

MEETING AGENDA

Meeting: Board of Trustees
Date: November 15, 2023
Time: 8:30 AM
Location: Trust Authority Building, 3745 Community Park Loop, Anchorage
Teleconference: (844) 740-1264 / Meeting Number: 2633 313 2189 # / Attendee No: #
<https://alaskamentalhealthtrust.org/>
Trustees: Anita Halterman (Chair), Rhonda Boyles, Kevin Fimon, Brent Fisher,
Agnes Moran, John Morris, John Sturgeon

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

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8:30	Call to Order – Anita Halterman, Chair Roll Call / Announcements / Approval of Agenda Review of Guiding Principles Ethics Disclosure Approval of Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none">• August 29-30, 2023• October 9, 2023 Current Bylaws	5 12 50 55
8:40	Mission Moment Residential Treatment at The ARC <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Justin Turnos, Director of Behavioral Health Services	
9:10	Staff Report CEO Update	
9:30	Rural Outreach / Report Out	
9:50	Communications Update <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Allison Biastock, CCO	hand-out
10:30	Break	
10:45	Finance Committee Report / Update <ul style="list-style-type: none">• FY24 Payout	62
11:00	Audit & Risk Committee Report / Update	66
11:05	BDO FY23 Financial Audit <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Michelle Kiese, Assurance Director BDO	68

Wednesday, November 15, 2023 (continued)

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11:45	Lunch	
12:30	Public Comment	
	• For Public Comment Guidelines click here	
1:00	Program & Planning Committee Report / Update	70
	• True North Recovery: Matsu Valley Mobile Crisis Team	
	• Alaska Behavioral Health: Fairbanks Mobile Crisis Team	
1:30	Statutory Advisor Update	89
	• Jon Haghayeghi, Executive Director, Alaska Commission on Aging	hand-out
2:00	Break	
2:15	Statutory Advisor Update (continued)	
	• Stephanie Hopkins, Acting Executive Director, Alaska Mental Health Board / Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse	90
	• Patrick Reinhart, Acting Executive Director, Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education	97
3:15	Trustee Comments	
3:30	Adjourn	
<u>Additional Documents</u>		
	• Resource Management Committee Report	116
	• Rural Outreach Trip Pamphlet	117

Future Meeting Dates

Full Board of Trustees / Program & Planning / Resource Management / Audit & Risk / Finance

(Updated – October 2023)

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| • Audit & Risk Committee | January 4, 2024 | (Thu) |
| • Finance Committee | January 4, 2024 | (Thu) |
| • Resource Mgt Committee | January 4, 2024 | (Thu) |
| • Program & Planning Committee | January 5, 2024 | (Fri) |
| • Full Board of Trustees | Jan 31 – Feb 1, 2024 | (Wed, Thu) – Juneau |
| | | |
| • Audit & Risk Committee | April 24, 2024 | (Wed) |
| • Finance Committee | April 24, 2024 | (Wed) |
| • Resource Mgt Committee | April 24, 2024 | (Wed) |
| • Program & Planning Committee | April 25, 2024 | (Thu) |
| • Full Board of Trustees | May 22-23, 2024 | (Wed, Thu) – Ketchikan |
| | | |
| • Audit & Risk Committee | July 30, 2024 | (Tue) |
| • Finance Committee | July 30, 2024 | (Tue) |
| • Resource Mgt Committee | July 30, 2024 | (Tue) |
| • Program & Planning Committee | Jul 31 – Aug 1, 2024 | (Wed, Thu) |
| • Full Board of Trustees | August 28-29, 2024 | (Wed, Thu) – Anchorage |
| | | |
| • Audit & Risk Committee | October 16, 2024 | (Wed) |
| • Finance Committee | October 16, 2024 | (Wed) |
| • Resource Mgt Committee | October 16, 2024 | (Wed) |
| • Program & Planning Committee | October 17, 2024 | (Thu) |
| • Full Board of Trustees | November 13-14, 2024 | (Wed, Thu) – Anchorage |
| | | |
| • Audit & Risk Committee | January 8, 2025 | (Wed) |
| • Finance Committee | January 8, 2025 | (Wed) |
| • Resource Mgt Committee | January 8, 2025 | (Wed) |
| • Program & Planning Committee | January 9, 2025 | (Thu) |
| • Full Board of Trustees | February 5-6, 2025 | (Wed, Thu) – Juneau |

Future Meeting Dates

Statutory Advisory Boards

(Updated – October 2023)

Alaska Commission on Aging

ACOA: <http://dhss.alaska.gov/acoa/Pages/default.aspx>

Executive Director: Jon Haghayeghi, (907) 465-4879, jon.haghayeghi@alaska.gov

- Quarterly Meeting: December 4, 2023 / TBD

Alaska Mental Health Board / Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse

AMHB: <http://dhss.alaska.gov/amhb/Pages/default.aspx>

ABADA: <http://dhss.alaska.gov/abada/Pages/default.aspx>

Acting Executive Director: Stephanie Hopkins, (907) 465-4667, stephanie.hopkins@alaska.gov

- Quarterly Meeting: January 10, 2024 / Zoom
- Quarterly Meeting: Spring TBD / Wasilla

Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education

GCDSE: <http://dhss.alaska.gov/gcdse/Pages/default.aspx>

Executive Director: Patrick Reinhart, (907) 269-8990, patrick.reinhart@alaska.gov

- Triannual Meeting: February 13-15, 2024 / Juneau

**The Trust's
Guiding Principles /
Mission Statement /
Trust Budget
Process Flowcharts**

Trust Guiding Principles

To improve the lives of Trust beneficiaries, The Trust is committed to:

Education of the public and policymakers on beneficiary needs;

Collaboration with consumers and partner advocates;

Maximizing beneficiary input into programs;

Continually improving results for beneficiaries;

Prioritizing services for beneficiaries at risk of institutionalization or needing long-term, intensive care;

Useful and timely data for evaluating program results;

Inclusion of early intervention and prevention components in programs;

Provision of reasonably necessary beneficiary services based on ability to pay.

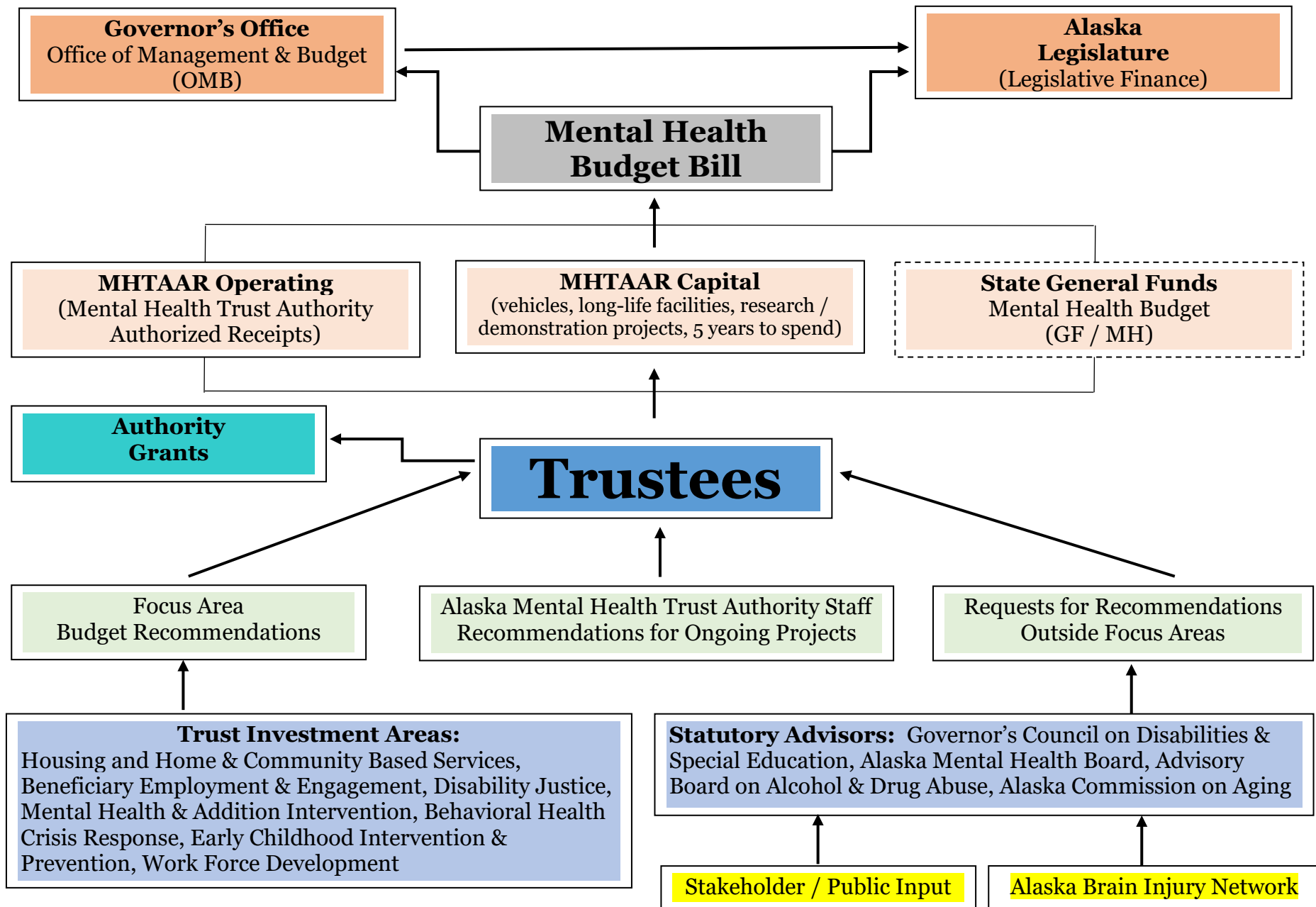
Approved 5-12-09, Board of Trustee meeting

