other brief actions.

(Recess for Trustees' site visit to Partners for Progress Reentry Center, 417 Barrow Street, Anchorage, Alaska.)

CHAIR MICHAEL called the meeting back to order and stated that Trustee Boerne would not be here this afternoon. She stated that there is a quorum, but we are minus two members at the moment. She moved to Authority Grant Flexible Special Needs Housing COI redesignation. She recognized Steve Williams, and asked for the motion.

MOTION: A motion to recommend the approval of removing Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) as the named grantee for the FY20 Flexible Special Needs Housing "Rent Up" project was made by TRUSTEE COOKE; seconded by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN.

MR. WILLIAMS stated that from time to time trustees have approved funding to a specific entity that was intending to use the funds in a particular way and wants to propose using them differently. There is a need to come back to the trustees for approval because the funds were approved for a specific use. This is a change of intent. He asked Travis Welch to continue.

MR. WELCH explained that this change of intent is removing the AHFC as the grantee. It is not a change of the amount authorized previously by trustees or the intent of the project binder. It seems to be better and more efficient to have the Trust working directly with providers on this project to be able to provide funding to those providers stated in the memo for housing for beneficiaries reentering society, to bridge that gap until they can afford their own housing or provide any supports needed to keep their housing.

MR. WELCH explained that the normal authorization process will be used for these funds, working with the agency requesting the funds, and then going through the CEO for approval within the current guidelines.

CHAIR MICHAEL added that if it is over \$100,000, it will come back to the Trust for approval. She asked for further discussion and any objections.

There being no objection, the MOTION was approved.

CHAIR MICHAEL stated that next on the agenda is the Central Facilities Fund approval.

MOTION: A motion that the Board of Trustees approve the use of up to \$380,000 from

the Central Facilities Fund to pay for the real estate investment adviser contract during fiscal year 2020 and 2021. The Fund will be replenished using distributions from the commercial real estate portfolio, was made by TRUSTEE COOKE; seconded by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN.

MR. ABBOTT explained that this is the anticipated expense of the real estate investment consultant that was hired as a result of the new self-imposed requirement in the Asset Management Policy Statement that was recently adopted. The firm is known as Harvest, and they have started their work. It is expected that a significant portion of their first-year expenses will not be replicable in follow-on years. He continued that the preferred funding source for this is the Central Facilities Fund which was created about a year ago to pay for costs associated with the real estate investment properties, as well as some of the program-related investment properties. He added that the funds will accumulate in the CFF by leaving some of the rent revenue from the properties and then use that to pay for the consulting work. The impact of this will be less net revenue to the Trust from the commercial real estate. He added that this is a substantially lower cost than going with one of the legislatively suggested options, which would have been to transfer the properties to the Alaska Permanent Fund for management. He continued that this will be a budget item within the Central Facilities Fund every year, and the trustees will have a chance to evaluate the value of this effort annually.

CHAIR MICHAEL stated that the motion was presented and seconded, and there has been a discussion. She asked for any objection to the motion.

There being no objection, the MOTION was approved.

CHAIR MICHAEL stated that the next item on the agenda is the comp plan update, and recognized Steve Williams.

MR. WILLIAMS gave a brief update to the trustees on how staff will move forward with providing information on developments on the comp plan. He had discussed with Trustee Boerner the options of continuing the updates at both the Full Board meetings and at the Program & Planning Committee. It will be a standing agenda item under the Program & Planning Committee moving forward. The next scheduled meeting is Friday, January 3, 2020. He gave a brief update on the current work with the Department of Health and Social Services, the various Division directors within the Department to expose and educate them about the comp plan. In moving through the budget development for FY21, programs that are currently funded can be thought about, their future funding, and start making the connection to the comp plan.

CHAIR MICHAEL moved to the public comment period. She explained the guidelines for individuals wishing to give public comment, and she recognized Aaron Wolf of CHOICES.

PUBLIC COMMENT

DR. WOLF stated that he has been the interim director of CHOICES with an immense amount of goodwill and support from the Trust, and we were able to do a nationwide search conducted by Foraker for the best ED that could be found. He introduced Lisa Nolan, the selection after a nationwide search, who was found working across the street.

MS. NOLAN stated that she has over 20 years of experience in providing Medicaid and grant-based services to the vulnerable population, including 17 years which were provided to Mental Health Trust beneficiaries. She continued that she was proud to have been selected and hopes that her educational credentials of social work and public administration and her years of service will be of benefit to CHOICES. She thanked all for their support of this excellent organization.

DR. WOLF stated the hope for a tour of CHOICES and where they are now. They are getting back with the peer program back at API, and thanked the Trust for all their support.

CHAIR MICHAEL thanked Dr. Wolf, welcomed Ms. Nolan, and then recognized Faith Myers and Dorrance Collins.

MS. MYERS stated that she volunteers as a mental health advocate. There are about 20 facilities that detain disabled psychiatric patients. She explained that, when filing a complaint, patients do not have an impartial person helping them, and they do not have an impartial body to bring their complaint to within the facility. This causes unnecessary damage to disabled psychiatric patients. She continued that each year about 10,000 Mental Health Trust beneficiaries enter a system that unnecessarily mistreats them, with physical injuries and trauma at the top of the list. The cost to the state is in the millions. She added that the Legislature, the Mental Health Trust, and the Alaska Mental Health Board could do a lot to lower the numbers. She talked about Judge William Morse and his ruling, which has given the State 45 days to produce a plan on how to reduce psychiatric patient mistreatment. Creating psychiatric patient rights and all of the care on an emergency basis through the courts demonstrates a Legislative failure and the shortcomings of advocacy organizations tasked with protecting people with disabilities. What the State does not know is hurting people with disabilities.

