

ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH TRUST AUTHORITY

FULL BOARD MEETING

Teleconference

January 30, 2020

10:40 a.m.

Volume 2 of 2

Taken at:

**Elizabeth Peratrovich Hall
320 W. Willoughby Avenue
Juneau, Alaska 99801**

Trustees Present:

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

Trust Staff Present:

Mike Abbott
Steve Williams
Miri Smith-Coolidge
Katie Baldwin-Johnson
Allison Biastock
Sarah Morrison

Trust Land Office:

Wyn Menefee
Jusdi Doucet
Aaron O'Quinn
Katie Vachras

Also participating:

Rhonda Boyles; Jack Fowler; Jason Swift; Commissioner Adam Crum; Deputy Commissioner Al wall; Heather Carpenter; Clinton Lasley; Robert Sewell; Rachel Gearhart; Eric Boyer; Summer LeFebvre; Jason Lessard; Dr. Alex Von Hafften; Elizabeth King; Karsten Eden; Gennefer Moreau-Johnson; Teri Tibbett; Kristin Vandagriff; Bev Schoonover; Lesley Thompson; Dan Habeger; Corey Gilmore; Jake Carpenter; Jorden Nigro; Joan O'Keefe.

PROCEEDINGS

CALL TO ORDER

CHAIR MICHAEL called the meeting to order and stated that the first thing on the agenda is the Program & Planning Committee report and update.

PROGRAM & PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

MOTION: A motion that the Board of Trustees adopt the amendments to the FY21 budget as included in the Program & Planning Committee packet for the January 3, 2020 meeting. The amendments do not increase or decrease the FY21 budget as approved by the Board of Trustees on August 29, 2019 was made by TRUSTEE BOERNER.

CHAIR MICHAEL asked for any updates from staff.

MR. WILLIAMS gave a quick refresher on the motion and stated that there have been no changes or updates since the Program & Planning Committee met on January 3, 2020.

There being no objection, the MOTION is approved.

MOTION: A motion that the Board of Trustees approve using the \$1.7 million of fiscal year '21 unobligated funds to increase the fiscal year 2021 crisis continuum of care line and the substance abuse prevention and treatment focus area for the total amount of \$2.6 million was made by TRUSTEE BOERNER; seconded by TRUSTEE COOKE.

MR. ABBOTT explained that this was the budget item that was previewed with the Legislature for the last 24 hours. When the FY21 budget was adopted in late August, about \$3.8 million was left unallocated for spending. This is the first big chunk of that. There was \$900,000 approved for FY21, and this would add \$1.7 million to that for a total FY21 allocation of \$2.6 million. He added that this budget action would not designate grantees. He stated that staff would be coming back with a recommendation. He continued that this would create money for crisis stabilization, Crisis Now, and setting it aside for staff to bring detailed plans.

MS. MOREAU-JOHNSON stated that she is with the Division of Behavioral Health and explained that federal approval has been received for the Crisis Now model, and it will be paid for by Medicaid. She added that the four prongs of the Crisis model: the call center; the mobile response; the 23-hour; and the short-term residential have been approved in the 1115. She stated that the crisis stabilization is ready to come online, and the remainder of the services -- regulations, rate packages -- are waiting in the queue behind a long string of rate packages. She continued that the complicated part and the reason it is confusing is that Crisis Now is a model that has to be made available to any eligible enrolled provider. Choices are made based on recommendations. She stated appreciation for the work of the Trust to come together and help figure out how it can work in a fee-for-service Medicaid environment.

TRUSTEE HALTERMAN requested inviting Knik, Mat-Su and Healthy Connect folks to come and talk about what they are up to, to get a sense of where these organizations are in their development efforts and where they are struggling, to see if the Trust can partner with them in a

better and more meaningful way.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON replied that was a fabulous idea.

TRUSTEE BOERNER thanked staff for coordinating the trip to Arizona and for also bringing out the representatives of the tribal behavioral health so they could look at and start thinking about the process. She sees this as a potential sort of phase-in project with some aspects that can be statewide. She stated that there is some real opportunity to start with the puzzle pieces, put them together, and then look for ways to fill in the gaps.