Trust Mission Statement

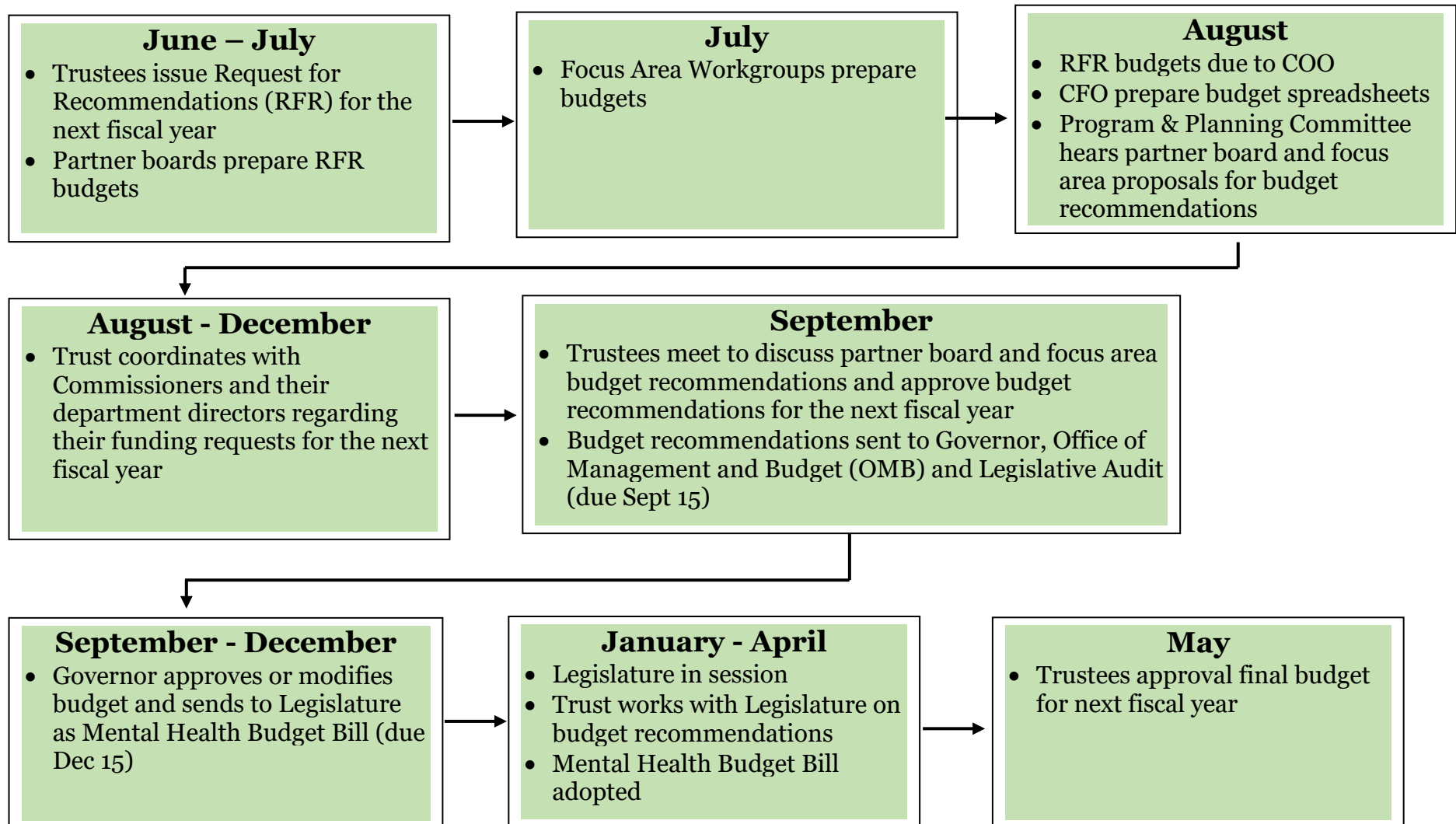
The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority (The Trust) administers the Mental Health Trust to improve the lives of beneficiaries. Trustees have a fiduciary responsibility to protect and enhance trust assets in perpetuity for the beneficiaries. The Trust provides leadership in advocacy, planning, implementing and funding of the Comprehensive Integrated Mental Health Program; and acts as a catalyst for change.

Approved 5-12-09, Board of Trustee meeting

Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Budget Process



Annual Mental Health Budget Bill Process

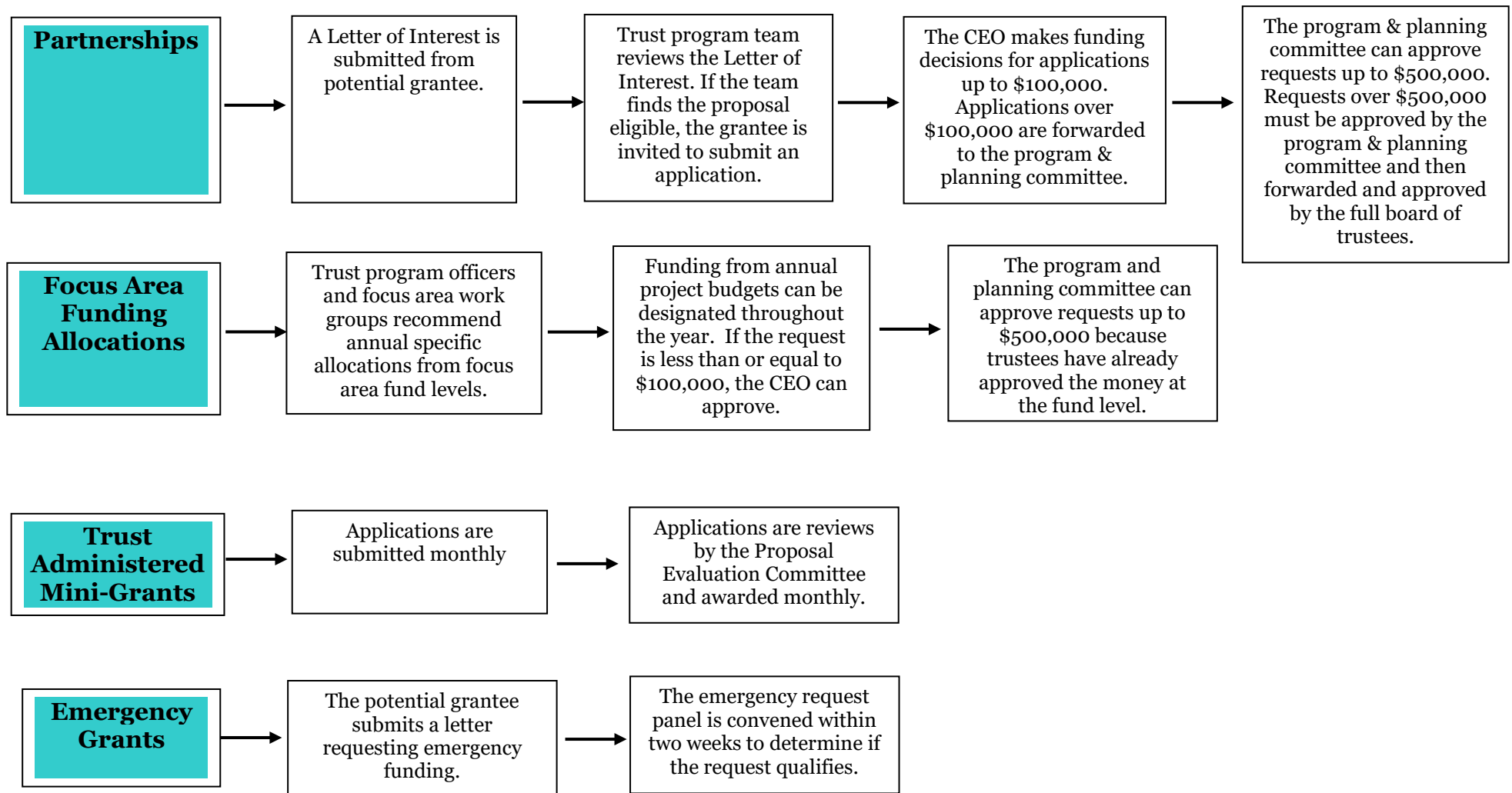


Note: timeline represents those items in the green boxes in the chart entitled “Alaska Mental Health Budget Process”

01/23/2019

Grant Approval Process for Authority Grant Funds

All annual budgets are approved by the full board of trustees at the September meeting



Note: this chart depicts those items included in the teal box labeled "Authority Grants" on the chart entitled "Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Budget Process"

Revised: 01/23/2019

Alaska Mental Health Trust Annual Calendar

TRUSTEES	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
Scheduled full board meeting & prep												
Scheduled committee meetings & prep												
APOC filing due 3/15												
Officer elections												
Board evaluations												
CEO evaluation												

LEGISLATURE	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
Budget finalization with departments												
Trust advocacy trainings												
House/Senate Finance budget presentation												
Legislative session												

PROGRAM	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
Focus area budget updates, stakeholder mtg												
Request for recommendations (RFR) issued												
Statements of Intent / grant agreements												
Trust/DBH quarterly meetings												
Small projects												
Grant quarterly reports												
Rural Outreach (every 2yrs)												

LAND OFFICE	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
Resource field season												
Real estate BOV/appraisals												
Fall land sale												
Quarterly reports												
Ft. Knox audit (every 2yrs)												

ADMINISTRATION	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
Fiscal year end & re-appropriation												
External audit												
Operating budget due 9/15												
Trust annual report												
Contract renewals												
OMB measures												
Asset allocation annual review												

ADVISORY BOARDS	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
Statutory Advisory Board - ACoA												
Statutory Advisory Board - AMHB/ABADA												
Statutory Advisory Board - GCDSE												

**Minutes for the
August 29-30, 2023
Full Board of Trustees
Meeting**

**ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH TRUST AUTHORITY
FULL BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING
HYBRID/WEBEX
August 29 2023
8:30 a.m.**

**Originating at:
Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority
3745 Community Park Loop, Suite 200
Anchorage, Alaska 99508**

Trustees Present:

Anita Halterman, Chair
Brent Fisher
Kevin Fimon
Agnes Moran
John Sturgeon
John Morris
Rhonda Boyles

Trust Staff Present:

Steve Williams
Katie Baldwin-Johnson
Kat Roch
Miri Smith-Coolidge
Michael Baldwin
Eric Boyer
Allison Biastock
Kelda Barstad
Debbie DeLong
Valette Keller
Travis Welch
Autumn Vea
Janie Ferguson
Luke Lind
Jimael Johnson

Trust Land Office staff present:

Jusdi Warner
Jeff Green
Sarah Morrison
Blain Alfonso
Ashley Oien
Heather Weatherall
Cole Hendrickson

Also participating:

John Springsteen; Stephanie Hopkins; Stephanie Wheeler; Patrick Reinhart; Jon Haghayeghi;
Commissioner Kim Koval; Commissioner Heidi Hedberg; Brent Moore; Marty Lang; Don
Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority

Habeger; Jenny Weisshaupt; Charlene Tautfest; Diane Fielden; Representative Justin Ruffridge; Leah Van Kirk; Julie Bussman; Lisa Cauble; Brenda Moore; Charity Lee; Alex Eissler; Sara Clark; Desiree Scott; Jenna Crafton; Robert Tasso; Steph Kings.

PROCEEDINGS

CALL TO ORDER

CHAIR HALTERMAN called the Full Board meeting to order and began with a roll call. She stated that there was a quorum to do business and asked for any announcements. There being none, she moved to the agenda.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

CHAIR HALTERMAN asked for any objections to the approval of the agenda or any amendments that were necessary. Hearing none, since all trustees were in the room, she considered the agenda approved.

REVIEW OF GUIDING PRINCIPLES

CHAIR HALTERMAN moved to the Guiding Principles in the packet and asked if there were any questions about them. Seeing and hearing none, she moved into the ethics disclosures.

ETHICS DISCLOSURES

CHAIR HALTERMAN asked if there were any ethics disclosures.

TRUSTEE MORAN stated that on Page 4 of the budget there was a grant to DVSA, victim transition supports, and she was a bit confused on who that was going to because the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault is a State agency through Department of Public Safety. The network, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, is a membership program which is a member of ANDVSA. She receives funding from CDVSA, but that is all through a competitive grant process.

CHAIR HALTERMAN asked Ms. Baldwin-Johnson or Mr. Williams to verify.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON asked Travis Welch the question.

MR. WELCH stated that the recommendation for this project was for there to be funding provided to the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Abuse to be able to support their member agencies which are a number of shelters that provide supports and services for women who were victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse, as well as children. The child advocacy centers provide support services for juveniles, children for victims of domestic violence, sexual abuse and other violent crimes. They would be able to provide that funding to those agencies so they could support the people as they transition from receiving services in the shelter to being able to have housing and supports outside of the shelter. The transitional funding is for them to receive those services.

TRUSTEE MORAN stated that she was a member of that organization and was not sure if that qualified as a conflict. She asked if it needs to be pulled out separately from the budget discussions, and she would recuse herself.

CEO WILLIAMS stated that they would call that out specifically for her so that she could recuse herself from that discussion and then the subsequent action. He asked, for clarification, if they were Authority Grant funds going to the network and how the funds would be made available to member agencies.