MR. COLLINS introduced himself and illustrated the shortcomings of organizations that have the title of advocate for individuals with a disability. He stated that the Alaska Psychiatric Institute Employees' Union put hundreds of people on a picket line in 2017 advocating improving workers' rights, wages, safety and protection when patients file complaints against them. Over 500 patients at API filed a complaint, but not a single patient was able to file a formal grievance. AS 47.30.847 and regulations state what patients are entitled to and what constitutes a formal grievance. Very few psychiatric patient grievance rights are being upheld in the 20 acute-care psychiatric units in Alaska. In conclusion, he stated that hospital employee unions are doing a good job of protecting their constituents; but advocacy organizations are not doing a good job of protecting individuals with a disability.

CHAIR MICHAEL thanked them both and recognized Dave Branding from JAMHI.

MR. BRANDING stated that he is the CEO of JAMHI Health and Wellness in Juneau and shared some updates. He thanked the Trust for the funding of the Juneau Housing First Collaborative Phase 2 build-out. There are three floors up and enclosed, and it is on schedule. He also thanked the Trust for the funding of JAMHI Health and Wellness for the barrier-free clinician position that works within the Housing First environment engaging people in ongoing services. He went through a few other updates and stated the concern about the 1115 waiver, how it will be enacted, and the extent to which it will preserve community-based services in least restrictive environments. He thanked all for what they do and for providing the opportunity for commenting.

CHAIR MICHAEL thanked Mr. Brandon and stated admiration for the work he is doing. She asked for anyone else online who would like to testify or in the room. Hearing no one, she concluded the public comment period. She moved to trustee comments and began with the January meeting, which is normally in Juneau, but it was suggested to use the funds towards a rural outreach trip. She asked to revisit this, and recognized Trustee Cooke.

TRUSTEE COOKE reiterated his prior comments having a meeting in Juneau. He stated that he would hate to miss the opportunity to have face-to-face contact with legislators, especially if we know who the new trustees are at that time. He is in favor of continuing the practice of meeting in Juneau.

TRUSTEE DERR stated that it is a marvelous opportunity for trustees that reside in Anchorage to travel to Juneau for the experience. She added that staff travel could be curtailed for the Juneau meeting.

TRUSTEE STURGEON stated that he would like to see a meeting in Juneau, if possible. He understood the budget side and also suggested a reduced staff. He continued that he thinks of the Trust as advocacy for mental health in general to the Legislature, and it is a powerful force to have the opportunity to meet legislators.

TRUSTEE HALTERMAN stated that this is difficult for her to weigh in on, but the perspective of having the trustees go to Juneau is powerful and sends a strong message to the representatives and the staff that work there.

TRUSTEE McCARTY concurred with everyone, and stated that it is very important to be in Juneau because it makes a big presence with the legislators.

TRUSTEE DERR added that the presentations to both Senate Finance and House Finance have exposed them to subjects that they had not thought of before, which makes them more beneficial.

MR. ABBOTT stated that the meeting for the last week of January will be in Juneau.

CHAIR MICHAEL moved to trustee comments about the meeting or any other important issues that come to mind.

TRUSTEE COOKE thanked all for participating in the meeting and thought it was very productive. He did comment on not feeling as connected to and aware of the programs as before. He would like to know more about what the programs are actually doing and how they are impacting the beneficiaries.

TRUSTEE STURGEON agreed with Trustee Cooke. He stated that management is doing an incredible job, but he does miss the connection. He added that he is taking a few Wounded Warriors deer-hunting on Afognak, a triple amputee and two double amputees from the Vietnam era. He had a transportation problem that Mr. Abbott was able to take care of, and thanked him for the help.

TRUSTEE HALTERMAN also thanked Mr. Abbott for some guidance and wisdom on some

issues that were helpful because there are some inquiries coming in. She stated that it was a good idea to think about not going to Juneau, but she does think it is a powerful physical presence to be there. She thanked him for the effort, and all the information.

CHAIR MICHAEL asked for a motion to go into executive session.

MOTION: A motion that the Board go into executive session to perform the annual performance evaluation of the chief executive officer in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, AS 44.62.310, was made by TRUSTEE COOKE; seconded by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN.

There being no objection, the MOTION was approved.

CHAIR MICHAEL thanked everyone for all the hard work today. It was a great meeting.

(Executive Session from 4:37 p.m. until 5:16 p.m.)

CHAIR MICHAEL stated the trustees were out of executive session and no formal action was taken during the executive session.

MOTION: TRUSTEE COOKE stated that the executive session was called for the purpose of performance evaluation of the CEO, and that was done. He made a motion that the written evaluation be accepted in the record of this meeting of the Trust Authority; seconded by TRUSTEE STURGEON.

There being no objection, the MOTION was approved.

CHAIR MICHAEL asked for any other business before the trustees.

MOTION: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by TRUSTEE COOKE; seconded by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN.

There being no objection, the MOTION was approved.

(Full Board meeting adjourned at 5:18 p.m.)