TRUSTEE COOKE asked if the crisis call center would incorporate the suicide prevention call center system.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON replied that the desire is to have one resource for that. The intent of that call center is to provide suicide prevention, intervention. A very high percentage of those calls that do come in to the center are resolved. She stated that the recommendation from the RI folks looking at Alaska is thinking of this as a type of statewide resource that would be very valuable. The idea is to figure out how to provide it statewide with probably regional connectivity.

TRUSTEE COOKE asked for a description of what the suicide prevention call center is now, to the extent that it exists.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON replied that it is a statewide call center, public care line. She stated that they serve the entire state.

CHAIR MICHAEL asked if there were any objections to the motion.

There being no objection, the MOTION was approved.

TRUSTEE BOERNER stated that there were five discussion points, and she went through the highlights of them. An update on the potential purchase of the Porcupine Property, which looked at the possibility of relocating the Alaska Mental Health Consumer Web and possible partnering with another partner organization, CHOICES, Inc. She moved to the presentation on the Comprehensive Integrated Mental Health Plan and then continued that a considerable time was spent talking about the Crisis Now update. A good amount of detail was discussed with regard to approvals for the budget adjustments for FY20. She asked Mr. Williams to provide any additions.

MR. WILLIAMS stated that one of the items discussed was the approval or the recommendation to the committee -- which they approved on January 3rd -- for a change of intent for the FY20 rural HCBS coordinator project. This switched the funding source from MHTAAR to Authority Grant and should have been a separate motion from the FY21 items discussed.

MOTION: A motion that the Full Board of Trustees approve a change of intent for the fiscal year 2020 rural HCBS coordinator project to convert it from the fiscal year 2020 MHTAAR funds allocated to the Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Senior and Disability Services to fiscal year 2020 Authority Grant funds in the housing

and long-term services and supports focus area titled HCBS projects to be allocated at a later time was made by TRUSTEE BOERNER; seconded by TRUSTEE McCARTY.

There being no objection, the MOTION was approved.

MOTION: A motion that the Board of Trustees approve using \$450,000 of fiscal year 2021 unobligated funds to address identified gaps in the crisis psychiatric response system. These funds will be approved as fiscal year 2021 MHTAAR grants to the Department of Health and Social Services as follows: \$75,000 statewide designation evaluation and treatment coordinator; \$75,000 for the adult protective services 3 position; and \$300,000 for mental health professionals offsite evaluations was made by TRUSTEE BOERNER; seconded by TRUSTEE DERR.

MR. ABBOTT explained that Commissioner Crum had mentioned that the State submitted a proposed plan to Judge Morris to resolve Judge Morris' concerns about the current conditions being faced by Trust beneficiaries that are frequently in jail or in emergency rooms rather than at API or other more appropriate treatment facilities. The State's robust response was a proposal to expend approximately \$8 million to make progress in the areas that Judge Morris identified as deficient. He asked Ms. Baldwin-Johnson to continue.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON stated that the gaps in the crisis psychiatric response system have been addressed by the Department by really trying to engage key stakeholders in the process of improving the response, which is included in this plan. She went through the three key areas because they had the best alignment in terms of thinking about impact on beneficiaries and impact on improving the system in general. The first item is the \$75,000 for the statewide designated evaluation position, which is proposed to split the cost of that position with the Department. The recommendation is for funding for a period of three years. She continued that the position specifically is to assist with streamlining coordination and tracking ex parte orders across the state. The next item is the adult protective services 3 position that would be located in Anchorage within the Department of Health and Social Services, Senior & Disability Services. This person would be designated within the Department that would be 100 percent focused on institutional discharge planning. This was elevated as a priority within this report.

TRUSTEE COOKE stated that this proposal is the State's response to Judge Morris in a lawsuit. The State and not the Trust is being sued. He continued that the State is being ordered to fix the myriad of problems. This is not necessarily the Trust's responsibility to fix it for the State. He added that he was not excited about the idea of funding the State positions with Trust money. He stated that, on the other hand, those folks are Trust beneficiaries and he supported the motion with the understanding that this will be a very limited, one-time thing.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON stated that the background of this issue of the backlog within emergency rooms and within Corrections is the same issue being addressed with the model at Crisis Now. She continued that the last piece is a recommendation for helping to improve timely access to evaluation and re-evaluation. The recommendation is \$300,000, which would support a portion of contractual resources that would enable the Department to develop provider agreements with entities in the communities that could assist with re-evaluating individuals that have been deemed a danger to themselves and others. It would meet the criteria for the Title 47 hold. The intent of this is to provide additional capacity within the system to help with

re-evaluations with the hospitals, the Department of Corrections and potential other settings.