MR. WELCH replied that this is Authority Grant funding provided to the network. He continued that the network has the mechanisms to provide support for their member agencies on a case-by-case basis for specific individuals receiving services, and they follow that same process within the network. He added that it is to serve individual people, and not a specific program.

CHAIR HALTERMAN thanked Trustee Moran and asked for any other ethics disclosures. Hearing and seeing none, she moved to approval of the minutes, and asked for a motion.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: A motion to approve the minutes from the May 24-25, 2023, meeting. The motion was made by TRUSTEE BOYLES; seconded by TRUSTEE FIMON.

There being no objection, the MOTION was APPROVED.

MOTION: A motion to approve the minutes from the June 22, 2023, meeting. The motion was made by TRUSTEE BOYLES; seconded by TRUSTEE MORAN.

There being no objection, the MOTION was APPROVED.

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated that the current bylaws were included in the packet as a reference for trustees.

MISSION MOMENT

CHAIR HALTERMAN moved to the Mission Moment and asked Jimael Johnson to introduce the folks from Volunteers of America.

MS. JOHNSON was pleased to introduce this morning's Mission Moment. She continued that they had representatives from the Volunteers of America-Alaska Kinship Program. She explained that kinship care is considered one of the best options for families whose children were not able to be cared for by their biological parents. She tied this back to the Trust mission and some of the previous conversations about children in foster care. Families that have generational trauma and experience a disruption that requires some child welfare interventions are a high priority. She added that this Mission Moment is an opportunity to highlight some of the work that the Trust has already been engaged with, and to add some more information and some personal experiences from some of the beneficiary families. She introduced Sara Clark, the vice president of programs with Volunteers of America; Desiree Scott, the Kinship program manager; and Alex Eissler, a Kinship care provider.

MS. SCOTT explained that the Kinship program provides support services to relative caregivers throughout Alaska who are raising their relative children. Those are some informal custody arrangements, and also formal custody arrangements where the child was removed from the home by OCS. She continued that their goal is simply to provide support for the caregivers to be

able to continue raising the children in their homes. They are provided anything from case management to weekly support groups for families. There are also some educational workshops, additional parenting classes, and then navigating that child through the welfare system. She added that they also have a mental health clinician on board who specializes in kinship care navigating OCS, working with youth with some trauma. She asked Alex Eissler to continue.

MR. EISSLER stated that on August 1, 2019, he received a call from his wife about 4:00 saying that there were four kids that needed a home. At the time, they had a three-year-old and a two-year-old of their own in the home. Now, they have bio kids and foster kids. The foster kids are one, three, five, and six and all live together. He continued that one of the things that we appreciate about Volunteers of America is that we do not have bio kids and foster kids with them; we just have children. There are so many programs that delineate and only support the foster kids. Volunteers of America integrates their kids together as one unit, and we get seen as a family. It is important for their foster kids to get to do what the biological kids do and vice versa. Volunteers of America always provides support for them with groups. Often, we are invited to events where they may be training, and we have to bring six kids with us. It is a lot with all six kids under the age of ten. It takes time to coordinate the kids. One of us spends half of the time in the hallway and gets one half of a presentation, and the other gets the other half. Volunteers of America always provides support staff so that both of us can attend the meeting together as a unit. He added that many times they fall off a lot of schedules because of doctors' appointments, the court case, and work. Ms. Scott and her team always reach out and ask what they could do to bring them back out. They do not often ask what we need; they just provide. He talked about the phenomenal job they did during COVID and transitioning. He could not thank them enough for all of the work they do with us and with all of their support people. We have other family members that also have services through them. He stated that generational trauma is the problem in Alaska for a lot of these kids. His wife's parents were not raised well, and she was in the system. Not all of her family members made it out of the system, and they are having children that are being taken care of. There are at least three generations of generational trauma in their family, and the goal is to break that with the services provided by the Trust and VOA. He thanked them for the great job and for supporting them. Going from two to six children was not an easy task.

CHAIR HALTERMAN thanked Mr. Eissler and stated appreciation for the sharing of his story. She thanked him for opening up his home to the children that they took in. She asked for any questions from the board.

TRUSTEE FIMON stated that it was a great story and that he had explained a bit about what was kind of going on with his wife's family. That kind of speaks to why you made that call and added the four. It is not an easy transition, but it is pretty straightforward. He asked if he had been able to carry that forward to other community members that may be faced with that same decision. The Trust is possibly looking into expanding and looking more into the foster care program. As someone who is living it, had he sensed the chance of enhancing not breaking up families.

MR. EISSLER replied, in talking about youth in need, they do advocate that there is a position for everyone to be foster parents. There is an ability to take a kid into their home or helping the foster care kids between 18 and 21 that have not aged out of the system and still need good support models. He stated that they try to advocate that everyone who cannot be foster

parents to be part of the system by becoming CASAs. There are lots of roles within the system. He continued that it is difficult to access those programs. Just becoming a foster parent is not an easy task. He and his wife did it because she grew up in the system and we decided to give back. He added that most adults in Alaska do not understand how easy it is to become a foster parent and the impact they can make with that. They tell parents and everyone that these kids are in schools with your kids; they are in the streets with your kids. You can either embrace them or not. Regardless, they will be part of the community, and it is important for us all to participate. He stated that it is about community outreach, and there are about 3,000 kids in Alaska in foster homes. He urged the State to do a better job. We have had seven social workers in four years, and no one truly knows their children other than he and his wife. He added that most people do not recognize how many children are in need in Alaska today and just assume the system is working and all are being taken care of. Until they become a part of it, they do not realize the devastation caused by generational trauma.

TRUSTEE MORAN thanked them for the work they do. She stated that, in one of the lawsuits against the State's foster care system, they greatly detail the difficulties of kinship placement. She asked if they had been experiencing those same difficulties with getting kinship homes approved for placement.

MS. SCOTT replied that they had seen quite a bit of some difficulty with families going through the licensure process and just again navigating that system. She added that the turnover of staff did not help. She stated that there are supports in the community that are not necessarily tapped into for families. It is just getting referrals over to programs that are able to support these families as they navigate through the child welfare system and tapping into some more local nonprofits and taking some of that work off of OCS.

MS. CLARK added that some of the challenges that the program has worked with families on and with OCS is just often with kinship care as the emergency placements. Families do not know in advance that they will be contacted and asked to care for sometimes very young children, infants. There are some real logistical and practical challenges of rapidly becoming the caregiver of a child with special needs. It can cause a lot of stress for that entire family unit. In addition, because of the nature of emergency placement, is the tricky legal barriers that kinship caregivers experience when taking care of a child. She stated that the financial barriers are real. It can be a pretty complicated system to navigate for families in a time of incredible stress.

TRUSTEE BOYLES stated that they could use a half day in-service type education on OCS and agencies like Kinship. She asked if there were other agencies like Kinship.

MS. CLARK replied that there was a very loose network at this time, and she was not aware of very many agencies.

MR. EISSLER agreed and added that one of the hardest parts was just navigating who could help. OCS does not have a list. He stated that they got their kids on August 1st, and OCS did not take custody until August 14th. There was a 14-day period where there were no legal documents. He continued that they had a one-page paper saying they had an out-of-home placement with the children. It was very hard to find programs that could help navigate through the system.

TRUSTEE BOYLES thanked Trustee John Sturgeon for having the vision to put Trust money

with OCS. She asked for some more information on how that helped, and if they need to do it in the future.

MS. JOHNSON replied that it was one year ago that the conversation was held, and it was extended from earlier in the summer. The funding that was approved last year just came online in July, and we had about a month and a half or so to actually start working those projects. She reported that there are not a lot of outcomes to talk about, but there is a lot of planning and development since those funds were discussed.

CHAIR HALTERMAN talked about her background and work with these populations and remembered that there is a need for more therapeutic foster homes. She asked if they found that was still a crisis, that there are not enough special-needs homes to meet the children with complex needs.

MR. EISSLER stated, for full disclosure, that he is a Denali Family Services therapeutic foster parent and is part of one of those agencies. He added that they actively recruit all the time. He continued that there are State regulations on a number of children in the homes, capped at six, which is good and negative. He stated that there is a long list of referrals sitting on Denali Family Services' list looking for therapeutic homes. All of their families are at capacity or they cannot take a child due to behavioral issues. He added that most people would argue that the vast majority of foster kids should be in therapeutic homes.

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated appreciation for the work they do and thanked them for sharing what they are up to.

MS. CLARK thanked them for the opportunity to be there to talk about the families they serve.

CHAIR HALTERMAN thanked the panelists for the Mission Moment and stated that they wanted nothing but success for all of them and for the children. She recognized CEO Williams.

STAFF REPORT - CEO UPDATE

CEO WILLIAMS introduced Jena Crafton, the Chair for the Governor's Council on Special Education and Disabilities, and thanked her for the bread she baked to share. He appreciated the bread and her for being there to listen to the discussion today. He also announced that the elevator was being worked on. He stated, as some of the business and updates he provided, that the TAO building had been broken into and there is an ongoing investigation. He added that no one was injured, and there were items stolen. He would provide updates to the trustees as they were appropriate and became available. He moved to the external financial audit that was currently underway. The Audit & Risk Committee heard a presentation from BDO, and are currently in the interim audit phase of the work. That should be wrapping up in the next week or so. Then, the actual audit work will begin with the ultimate end at the November board meeting to accept the financial audit. He talked about the Trust Land Office and their fall land sale which is being worked on, which will begin in September and run through the middle of November. It will be public-noticed with a list of parcels as it has been done in the past.

MS. WARNER stated that it was just confirmed that it will begin on September 13 and go through November 13, and will be published.

CEO WILLIAMS shared a picture of Chair Halterman, Trustee Fisher, himself and many others at Providence for the groundbreaking of their crisis stabilization, crisis residential center. He added that it was a nice event. He continued that Trustee Halterman asked for a quick update on the opioid settlement funds. He stated that he and Ms. Baldwin-Johnson met with Director Lindsey Kato of Public Health who will be overseeing and managing the Governor's Advisory Council on Opioid Remediation, GACOR, and also oversees a steering committee that will be underneath GACOR. They are charged with developing the guidelines, the structures, the eligibility and granting of funds from the opioid settlement to organizations based on the criteria setup. He added that the steering committee was made up of folks from DBH, Public Health, OSMAP, the Office of Substance Misuse and Addiction and Prevention. The Alaska Native Board and Trust Authority will be sitting on that; and Janie Ferguson is the Trust staff representative. To answer Trustee Fimon's question about the Trust role in that, it is related to how to structure and get funds, and to inform how funds should be put out on the street. Trustee Halterman sits on the Governor's Advisory Council on Opioid Remediation, and she will remain in that seat. This has been overseen by Commissioner Hedberg and will transition to Director Kato going forward. He will keep the trustees updated on that. He briefly talked about being deep in planning for the rural outreach trip, which is going to be to the Y-K region, with Bethel being the launch pad. He acknowledged the Rasmuson Foundation that met in July and did a host of funding approvals. He recognized Mike Baldwin for his 15-year anniversary here at the Trust working for the State, and Allison Biastock for working ten years for the State. They are really great, great professional colleagues, and they do so much in terms of improving the lives of beneficiaries and carrying out the mission.

CHAIR HALTERMAN thanked Steve and moved to the Memorandum of Agreement regarding the comp plan. She asked for a motion.

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT COMP PLAN

MOTION: A motion that the Board of Trustees approves the attached Memorandum of Agreement, MOA, between the Trust, the Department of Health, the Department of Family & Community Services, the Alaska Mental Health Board, the Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse, the Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education, and the Alaska Commission on Aging, to formalize a collaborative structure reviewing, updating, and monitoring the State's Comprehensive Integrated Mental Health Plan, Comp Plan, and affirms the CEO's authorization to sign on behalf of the Trust. The motion was made by TRUSTEE MORAN; seconded by TRUSTEE FIMON.

CHAIR HALTERMAN turned it over to CEO Williams for discussion.

CEO WILLIAMS stated that Page 64 is the memo with the motion that outlines the MOA. The actual MOA starts on Page 66, and he provided a high-level overview of it. He explained that the MOA establishes a formal structure for the Department of Health, the Department of Family Community Services, the Trust and the advisory boards to do the work they are currently doing related to the Comprehensive Integrated Mental Health Program Plan. They are at the tail end of strengthening the system five-year plan, and this MOA will help to structure the work going forward, not only to revisit the current plan, update it, but to then implement and monitor it. He continued through his high-level overview and answered questions as he went through it.

TRUSTEE MORRIS asked if the motion was to authorize CEO Williams to sign the

Memorandum of Agreement and not the Comp Plan product in the end.

CEO WILLIAMS replied that is correct.

CHAIR HALTERMAN called the question.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Boyles, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Sturgeon, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Moran, yes; Trustee Morris, yes; Chair Halterman, yes.)

CHAIR HALTERMAN moved to the statutory advisers for updates, and recognized Ms. Baldwin-Johnson.

STATUTORY ADVISOR UPDATE

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON introduced the executive directors of the statutory advisory boards. She began with Patrick Reinhart, the executive director of the Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education; she recognized Stephanie Hopkins and Charity Lee with the Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse, the Alaska Mental Health Board, and who also represents the Statewide Suicide Prevention Council. She asked Patrick Reinhart to introduce his guests.

MR. REINHART stated that he has had 23 years with the State of Alaska, in one capacity or another. He introduced their new chair, Jena Crafton, and also Robert Tasso who is their health and social services planner 3. He added that they would jointly present. He asked Ms. Crafton to tell a little bit about herself and why she is the chair.

MS. CRAFTON stated that she is Jena Crafton and used to live on a sailboat for 16 years. She had been sailing for seven years and started navigating with her parents and siblings. She is the chair for the Governor's Council and is excited because she is the first intellectual disability chair of the Governor's Council. She thanked the Trust for having them because we cannot do it without you. She continued that she is working at CHD, Center for Human Development, her new job.

MR. TASSO stated that, at the end of this month, he will be with the Governor's Council about six months.

MR. REINHART stated that Jena sailed around the world for seven years and that was where she got a lot of her education with her family. He encouraged all to ask her at the break about some very cool stories that she has meeting people of many different cultures. He continued that Sabrina Richmond of Juneau is the vice chair, and five new council members have been recently appointed by the Governor. He added that the Council is almost full with 24 people, still with a need for a couple of self-advocates. He asked Mr. Tasso to continue.

MR. TASSO stated that there were a lot of events coming up in the fall. On September 5th, there is the Alternatives to Guardianship Work Group. September 8th, the FASD film, "The 8 Keys," will be shown at Bear Tooth Theater. They worked on getting a Governor proclamation to declare FASD awareness for September 9th, and it will be presented at the film. September 24 to 27 is National Transportation in Indian Country Conference in Anchorage. He continued that October is big for the Council with the next big meeting on the 9th and 10th. On October 13th

there is the BEST Employment Symposium which will be at Fairview Rec Center. The Aging & Disability Summit in Anchorage is the 11th and 12th, and November to December is the Reducing Recidivism Conference. He added that they reached out to Senator Murkowski and the other two members of our congressional delegation to attend the Council meeting, and we do not yet have confirmation.

MR. REINHART invited the trustees to attend their meetings. He asked Mr. Tasso to talk about the pride celebration events.

MR. TASSO reported that there was a great attendance and great weather for D P in Anchorage. It was a family event. Events also happened down on the Kenai, as well, and he wanted special credit to go to Ric Nelson with Peer Power, their new executive director, and Maggie Winston who helped the Soldotna event get going. The event was supported in part by the Trust and Peer Power, and even had Andrew Kurka, Paralympian from the Valley, speak at both events. It was a great success.

MR. REINHART thanked the Trust for their support and talked about Disability Pride, always in July because it relates to the anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and this was the 33rd year for that. He talked about the signing of SB 57 in Palmer on July 29, and the bill itself. He continued through some of the committee updates, with employment being one of the most important ones. He thanked them for the grant-writing support received through the Trust contractor, and they could not have done it without Denali Daniels & Associates. It was a tough deadline to meet, but they met it.

MR. TASSO talked about the three committees that were essentially goals. One of them was the Community Inclusion Supports & Services Committee, and he is the current staff facilitator. He talked about a letter of support to Senator Murkowski's office about her co-sponsoring or reintroducing the Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Respect Act of '23, along with Senator Klobuchar. This is an issue of importance in Alaska, and we are grateful to have that letter of support from the Council and all the members.

MR. REINHART continued through the presentation and recognized Direct Services Professional week, September 10th through the 16th.

MS. CRAFTON talked about self-advocacy and leaders, and talked about Wesley Witherspoon, the chair of the Governor's Council in California. They would be meeting tomorrow. She invited anyone that would like to could come.

MR. REINHART showed the new "I Have Rights" video that stars some people in the room.

(Video shown.)

MR. TASSO mentioned that the "I Have Rights" presentation was in Florida, and he, Jena, and one of the other staff members went. Jena was asked to be a facilitator for another panel, and there was a lot of interest from other state councils about our council and what we do in Alaska.

MS. CRAFTON stated that they had a great time in Florida, but Alaskans do not like the heat, and she kind of melted. It was a good conference, and she liked mingling with everyone from

different states to see what they do. It turned out good.

MR. REINHART continued through the presentation, explaining as he went along. He asked Mr. Tasso to give a quick update on a Federal issue.

MR. TASSO stated that there was support for supporting family caregivers at the executive order level coming out of the White House. That will be monitored continually so that, overall, it will improve services and supports for families.

CHAIR HALTERMAN congratulated Ms. Crafton on her chair assignment and thanked her for the blueberry bread. It was wonderful. She asked Ms. Baldwin-Johnson to introduce the next panelists.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON apologized to Jon Haghayeghi for forgetting to introduce him before. She stated that Mr. Haghayeghi is the executive director of Alaska Commission on Aging and added that he also had Marty Lange online with him.

MR. HAGHAYEGHI thanked the Trust for all of their support. It is because of this support that they were able to accomplish the goals they set out and through that support they were able to have staff and pursue all of their endeavors. He stated appreciation for the support of the Trust in their role and supporting the joint advisory. He congratulated Marty Lange for being with the Commission for about a year. He started out as the rural outreach coordinator and successfully reclassified that position, and he is a Program Coordinator 2. That allowed them to expand the scope of responsibility within the Commission with regard to some of the future endeavors, including a statewide initiative to reach communities using new forms of media. He added that there are plans for producing podcasts that will be distributed through radio programs across the state, and he is happy to have such a brilliant, reliable, culturally sensitive, and eager teammate to get out in the communities and improve the lives of seniors. When he last spoke to the trustees, they were in the final stages of the State plan which was submitted in a timely manner on June 30th with signatures from the Department of Health Commissioner, as well as the Governor. He stated that they received feedback from ACL and were incorporating those edits, which will be back to ACL by the end of the week. He continued that the plan will be implemented on October 1, 2023. The goal for the future is how to track the State plan outcomes, which is a specific part of Mr. Lange's role. He emphasized the assistance and teamwork they have within the office. The work that Mr. Lange has been producing has been phenomenal. The plan is to produce their first ten podcasts, which will go on to radio stations across the state. The goal is to improve the ability in reaching seniors in the corner pockets of the state. He stated that the mission of the Alaska Commission on Aging is to insure the dignity and independence of all older Alaskans, and to assist them in leading useful and meaningful lives through planning, efficacy, education, and interagency. We do not mean just the ones that live in the city; but also the ones that live in the remote communities. He went through the outreach report. The trip was made to gain a deeper understanding of the challenges of aging in rural and remote Alaska. They came away with three distinct observations: One was the need to understand rural and remote community life; the second being the importance of hub communities; and third, just some insights on the senior center and the infrastructure there. He discussed each of the three observations. He pointed out that the Elders are held in high respect, and are taken care of by the community. He also talked about the challenges of living in the rural community.

CHAIR HALTERMAN asked for any questions.

TRUSTEE BOYLES stated appreciation and complimented for Mr. Haghayeghi on the style of his presentation.

TRUSTEE MORAN stated that she was curious about a standardized approach for data collection because it is difficult to find standardized approaches that reflect the environment.

MR. HAGHAYEGHI replied that it was not fully developed, and we do have a set of about ten categories of items that were identified for the purposes of the Barrow trip. We will have to continue to develop what this standard framework will be, but the motivation is that just surveying is not enough, and there is a need to actually take the initiative to draw some of their own conclusions about where there may be gaps in services. He added that it is an evolving project.

CHAIR HALTERMAN thanked Mr. Haghayeghi and stated her appreciation for the presentation. She asked Ms. Baldwin-Johnson to move to the next introduction.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON introduced Steph Hopkins and Charity Lee, and looked forward to their presentation.

MS. HOPKINS stated that she is the acting executive director of the Alaska Mental Health Board, Advisory Board on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, and Statewide Suicide Prevention Council. She continued that she was joined by Charity Lee, who helps with planning with the boards. Their chair, Brenda Moore, of AMHB was also online. She added that the Alaska Mental Health Board and Advisory Board on Alcohol and Drug Abuse are in charge of the planning and coordinating of behavioral health services that are funded by the State of Alaska. Additionally, they are the federally designated planning council for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration block grant. The joint mission of the boards is to advocate for programs and services that promote healthy, independent, and productive Alaskans. She stated that they were in the middle of the first round of interviews for the ED position. Once there is an ED on board, she gets to return to the advocacy coordinator position for the boards, and the joint advocacy effort with the Trust. She continued that the planning team is fully staffed with Jenny Weissaupt, who has been on the board since 2019; and Charity joined earlier this year. The admin is Kevin Holian, and there is a current vacancy in the support staff. They are waiting for a permanent ED to make determinations on how to utilize that position to best engage with the consumers. She stated there were open seats on both boards; two beneficiary seats on ABADA, and two consumer seats on AMHB. They are also seeking an attorney for AMHB, and a physician, per our statutes, for ABADA. Folks that are interested can go to the Boards and Commissions page and note which board they are interested in on the general application. She then shared an update on the data for suicide in Alaska and the FY25 budget.

MS. LEE shared an estimation of the recently released 2022 suicide mortality data. She continued that there was a decrease in the suicide mortality rate in Alaska; and, more noteworthy, the U.S. rate went up. Another thing of note was that while the suicide mortality data in 2022 showed a decrease, they did not see the same decrease in the morbidity data. She talked about this in more detail and moved through the variables examined.

MS. HOPKINS thanked the Trust for their considerations with the FY25 budget and for their continued support of the Alaska Training Cooperative. The Training Cooperative was a critical factor in the shared goal of ensuring that Alaskans with behavioral health conditions have access to the community-based care that they need. The core funding provided through the Trust dollars and the advocacy the Trust does for General Fund dollars allows the Training Cooperative to provide specialized, high quality, affordable trainings to folks in small communities, which ensure that folks across Alaska have access to trained professionals, whether they are in Anchorage or Utqiagvik. The Training Cooperative trains at every level of an organization which creates a foundation for folks that are entering the field, either as a career choice or because of the expanded reimbursement for family members who are now providing services. It also grows that capacity all the way up to the leadership level. One of the programs offered is a three-day intensive, front-line leadership institute where the workers get to develop skills in mentoring, retention, recruitment, and other management-level skills that probably work harder with more hands-on practical experience from their previous position. The core funding supported by the Trust allows the Training Cooperative to be flexible and responsive to the rapidly changing environments. In addition to their successful online pivot during COVID, they had been front and center in the movement around peer support. She thanked the trustees for the upcoming budget increment that was set aside for the Direct Service Support Professional Training and certification pilot program. She went through the staff updates. She stated that the time of transition has been a stress test for the internal operations and, as staff, they took that as an opportunity to shore up the policies and procedures in the hope that everything would be organized and lead to a seamless onboarding of the new ED.