CHAIR MICHAEL stated that there is a motion on the table.

There being no objection, the MOTION was approved.

TRUSTEE BOERNER completed her report.

CHAIR MICHAEL recessed for lunch.

(Lunch break.)

CHAIR MICHAEL called the meeting back to order and recognized Mr. Abbott to continue his CEO report.

MR. ABBOTT explained that the financial dashboard was the midyear report, and it had no significant changes. He moved to the inflation-proofing and stated that it was likely there would be significant reserves available should the trustees be interested in inflation-proofing the corpus or the Mental Health Trust Fund. He talked about a letter received from the Chilkat Indian Village which they asked to share with trustees. He noted that they expressed some significant concerns with the mining exploration project on Trust lands near Haines, the Palmer project that was discussed yesterday. He gave a brief update on the work on the potential acquisition of a building for two Trust partners, CHOICES and the Web. It is the building called the Porcupine building because it is on Porcupine Street. This is in the final stages of working with the two organizations to make sure this is a building that they want to live in for a number of years. The building itself is found to be eminently satisfying, but the location is a bit challenging. There is a short walk to the bus stop, but there are no sidewalks. Lastly, he reminded all that the work session is scheduled for February 11th in Anchorage, and he hoped all could participate.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

CHAIR MICHAEL recognized Trustee Derr.

TRUSTEE DERR stated that the Finance Committee met January 3rd and there were several motions.

MOTION: The Finance Committee recommends the Full Board of Trustees authorize the transfer of \$23,056,600 from the Alaska Permanent Fund Budget Reserve Account to the Mental Health Settlement Income Account to finance the FY2020 base disbursement payout calculation. The CFO may fulfill this motion with one lump sum or multiple transfers. And this is the payout that funds the budget.

There being no objection, the MOTION was approved.

MOTION: The Finance Committee recommends the Full Board of Trustees approve setting a target level for Trust Authority Development Account funds at \$2.4 million. This is the TADA account.

There being no objection, the MOTION was approved.

MOTION: The Finance Committee recommends the Full Board of Trustees authorize the chief financial officer to transfer TADA funds that exceed the target level to the Mental Health Trust Fund for investment.

There being no objection, the MOTION was approved.

MOTION: The Finance Committee recommends that the Full Board of Trustees determine there is no money in the Mental Health Trust Settlement income account not needed to meet the necessary expenses of the State's Comprehensive Integrated Mental Health Plan.

MR. ABBOTT stated that the statute and the settlement both suggest that if there are funds in the settlement income account, the spendable income, the surplus to the needs to fulfill the obligations need to be transferred to the General Fund. There has never been a determination whether there was a surplus. After speaking with counsel, the guidance is that an affirmative statement does not create significant additional risk. The staff recommendation is for trustee support for the motion.

There being no objection, the MOTION was approved.

TRUSTEE DERR concluded her report.

MR. ABBOTT asked about going into Executive Session.

MOTION: A motion that the Board go into Executive Session regarding personnel matters in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, Alaska Statute 44.62.310(c), was made by TRUSTEE COOKE; seconded by TRUSTEE DERR.

MR. ABBOTT recommended that he and Rhonda Boyles be included in the executive session.

CHAIR MICHAEL agreed and asked for any objections.

There being no objection, the MOTION was approved.

(Executive Session from 12:46 p.m. until 2:21 p.m.)

CHAIR MICHAEL called the meeting back to order.

TRUSTEE DERR commented that no decisions were made in the Executive Session.

CHAIR MICHAEL called a break.

(Break.)

CHAIR MICHAEL called the meeting back to order and moved to the re-entry orientation which is in preparation for the site visit this afternoon.

MR. WILLIAMS talked about the handouts and explained that the Trust funds four re-entry coalitions and four re-entry coalition coordinators around the state. In addition to the coalition coordinators, the Department of Health and Social Services also funds coalition coordinators in three other communities: Dillingham; down on the Kenai; out in Nome. There may also be a fourth. He stated that the Trust has been engaged in this re-entry as part of the Disability Justice Focus Area for a number of years, and we have heard a lot of talk from the commissioners of Corrections, the Administration, Senator Hughes and others talk about the importance of providing a warm transition with someone that is being released from a correctional institution. He added that these coalitions are a key piece of helping to make that happen. This simulation has been set up so that the public and others interested could get a taste of what it is like going through the process. He outlined the experience and what would happen in the simulation. He continued that this particular simulation is sponsored by the Trust through the Juneau Re-entry Coalition, the U.S. Department of Justice, and the Central Council Tlingit Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska.