MS. LEE went back to the other two variables looked at with the 2022 suicide mortality data and explained them in greater detail. She summarized the mortality data, and then continued to the morbidity data, and the decrease in the overall suicide mortality rate for Alaska. She noted, with this data, that they saw an increase in male suicide attempts in February through April of 2022.

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated that she was listening to the radio and one of her observations was the veteran suicide hotline number was presented, and it was not the 988 number. It appeared that the Veteran's Administration was still using their number, and she asked if there was any effort to have them start using 988.

MR. BOYER replied that, currently, with 988 and the national lifeline number when they are called there is an option to call to dial into the Veterans. Anything outside of that needs to have a check. He had not heard that there was another line being offered.

MS. BIASTOCK added that she was looking at the Veterans Crisis Line national website and it does say dial 988 and then press 1. There is a special option for 988 specific for Veterans. The VA is very engaged in suicide prevention.

CHAIR HALTERMAN thanked all, and called a 15-minute break.

(Break.)

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT/UPDATE

CHAIR HALTERMAN called the meeting back to order and turned the floor over to Jusdi

Warner.

MS. WARNER asked for the motion to be read into the record.

MOTION: The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Board of Trustees approves the proposed action to fund the Statewide Subdivision Development Program from the Trust Land Office Development Account, TLODA, with \$3 million. These funds do not lapse. The motion was made by TRUSTEE FISHER; seconded by TRUSTEE MORAN.

MS. WARNER stated that this had been discussed at the Resource Management Committee extensively. She continued that this request is for \$3 million over the course of five years to continue the Subdivision Development Program at the Trust Land Office. They presented a statewide program. The initial phases will be in the Mat-Su Borough. Revenues will be coming in through the cost recovery process in about 18 to 48 months.

CHAIR HALTERMAN asked for any questions.

TRUSTEE FIMON asked for clarity on the last five words, “these funds do not lapse.” Does that mean the funds never lapse?

MS. WARNER replied yes.

CHAIR HALTERMAN called the vote.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Morris, yes; Trustee Moran, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Sturgeon, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Boyles, yes; Chair Halterman, yes.)

CHAIR HALTERMAN moved to the next motion.

MOTION: The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Board of Trustees approves the proposed action to fund the Mineral Potential Evaluation Program from the Trust Land Office Development Account, TLODA, with \$1.5 million. These funds do not lapse. The motion was made by TRUSTEE FIMON; seconded by TRUSTEE MORAN.

MS. WARNER stated that this request was heard at the Resource Management Committee and is \$1.5 million over the next five years. The trustees were presented with a plan over that five years, about \$300,000, plus or minus, per year, to conduct this program. She explained that this program was some reconnaissance soil sampling to start to see if there is value in the subsurface property that the Trust owns. The focus will be on the parcels that are adjacent to areas that are already proven prospects. She concluded that this project will be overseen by the TLO chief geologist, and will be adhering to industry standards that are required in the U.S.

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated they were ready for the question.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Boyles, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Sturgeon, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Moran, yes; Trustee Morris, yes; Chair Halterman, yes.)

CHAIR HALTERMAN moved to the next motion.

TRUSTEE MORRIS recused himself from the discussion and vote on this motion. He added that it was out of an abundance of caution because he sits on the advisory board for the Salvation Army.

CHAIR HALTERMAN recused Trustee Morris from this vote.

MOTION: The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Board of Trustees approves the annual lease rent of \$15,701.48 with a 10 percent rent increase every five years for a 25-year ground lease of Tract 1-A, according to the plat of Tracts 1-A and 4-A Community Park Alaska Subdivision/Trust Parcel SM-1520, in Anchorage, Alaska, to the Salvation Army. The motion was made by TRUSTEE FIMON; seconded by TRUSTEE STURGEON.

MS. WARNER reminded the trustees that this was here today because the lease for the Salvation Army that had been in existence for 55 years is expiring this October. If the Board decides to move forward on this, the next steps belong to the Trust Land Office where a best-interest decision will be issued, and that will go out to public notice for 30 days. After that ends, the public comments, if any, will be reviewed, and the process will go from there. Usually, the best-interest decision is affirmed. If the Trust decides that it is in the best interest of the Trust to issue this lease, the lease will be negotiated with the terms of the motion. Going back a few years, this was also in front of trustees for the Community Park Loop Master Plan, and that was the intent that was decided at that time. She asked Mr. Boyer if he had any additional information about the programmatic side of this.

MR. BOYER stated that the programmatic with the Salvation Army is still in discussions, and they are fully planning for the future to continue to provide services to Trust beneficiaries. It looks good from this end.

TRUSTEE BOYLES asked if there is a building on the property, and if it was mortgaged.

MS. WARNER replied that there is a building on it, and it was paid for. She thought there may be plans to do some significant improvements to that building, and those protections will be in the lease by the Trust Land Office. Those negotiations will continue, and it will be protected.

CHAIR HALTERMAN called the question.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Morris, recused; Trustee Moran, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Sturgeon, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Boyles, yes; Chair Halterman, yes.)

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT/UPDATE

CHAIR HALTERMAN moved to the discussion on the Finance Committee Report and Update. She asked for a trustee to read Motion 1.

MOTION 1: The Board of Trustees approves adopting the Asset Management Policy

Statement, AMPS, changes as indicated in the attached redline version. The motion was made by TRUSTEE BOYLES; seconded by TRUSTEE MORAN.

CHAIR HALTERMAN recognized Kat Roch.

MS. ROCH stated that this motion is adopting, via AMPS, revisions that were discussed at the July committee meeting. Those changes, to summarize, are a lot of technical edits changing the title from Program-Related Investments to Program-Related Real Estate; revision to the reference target index benchmark from the MPI property index to the NCREIF property sector return; also revisions to the statutory references to reflect the bifurcation of the Department of Health and Social Services into the two departments that the state has now, the Department of Health and the Department of Family Community Services. It also removed the references to having an independent real estate adviser.

CHAIR HALTERMAN asked for any questions. There being none, she called the roll-call vote.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Boyles, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Sturgeon, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Moran, yes; Trustee Morris, yes; Chair Halterman, yes.)

MOTION 2: The Board of Trustees approves the ratification of the Legislature's FY2024 MHTAAR and MHT Admin budget amounts as appropriated, and therefore increase the previous FY2024 trustee authorization by \$99,200. The motion was made by TRUSTEE FISHER; seconded by TRUSTEE FIMON.

MS. ROCH stated that this motion was to approve the legislatively appropriated amounts increasing the FY2024 trustee approved budget by the \$99,200. This increase is primarily due to increases in salary, health insurance, and PERS benefits.

CHAIR HALTERMAN asked for any questions. She called the question.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Morris, yes; Trustee Moran, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Sturgeon, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Boyles, yes; Chair Halterman, yes.)

MOTION 3: The Board of Trustees approves the Fiscal Year 2024 Trust Authority Office MHT agency budget of \$4,819,908. The motion made by TRUSTEE FIMON; the motion was seconded by TRUSTEE FISHER.

MS. ROCH stated, as discussed in the July committee meetings, the Trust Authority's agency budget was approximately an 84 percent increase between FY24 and FY25. Discussed were the various drivers behind that 4 percent increase.

CHAIR HALTERMAN asked for any questions, and then called the vote.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Boyles, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Sturgeon, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Moran, yes; Trustee Morris, yes; Chair Halterman, yes.)

MOTION 4: The Board of Trustees approves the Trust Land Office agency budget for FY24 in the amount of \$5,155,000. The motion was made by TRUSTEE FISHER; seconded by TRUSTEE BOYLES.

MS. ROCH stated, similar to the Trust Authority budget, in July, the Trust Land Office's agency budget was discussed about the approximate 2 percent increase in the Land Office's budget for FY25 over FY24.

CHAIR HALTERMAN asked for any questions. There being none, she called the question.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Morris, yes; Trustee Moran, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Sturgeon, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Boyles, yes; Chair Halterman, yes.)

BOARD MOTION TRACKING

CHAIR HALTERMAN recognized CEO Williams to introduce this topic.

CEO WILLIAMS stated that there was no action requested or needed from the trustees. There had been discussions about how to make sure the trustees understand motions that have been passed either by the current Board or a previous Board that affect the policy actions that either the trustees need to take, or the staff needs to take in terms of the ongoing operations of the Trust. He continued to a list of 18 motions that had been taken by the Board that were currently active. They were motions that were approved by the Board of Trustees which establish current Trust policy, not bound by time, and upon which administrative, financial, or operating decisions are made by the trustees, the Trust Authority Office, or the Trust Land Office staff. He explained how they determined the motions to look at with the 18 being policy-grounding motions and not specific actions that were one time. He added that the motions made today and passed will be captured, tracked and then reviewed with the secretary. He continued that the initial work to establish the tool was developed, and then we met with Trustee Fisher to walk through and explain what the thinking was behind that. He approved or was happy with what staff did, and we will continue to meet with the secretary following these committee and Board meetings when we have the final motions from verbatims and can add them. He explained that if one of the 18 were to change, it will be noted, and then staff would make sure that the trustees had the updated version of a policy action that they took so they could reference back to it, if needed. He added that if there was a requested action of the trustees upon which one of these policy actions had been taken, staff will include that as the backup documentation. It will say something similar like seen previously today as an action previously taken by the trustees.

TRUSTEE MORAN asked if there was any sort of implementation date or anything that gives an assurance that they were all found and had confirmed that they were implemented or resolved.

CEO WILLIAMS noted that there is backup documentation related to each of those. For example, we have the MOA with the Department of Natural Resources.

TRUSTEE MORAN suggested one more column with the implementation date for assurance that it actually happened on that date.

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated appreciation for that feedback, and that it was a good observation. She hoped for recommendations over time if people see ways to improve this.

CEO WILLIAMS added that these motions were also found in the committee or board meeting minutes that were approved at each of the meetings. Underneath that is a bit of the description of the dialogue that happened around any particular motion. Those are part of the public record and on the Website. He stated that this is a great tool to help the trustees have one place to look at which will be provided and updated. He continued that it was a lot of work with over 1,000 motions. Every motion, whether it passed, failed, adjournments, recessed was tracked in a spreadsheet. These 18 set policy.

TRUSTEE FIMON commented that he viewed this as an ongoing living document that the word of governance was spoken in. The trustees need to know where the motions came from and need to know a history and why with access to it as the Board evolves yearly. He was happy for it.

CEO WILLIAMS stated that the time spent was well worth it. It was an investment, and will be a great resource.

CHAIR HALTERMAN thanked staff for taking on this monumental task and stated appreciation for the amount of work it took. She asked for any further comments or questions about the motion tracking. She stated the need for FY2025 for both of those motions instead of Fiscal Year '24. She asked Trustee Fimon to read Motion 3.

MOTION 3: The Board of Trustees approves the Fiscal Year 2025 Trust Authority Office MHT agency budget of \$4,819,908. This motion replaced the Motion 3 that was made earlier. The motion was made by TRUSTEE FIMON; seconded by TRUSTEE BOYLES.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Morris, yes; Trustee Moran, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Sturgeon, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Boyles, yes; Chair Halterman, yes.)

MOTION 4: The Board of Trustees approves the Trust Land Office agency budget for fiscal year '25 in the amount of \$5,155,000. This motion replaces Motion 4 made earlier today. The motion was made by TRUSTEE FIMON; seconded by TRUSTEE FISHER.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Boyles, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Sturgeon, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Moran, yes; Trustee Morris, yes; Chair Halterman, yes.)

CHAIR HALTERMAN thanked staff for catching that and called a lunch break.

(Lunch break.)

PUBLIC COMMENT

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated that this was the time set aside for public comment and noted that there was some written public comment in the packet from Faith Myers and Dorrance Collins. She read into the record the public comment period for today's Full Board meeting is from 12:15

until 12:45. The public comment period allows individuals to inform and advise the Board of Trustees about issues, problems, or concerns. It is not a hearing. Individuals are invited to speak up to three minutes. A speaker may be granted the latitude to speak longer than the three-minute time limit only by the Chair or by a motion adopted by the Full Board of Trustees. Participants addressing issues related to Trust beneficiaries will have priority order. Speakers are not permitted to criticize or attack others. Anyone providing comment should do so in a manner that is respectful of the Board of Trustees and all meeting attendees. The Chair maintains the right to stop public comment that contains inappropriate or inflammatory language or behavior. She continued that she did not have anyone signed in on the list and called out for folks online in case someone had called in that wants to give public testimony. She recognized Don Habeger.

MR. HABEGER stated, for the record, that he was Don Habeger, a coalition coordinator for the Juneau Reentry Coalition. He added that it was a pleasure to provide testimony today. He gave an update to the trustees about the Juneau Reentry Coalition's goals and objectives for FY24. In the process, at the beginning of each fiscal year, they look back and look ahead at the issues to see what the reentry community may benefit from through involvement of a community coalition. For FY24, they came up with four goals and objectives including assets to digital technology for an opportunity for those inside contemplating release and working on their release plans so they are better prepared as they come into the communities. He continued, in relation to community, they would like to expand, enrich in any community group that offers a service, that offers any kind of programming that may benefit going inside and working with those before release. That was item No. 2. No. 3 was peer support, and we have specific projects being looked at, i.e., Alaska Project Rebound. Last, a perennial issue, which is reentry housing; just finding affordable, safe, and secure reentry housing in any manner possible; a perennial goal of the Reentry Coalition.

CHAIR HALTERMAN thanked Mr. Habeger, and stated appreciation for the feedback. She asked if there were any other members of the public that would like to give public comment online. She asked one more time, and then suggested moving on.

CEO WILLIAMS stated that it had only been open for five minutes. He suggested taking a recess and coming back at 12:30.

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated that they would wait a few minutes.

(Pause.)

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated that they were in the midst of a public comment period and asked if there was anyone new online. There being no one, she closed the public comment. She continued that written comments are always welcome and may be submitted to trustees at any time via e-mail at public.comment@MHTrust.org; by fax at 907-269-7966; or by mail to 3745 Community Park Loop, Suite 200, Anchorage, AK 99508. She moved to the FY25 Budget deliberations, and recognized CEO Williams.

FY25 BUDGET DELIBERATIONS

CEO WILLIAMS stated that he would give a bit of introduction. He continued that Trustee Moran had something related to the ethics disclosure.

TRUSTEE MORAN disclosed a potential conflict of interest she may have regarding the \$200,000 grant to Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, ANDVSA, and sought the advice of the Department of Law on this issue. She advised the Department of Law that she was employed by Women in Safe Homes, WISH, which is a member of ANDVSA. She was not on the board of the ANDVSA. Because of WISH's membership in ANDVSA, she was concerned about having a conflict of interest. The Department of Law had advised her that no such conflict of interest exists, and that she was free to discuss and deliberate on this grant and the FY2025 budget. She understood that WISH would not be permitted to apply for or receive any funds provided by AMHTA to ANDVSA in this \$200,000 grant.

CHAIR HALTERMAN thanked Trustee Moran and entertained a motion.

MOTION: A motion that the Full Board of Trustees appropriate MHTAAR, Mental Health Trust Admin and Authority Grant funds for Fiscal Year 2025 in the amount of \$39,614,700. This consists of \$20,172,700 of MHTAAR and Mental Health Trust Admin, and \$19,442,000 of Authority Grants. These funds are to be used for the programs and activities described in the detailed Fiscal Year 2025 budget recommendations document prepared for the August 29 and August 30, 2023, Board of Trustees meeting. Included in this motion is a recommendation by the Full Board of Trustees for a State of Alaska appropriation of \$10,737,400 General Fund/Mental Health Funds, and \$8,100,000 of other funds for Fiscal Year 2025. The motion was made by TRUSTEE FIMON; seconded by TRUSTEE FISHER.

CEO WILLIAMS began with a high-level overview of how they got this budget for trustees' consideration. This FY25 budget is the second year of the two-year budget. Last August the trustees approved the FY24 budget and then approved an FY25 budget with the understanding that it was a two-year-out budget and would be reviewed this spring and summer and then representing that budget with any recommended changes and discussion from the trustees. He asked Ms. Baldwin-Johnson to continue.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON began with a brief reorientation to what was on the spreadsheets and documents available as resources. Included is the FY25 unallocated funding summary total and by focus priority area. This was a request to have additional resources to make sure that it is very clear as trustees deliberated about the budget. They also have the FY25 budget draft, proposed budget, which is the same document looked at in the Program & Planning Committee except for some minor technical edits for the sake of making it a tighter document. She added that no changes to the budget increments that were discussed at the last Program & Planning meeting were done. She went through, explaining and answering questions as she went along.

TRUSTEE STURGEON asked about the Wall Street Journal article, and if we had enough money to do a really good job, plus sending workers into dangerous situations. He asked to see if we were going down that same path and if we have enough money to do a good job.

MR. BOYER replied that Trustee Sturgeon asked a good question. He continued that it is valuable to see how things are going at the national level and it is helpful to have all of those different perspectives. He talked about how driven it is in the state in moving into the Crisis Now continuum, and really listening to the dispatch center directors. They are really concerned about liability and putting people in harm's way, and they worked with the chief clinical officer

at Alaska Behavioral Health, who runs outpatient and residential services in Anchorage and Fairbanks. They thoroughly looked at other states' best practices around those decisions, and worked on that for the better part of a year. He added that he had three takeaways from that article: They had trouble getting enough clinicians to staff the teams; funding was an issue; and then there was some ambiguity around when to send in those clinicians. He talked about the benefits and took time to think through some of the processes and how they were being approached. Also, looking at how to keep refining that process.

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated that Alaska is unique. We have a tribal infrastructure that many states envy. There is the ability to deploy our resources differently. One of her observations with Crisis Now and the complications with sending out law enforcement was they were limited in the amount of information that they have available about people. When doing a response, they are doing a criminal kind of response. When it comes to solutions, they have to be tailored uniquely because the programs are unique. They were all tailored very specifically to the states' unique needs. It was insightful, and she thanked him for sharing it.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON continued with her overview, explaining as she went through.

CEO WILLIAMS followed up from the July Program & Planning Committee. Trustee Morris asked if there was any place funding could be increased for reentry services focused on housing and the Trust beneficiaries. Travis Welch went back and met with folks that coordinated around reentry, where needs could be met, and where there were communities that may be having some of the needs, but some additional funding could be helpful. He asked Mr. Welch to give an update.

MR. WELCH stated that he had numerous meetings with various stakeholders ranging from the Department of Behavioral Health, Department of Health, to the Department of Corrections, Partners for Reentry Center, outreach and coalition coordinators and other stakeholders such as the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation. He continued that the simple answer is for more funding, more supports would be beneficial to reentrants of Trust beneficiaries returning to their communities after incarceration, and expanding the reach of the resources currently provided. Mentioned was the possibility of a GF/MH recommendation from trustees to the Governor and to the Legislature to provide this support. In identifying the appropriate agency to receive that funding, the Alaska Housing & Finance Corporation came up as the best agency that would have the reach statewide to be able to benefit the most Trust beneficiaries throughout the state, and not just one community. He looked at the different current programs and talked about DOC Discharge Incentive Grants. This was the current partnership with the Department of Behavioral Health, Department of Corrections, and AHFC to provide transitional supports for housing to Trust beneficiaries returning to their communities. He talked about the available MHTAAR funding and augmenting that to \$500,000. That would be enough for AHFC to work with their various partners to get that funding into different communities such as Fairbanks, Southeast Alaska, the Mat-Su and other areas, and would be the best return on investment.

TRUSTEE BOYLES asked if that money going through AHFC was real transitional housing money.

MR. WELCH replied yes, it goes to Partners Reentry Center who is the fiscal agent primarily focused in Anchorage.

TRUSTEE MORAN asked for clarification on the amount for funding.

CEO WILLIAMS replied that the \$200,000 would stay in that row, and then \$500,000 would be added to the row above.

TRUSTEE MORRIS clarified that his question was in regard to a particular program that was mentioned. It was reported that there was a particular program for reentrants who were also beneficiaries that had a dramatically lower recidivism rate. He stated that he was still not clear which program it is, and was particularly interested in identifying that and others like it in all the other different focus areas that can be latched onto rather than broad strokes recommending the State give more money to another program with disappointing results.

MR. WELCH stated appreciation for Trustee Morris' comments. He continued that the project that he spoke about in the last meeting was specifically the Mat-Su Reentry Coalition. The great results that they see with their investment of the Trust funding is also seen through various programs throughout the state. He went through a few examples and some statistics.

TRUSTEE MORRIS stated that he had not reached out to anyone in Mat-Su. He continued that he had three parts: First he asked for an e-mail that rewords those statistics to have something to hang onto; if there are other similarly successful programs, he would like emails about those also; lastly, is that program very similar or identical to what they asked for recommendations to the Governor for \$500,000, or were they unrelated but were thought to be productive.

TRUSTEE BOYLES stated that she had a motion.

MOTION: A motion that, because the proof the recidivism rate is lower than the statewide rates when we provide housing for our beneficiaries under certain conditions, the Board of Trustees of AMHTA approve the General Fund/Mental Health recommendation included in this budget for \$500,000 to line 47, Page 6, DOC Discharge Incentive Grants. The motion was made by TRUSTEE BOYLES.

TRUSTEE STURGEON stated, point of order; that there could only be one motion on the floor at a time.

CHAIR HALTERMAN agreed that there was an ongoing motion, and would table Trustee Boyles' motion for a while.

TRUSTEE BOYLES asked if an amendment to the motion could be made

CHAIR HALTERMAN replied that they had to wait until the budget motion was finalized.

TRUSTEE STURGEON advised that when they go for the vote would be the time to ask for a friendly amendment.

CHAIR HALTERMAN had Ms. Baldwin-Johnson continue through her budget overview.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON continued through, explaining and answering questions as they

came up. She concluded her presentation.

STATUTORY ADVISOR UPDATE

CHAIR HALTERMAN moved to the statutory advisor update from the partners with the Department of Health and the Department of Family Community Services.

CEO WILLIAMS clarified for the trustees that they had just walked through the initial budget. It will be revisited and then voted on. The reason it was interrupted was because both commissioners had just this time in their busy schedules to come and meet with us.