CHAIR MICHAEL moved to Trustee Comments and recognized Trustee Halterman.

TRUSTEE HALTERMAN stated that she appreciated meeting in Juneau. It was a good opportunity to meet with legislators, and she took the opportunity to visit with staff in some of the legislative offices. She continued that it was helpful and thanked all who made this happen.

CHAIR MICHAEL recognized Trustee Sturgeon.

TRUSTEE STURGEON thanked staff for putting all this together and doing a top-notch job.

TRUSTEE BOERNER echoed those words of appreciation for all the work done by staff. She also appreciated the conversations and the natural resource meeting. She talked about the letter from the Chilkat Indian Village and, for the record, had brought up issues before with regard to historical trauma and recognizing tribal sovereignty. She stated appreciation for the trustees and the TLO taking the time to go and meet with the tribes, which is very important. She continued that her people lived in these lands for thousands of years and depend on the land for sustenance, shelter and their way of life. They still depend on those for their health and well-being, physical, mental and spiritual. All of those are factors that do not necessarily get included in the statute language and the variables there. She put in the record to think about ways to weigh in those with the best-interest calculations that are out there. She believes in utilizing the natural resources and appreciates the ability to develop natural resources for the benefit of the people. She thanked the trustees and staff who took the time to have the additional meetings as well.

TRUSTEE DERR stated that she usually did not make comments, but this may be her last meeting because her term expires in one month. She may still be at the April meeting. She put on the record how much she enjoyed working with everybody and being on the Trust.

TRUSTEE McCARTY commented on being on camera and that people had been watching all this. He talked about being watched on doing the best for the beneficiaries and the emphasis on not wanting to give energy into programs that are showing effectiveness. There is a need to be moving into seeing standard, reliable assessments and data by giving iPads or something like that so information could be collected more quickly. A standard could be set as a Trust for

beneficiaries by doing rather than waiting for someone else to do data collection.

CHAIR MICHAEL recognized Trustee Cooke.

TRUSTEE COOKE stated appreciation for everyone's comments. He continued that Trustee Derr with all of her wisdom and experience will be missed, and it is hard to imagine life on the Trust with Trustee Michael leaving. He added that the Juneau meeting is always busy and refreshing. He stated that things with the beneficiary population do not change quickly, but there is a need to keep trying and moving in positive directions. He added that the long-time board members will be missed, but there are still a lot of strengths with the Trust and we will be in good hands.

CHAIR MICHAEL asked Ms. Boyles for any comments.

MS. BOYLES stated that she had served on other boards and commissions, but her first reaction with this board was that the caliber is impressive. She is pleased to be asked to join it. She continued that the last couple of days were an excellent bird's-eye view of what the Trust is, what it does and what it accomplishes. The ability of this group and the vision that was in place when it was formed to touch so many lives is humbling. She talked about her life experiences and stated she wants to give back in an area she did not have the privilege of touching enough -- for physically and developmentally disabled people -- and this is an opportunity to do that at this time. She asked for the Crisis Now Consultant's Report to be forwarded so that she could review it.

CHAIR MICHAEL stated that she was happy to see the House and Finance presentations be so calm after the audit and some other things. It was a great two days, and she was glad all were here and were so attentive. She talked about the annual report which reflected both sides of the organization. It is a good document to give to people because it says so much more than just how many grants were given. It is remarkable because it shows one year's work. She thanked all.

MR. ABBOTT stated, on behalf of staff, how grateful we are to be together. The attention by all is precious and staff tries to honor it with work that meets the standard of the quality of the open participation. He continued that there will be opportunities to celebrate both Mary Jane Michael and Laraine Derr in the coming months and talked about their impact on the organization. He added that they will never be forgotten.

MR. WILLIAMS wrapped up with logistical explanations and acknowledged the Tlingit-Haida Council Tribes of Alaska.

CHAIR MICHAEL asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

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

There being no objection, the MOTION was approved.

(Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Full Board meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.)