COMMISSIONER HEDBERG stated that she is the Commissioner for the Department of Health and stated appreciation for accommodating their schedules. She began with the Governor's Healthy Families Initiative which focuses on the first three pillars which is Healthy Beginning, which really focuses on the early intervention, the very beginning years; the second is improving access to behavioral health and health care; and the third is around healthy communities. All of the work that the Department is engaging in really supports one or more of those three pillars. The budget you just went through links into the healthy beginnings, improving access, or healthy communities. She added that they dovetail nicely together and stated appreciation for that partnership. She stated that, specifically within the Department of Health, there are four major arcs of effort they engage in, and she thanked the trustees for the partnership. She continued that the first was around complex care and those individuals that leverage services for more than one Division within the Department of Health. She moved to the second big focus area which is around childcare. There had been a statewide conversation for the need for workforce within behavioral health, but some were not able to work because they have children and no access to childcare. The Governor signed an administrative order to create a task force on childcare which she is chairing. There have been a lot of conversations around what the landscape of childcare in Alaska is, really focusing in on background checks, and she talked about how to handle some of the licensing issues. Then, there are a lot of conversations exploring around health-related social needs. She wanted to recognize that there were other waivers that were 1915, and many states are embracing many of these waivers to address the health-related social needs. In an individual's healthcare, 80 percent was made up outside of the medical care that they receive. It was education, transportation, access to health care, housing, food. They have been having a robust conversation really exploring what the needs are in Alaska. We are looking for the gaps and centering around care coordination, housing, and food as a medicine; access to nutritious foods and food security.

COMMISSIONER KOVOL stated that she is the Commissioner for the Department of Family Community Services. As a refresher, the four divisions under the Department are OCS, API, DJJ, and APH or Pioneer Homes. She thanked the trustees for the continuing support from the Trust. They see more acute needs, especially in the complex-care work. She announced that they have a deputy director onboarding in a few weeks, and they are very excited about this. She continued that there was a recent editorial board op-ed in the ADN. We heard a lot of comments; we produced an op-ed, and they did finally print it. Very good feedback was received from the community partners on it, and she asked the trustees to read it if they had not yet read it. She emphasized that the past few weeks had a lot of Federal partners visiting, and we just went through compacting last week. It was fascinating to have Federal partners in there nearly every day. She talked about a government-to-government-to-government meeting where the fellow partners were sent out to see how they could experience what was dealt with from a

frontline perspective. They had an incredible experience. It was very humbling. The hope is they will take that back as we push for changes and modifications to how the Federal Government applies rules and such to some of these programs that we have to stick to. She added that they did have some priorities coming down the pipe in regard to child welfare, and would be looking at some exploratory things with the DOJ.

CHAIR HALTERMAN thanked Commissioner Kovol and stated that she read the op-ed, and it was awesome. A great job responding to the feedback that had been misinforming the public about what was going on with API. She appreciated the effort and setting them straight. It was informative. She encouraged all to read it.

TRUSTEE BOYLES talked about the resurgence of COVID and stated that the children suffered through it more than anyone. A lot of headway with the children was lost because they were out of school. She asked if either of them could respond to how this was being looked at, and if there was a task force assigned for the State of Alaska.

COMMISSIONER HEDBERG replied that everyone's lives were impacted, and she knows that her two children were impacted. She thought that all kids were impacted at different levels, and it is in building the resiliency that will help the kids move forward. She talked about the ongoing conversations on what was working, inviting schools to the table, and having conversations about what the schools were seeing and how to partner with them. She added that there were some after-action reports, and the final one has not yet been publicized.

COMMISSIONER KOVOL stated, from the facilities standpoint, they continue to promote and practice safety, health, and hand-washing, and if folks are inclined to wear a mask, they are encouraged to do that.

TRUSTEE FIMON thanked both the commissioners. He stated that Commissioner Kovol mentioned that OCS was underneath you and asked if there was any good news there. Is there some progress in getting it further staffed? He asked for an update.

COMMISSIONER KOVOL replied that they continue to struggle with staffing in the rural areas. The biggest component is the lack of housing for the professionals and their families. They could keep up their LOAs where someone is sent out one week on, one week off. It is not preferred. We want someone in the community. But frankly, we are not able to find adequate housing for the workers. It is not only the worker, but it is also the spouse who is looking for work. As for kinship, they still work closely with the tribal partners and also with the nonequal partners in regard to looking for those family placements and best/first priority. They are in the middle of an audit, and one of the staff said that we were exceeding Federal standards in regard to that preferred placement. Progress is being made on one end, and there are still continued challenges on the other side.

TRUSTEE MORRIS stated that Commissioner Hedberg had mentioned access to care and gaps. He asked if there were any areas in healthcare in Alaska where there was a surplus with too many providers. He asked if there was a surplus of psychiatrists, pediatricians, social workers.

COMMISSIONER HEDBERG replied that she would love to have that problem, but we have not found a surplus of any healthcare providers.

TRUSTEE MORRIS asked if they should continue to be focusing on doing things to incentivize and increase the supply of healthcare providers.

COMMISSIONER HEDBERG agreed and stated that the apprenticeships had started to take off, and they had been looking at other apprenticeship models in other states. She thought that they should lean into apprenticeships gaining that job experience and having the stepping stones to start with a certificate and then moving up to associates, bachelor's, master's, whatever it was. Having that growth in the workforce is imperative. She acknowledged that the Alaska Housing and Finance Corporation reached out to all the commissioners and asked about the workforce gaps and about the communities because of housing. She added that the loan reimbursement program, SHARP, was increasing.

COMMISSIONER KOVOL stated they were working very closely with the partners at the University to revamp how to bring in the practical placement, master's level, and bachelor's level students. OCS is revisiting and will be implementing stipends for these students. That had gone away years ago, and we will bring that back. We will then also look at how to also reimburse and support the staff who are the mentors. The other exciting piece is looking at doing that whole model and replicating it possibly through the different departments so that we could be on a unified system.

CHAIR HALTERMAN asked if State training dollars were being leveraged to retain the workforce.

COMMISSIONER KOVOL replied, yes, all under SHARP-3.

CEO WILLIAMS thanked both the Commissioners and staff in both Departments. He continued that it is an incredible amount of partnership that happens between all the State partners, our community and tribal health partners, to make the funding or just talking about being effective and developing the ability to be deployed in ways that meet the Trust beneficiaries' needs.

COMMISSIONER HEDGERG stated appreciation for the partnership and thanked all.

COMMISSIONER KOVOL stated that as the parent of an adult child who is a beneficiary, she appreciates the work that the Trust does and that you entrust to so many folks. She shared her son's personal experience with a risk of losing his housing. The work you all do is very important because one 23-year-old young man is being very successful because of all of you. She thanked the trustees.

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated appreciation for that kind of feedback. She thanked them both for their time and appreciated seeing and hearing them. She called a break.

(Break.)

FY25 BUDGET DELIBERATIONS

CHAIR HALTERMAN resumed the work on the budget discussion and recognized Ms. Baldwin-Johnson.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON stated that the walk-through concluded, and we are back to the motion.

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated that there was a motion on the floor and asked for any further discussion about the motion.

TRUSTEE MORAN asked about the IPS supported Employment Implementation and the amount of the reduction.

MS. JOHNSON replied that the IPS, Individual Placement and Supports, supports an employment model that is an evidence-based practice for people experiencing mental illness and substance-use disorders. It is an initiative for economic behavioral health, specifically for those beneficiary populations. The recommended amount of \$250,000 reflects the anticipated amount of funding to award startup grants for agencies to implement those services. She reiterated the proposal that the Division of Behavioral Health has funding dedicated to continuation of those services and has anticipated that in spring of 2024 there will be a competitive round of funding to expand the services further.

CHAIR HALTERMAN asked for anything further. She noted for the record that John Sturgeon had rejoined the meeting. She asked for any other questions from the trustees about the budget deliberations. The motion was in front of them. She asked the maker of the motion, Trustee Fimon, and the second, Trustee Fisher, if they would entertain a friendly amendment.

TRUSTEE FIMON agreed.

TRUSTEE FISHER agreed.

MOTION AMENDMENT: TRUSTEE BOYLES respectfully asked the maker of the motion on the budget approval that was on the floor, TRUSTEE FIMON, and the second, TRUSTEE FISHER, to accept a friendly amendment to the existing motion on the floor. Because of the proof that providing housing to certain beneficiaries produces a lower recidivism rate than presently experienced by the State of Alaska, the Board of Trustees of the AMHTA recommends that we increase Page 6, Column AG, T, U and AH, which is the MHTAAR/MHT Admin and AG to \$200,000, and that included in the budget, Page 6, Line 47, DOC Discharge Incentive Grant in General Fund/Mental Health to \$200,000. The motion was seconded by TRUSTEE STURGEON.

CHAIR HALTERMAN asked for any questions or comments about this friendly amendment.

TRUSTEE BOYLES stated that she worked with wonderful, brilliant board members. They feel that if the contribution was increased it would say to the Governor that we would like to see him match it. She thought it would have a better chance of being approved than just a straight request.

TRUSTEE FIMON spoke to clarity and wanted to say to the Administration that they were doubling the money because we feel that we have a program that works. He asked them to match and join us in this program, and put up \$200,000.

CHAIR HALTERMAN thanked Trustee Fimon, and asked for any further comments or questions.

TRUSTEE MORRIS stated that Trustee Fimon convinced him to vote yes on it. His intention was to vote no simply because the differences on where the funding was going versus the original are successful and significant to him.

TRUSTEE FISHER asked if there had been any discussion about increasing the Administration's proposed budget.

MR. WELCH replied that there has not been any conversation with the Governor's Office. This is one way in which we do that; we open that conversation and make this proposal. It is a way as a Trust coming to the Governor and saying, "This is what we recommend."

TRUSTEE FISHER stated that Mr. Welch shared this important information, and it was part of a question that was raised by a trustee. He asked if there was a reason that it was not brought up previously when looking at the budget and committee.

CEO WILLIAMS restated that these were budget recommendations for the Governor and the Legislature to consider. There was no increase to the budget because he has not even released his proposed budget. Then, to answer the second question, we looked at the budget as presented during the July Program & Planning Committee and talked about paying attention to what was put forward as GF/MH recommendations within the context of the fiscal environment of the State. He continued to explain in detail how this worked.

CHAIR HALTERMAN added that, in the past, GF recommendations were made that were not well received by the Administration. This Administration has actually written the Board about some of those requests in the past and asked to have an ongoing dialogue with us. She continued that there is a process and a place to have the conversation with the Administration before it gets to the Legislature, if the Administration so chooses to raise questions about the increased expenditure. She did not foresee that it would be an issue.

CEO WILLIAMS stated that this was the first step in the budget process, and there are always conversations.

TRUSTEE MORAN stated that she would not support this primarily because she was not convinced that this was not a duplicate of programs. She would rather have resolution on that prior to allocating more funding towards it.

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated appreciation for that feedback and hoped that, if it does, we would hear back about that.

TRUSTEE FIMON stated that it was just the idea that this was how we should initiate and put the discussion out there. This is the opportunity that we get to have. All the comments up and down on all sides were good, regardless of how the vote turns out.

A discussion on the motion and the amended motion ensued, and whether it should be read from the beginning.

CEO WILLIAMS stated that, for clarity in the record, it should be restated.

CHAIR HALTERMAN called a brief break to clarify.

(Break.)

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated they were ready with the amended motion, and would have it read in its entirety.

MOTION: A motion that the Full Board of Trustees appropriate MHTAAR, MHT Admin and Authority Grant funds for Fiscal Year 2025 in the amount of \$39,714,700. This consists of \$20,272,700 of MHTAAR and MHT Admin, and \$19,442,000 of Authority Grants. These funds are to be used for the programs and activities described in the detailed Fiscal Year 2025 budget recommendations document prepared for the August 29-30, 2023, Board of Trustees for State of Alaska appropriation of \$10,937,400 of General Fund/MH funds and \$8,100,000 of other funds for Fiscal 2025.

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated there was a motion; it was amended; and there was a second on the amendment. It was a matter of reading a clean motion for trustees to see before casting their votes. The question is: Are there any questions or is there any debate about the modified amended budget motion? Seeing and hearing none, we are ready for the question.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Morris, yes; Trustee Moran, no; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Sturgeon, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Boyles, yes; Chair Halterman, yes.)

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated that they had an increased budget.

TRUSTEE FISHER commended staff for preparing the financial documents in a way that leads to transparency of the unallocated funds both in the spreadsheets and in the summary that was attached. He continued that there was a lot of really good information in the summary, and that it is important for the trustees to understand. He thanked staff for making sure that they were here for this board meeting, including the additional summary pages with everything there, because it is extremely helpful and very viable to us as trustees.

CHAIR HALTERMAN seconded that comment. She stated that this had been a very transparent budget discussion and the additional clarity that was granted in those reports was helpful. She appreciated that effort. Unless there was anything further, they were in recess until 8:30 tomorrow morning.

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

**ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH TRUST AUTHORITY
FULL BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING
HYBRID/WEBEX
August 30, 2023
8:30 a.m.**

**Originating at:
Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority
3745 Community Park Loop, Suite 200
Anchorage, Alaska 99508**

Trustees Present:

Anita Halterman, Chair
Brent Fisher
Kevin Fimon
Agnes Moran
John Sturgeon
John Morris
Rhonda Boyles

Trust Staff Present:

Steve Williams
Katie Baldwin-Johnson
Kat Roch
Miri Smith-Coolidge
Michael Baldwin
Eric Boyer
Allison Biastock
Kelda Barstad
Debbie DeLong
Valette Keller
Travis Welch
Autumn Vea
Janie Ferguson
Luke Lind
Jimael Johnson

Trust Land Office staff present:

Jusdi Warner
Jeff Green
Sarah Morrison
Blain Alfonso
Ashley Oien
Heather Weatherall
Cole Hendrickson

Also participating:

John Springsteen; Stephanie Hopkins; Stephanie Wheeler; Patrick Reinhart; Jon Haghayeghi;
Commissioner Kim Koval; Commissioner Heidi Hedberg; Brent Moore; Marty Lang; Don
Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority

Habeger; Jenny Weisshaupt; Charlene Tautfest; Diane Fielden; Representative Justin Ruffridge; Leah Van Kirk; Julie Bussman; Lisa Cauble; Brenda Moore; Charity Lee; Alex Eissler; Sara Clark; Desiree Scott; Jenna Crafton; Robert Tasso; Steph Kings.

PROCEEDINGS

CALL TO ORDER

CHAIR HALTERMAN called the Full Board meeting to order and began with a roll call. She noted that they had a quorum to do business. She asked for any announcements. There being none, she moved to the Personnel Update and asked for a motion.

PERSONNEL UPDATE

MOTION: Per AS 44.62.310(c), a motion that the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Full Board of Trustees move into Executive Session regarding personnel matters. No decisions will be made in the Executive Session. The motion was by TRUSTEE BOYLES; seconded by TRUSTEE MORAN.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Morris, yes; Trustee Moran, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Sturgeon, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Boyles, yes; Chair Halterman, yes.)

(Executive Session from 8:33 a.m. until 9:14 a.m.)

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated that Verne' Boerner joined us online, and she welcomed her.

MS. BOERNER stated that she just passed her written exams and was congratulated.

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated that need to come out of Executive Session, and asked for the motion to be read.

MOTION: Returning from the Executive Session, for the record, she, her fellow trustees, and members of the Trust Authority are returning to the Full Board of Trustees meeting from the Executive Session. We did not make any decisions during the Executive Session. The motion was made by TRUSTEE BOYLES; seconded by TRUSTEE FIMON.

CHAIR HALTERMAN asked for any resistance to coming out of Executive Session. Seeing and hearing none, they were out of Executive Session.

CHAIR HALTERMAN moved into the regular meeting and stated that they would be recessing because of a site visit. She asked CEO Williams for some background.

CEO WILLIAMS stated that the Complex Care facility was one of the first housing shelters or space for folks who are houseless and experiencing complex medical needs. He continued that the Trust provided funding for the stand-up of this about two years ago. They would be meeting the executive director and staff to talk about their services and what they do to help with beneficiaries.

CHAIR HALTERMAN recessed the meeting.

(Site visit.)

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated the this was the time on the agenda for the trustee meeting and introduced Gene Hickey with the Department of Law to help with training.

TRUSTEE TRAINING

MR. HICKEY stated that he was there to do some Open Meetings Act training for the Board. He explained that this might be Trustee Morris' first endeavor, and that we did it for everyone else either last year or the year before. He went through the requirements of the Open Meetings Act and encouraged discussion on some of the points, questions, and the need for any clarification. He explained that the Open Meetings Act is part of the Administrative Procedures Act that is found in Title 44 of the Alaska Statutes. The Open Meetings Act is an important piece of legislation from the perspective of conducting business by the board. It encompasses two sections in the Act, and is a pretty short law. The Legislature kept it simple and easy to follow and understand. It is short in wordage, but the impacts are extensive, and the questions flow from it on a consistent and daily basis. The Act was adopted in 1959 and had been amended several times; the last time being in 2009. He talked about application, who it applies to, what it applies to, exclusions, exceptions, and then the various requirements of and definitions concerning verbiage contained in the Act. Then he talked about violations and penalties. He explained that Section 312 identifies that boards and commissions are required to do the people's business rather than the board's business. The Legislature determined that if the people's business will be conducted, that it be conducted in an open forum so that people can be involved. He added that public comment is not found anywhere in the Act, but almost every board and commission provides for a public-comment period. The Law Department strongly recommends a public-comment period. The other important part about Section 312 and the purpose of the Act is that openness is the rule. He talked about what constituted a meeting. The applicable provision, since the Trust is not a recommending or advisory body, it can set policy, vote, and take action. For voting, in this case it requires either more than three members or a majority of the members, whichever is less. Because this is a group of seven, four is the majority. Since each of the committees are committees of the whole, he stressed that committees need to be public-noticed with a meeting of two or more. He continued to Executive Sessions and what is permitted under Section 310(c)3. He stated that this Board has been above board on all of these issues in the past that he had been involved with. He explained that there would be trouble if the Board goes into Executive Session for a considerably long period of time. Although the law permits it, in order to keep the public advised if they would be in the session for any lengthy period of time, three, four, or five hours, he recommended letting the public know ahead of time. He also suggested, when coming out of Executive Session, to not reconvene the public session until the public has time to rejoin. He added that that was not required under the Act, but as a courtesy to the public, it goes a long way to letting them know that you are working with them and not against them. He moved to the two exceptions of action in Executive Session. Counsel can be told to take certain action if litigation or negotiation was discussed. The other is if dealing with labor negotiations, the labor negotiator could be advised of what action or direction those negotiations go into, given the confines of that negotiation authority. He explained violations and penalties. He pointed out that advisory boards have no penalties if the Act is violated. The damage would be to the reputation of the body that was found to have violated the

Act. That could be pretty significant from a public perception standpoint. The penalties would be voiding the action that was done in violation of the Act. If someone objects to something that took place, they have 180 days to file a lawsuit. If action is voided, the board can remedy that situation by retaking up the issues. It does not mean that a Court would permit it. The public process needs to be gone through, so it does not stay voided at that action. It is still not a simple solution; the entire public process has to be gone through and the things considered that should have been done openly. He then gave an example of a board that chronically violated the Open Meetings Act and the consequences. He stated that one of the things the trustees need to know is the new statute for the Trust was recodified in Title 44, Chapter 25, because of the Governor's executive orders with the Department of Health.

CHAIR HALTERMAN called for lunch. After lunch they would be revisiting a motion from yesterday, procedurally. Trustee Moran correctly found out that the amendment action should have been voted on separately. The vote from yesterday on the budget would be rescinded; a vote needs to be had on the amendment; and then a vote on the budget.

(Lunch break.)

CHAIR HALTERMAN called the meeting to order and read a statement: "There was some confusion yesterday over the adoption of an appropriation of funds from MHTAAR and Mental Health Admin and Authority Grant funds for Fiscal Year 2025. The Board of Trustees wants to make sure to get this procedurally correct for adopting these appropriations. While the motion to adopt these appropriations was on the floor, there was another motion introduced to amend that main motion. The Board, after receiving legal advice, believes that the proper way to handle this situation is to do the following: One is to entertain a motion to rescind the adoption of the main motion, as amended; and then to entertain a motion to amend the proposed appropriation consistent with Trustee Boyles' amended motion; and then to establish a motion to adopt the proposed appropriations, as amended." With that, she entertained a motion to rescind yesterday's amended motion.

MOTION: A motion to rescind the motion on the main motion that was presented that we passed yesterday in order to adopt the proper procedure. The motion was made by TRUSTEE FIMON; seconded by TRUSTEE STURGEON.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was approved. (Trustee Boyles, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Sturgeon, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Moran, yes; Trustee Morris, yes; Chair Halterman, yes.)

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated that the motion from yesterday was rescinded, and she asked for the next motion.

MOTION: A motion to amend the proposed appropriations for MHTAAR, MHT Admin and Authority Grant funds for Fiscal Year 2025 as follows: A, increase MHTAAR and MHT Admin by \$100,000; B, increase GF/MH to adopt DOC Discharge Incentive Grant project in the disability justice focus area by \$200,000; C, under Column AH, the MHTAAR MHT admin increases from \$100,000 to \$200,000; and D, under Column AJ, which is GF/MH, increase it from zero dollars to \$200,000. The motion was made by TRUSTEE MORRIS; seconded by TRUSTEE FIMON.

CHAIR HALTERMAN asked for any discussion. Seeing none, she called the roll.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Morris, yes; Trustee Moran, no; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Sturgeon, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Boyles, yes; Chair Halterman, yes.)

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated that the amended motion passed to adjust that budget. She asked for the next motion.

MOTION: A motion that the Board of Trustees appropriate MHTAAR MHT Admin Authority Grant funds for Fiscal Year 2025 in the amount of \$39,714,700. This consists of \$20,272,700 of MHTAAR and MHT Admin, and \$19,442,000 for Authority Grants. These funds are to be used for the programs and activities described and detailed in the Fiscal Year 2025 budget recommendations document prepared for the August 29th and 30th, 2023, board meetings. Included in this motion is an increase in appropriation to \$10,937,400 in the GF/MH funds, and \$8,100,000 of Other funds for Fiscal Year 2025. The motion was made by TRUSTEE MORRIS; seconded by TRUSTEE FIMON.

CHAIR HALTERMAN asked for any discussion before considering the vote. There being none, she called the roll.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Boyles, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Sturgeon, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Moran, no; Trustee Morris, yes; Chair Halterman, yes.)

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated that the vote from yesterday is now procedurally corrected. She thanked Trustee Moran for her persistence and patience in working through this process. It was a lesson learned, and we will be more careful in the future. She recognized CEO Williams for an announcement.

CEO WILLIAMS stated that he wanted the trustees to know that the Legislative Budget & Audit Committee met while we were on the site visit. There was a request for another audit of the Trust related to the commercial real estate properties owned and that the TLO manages. He handed out the memo included from the committee hearing. He had not listened to the committee hearing, and had no details of what was discussed. He also had not yet debriefed with the staff that had listened. He continued that it sounded like there were other things in the queue, and that this audit would be pushed out. That does not mean that we do not take it seriously. He stated that he would look into it, connect with the team and address what they anticipate should be the next steps for looking into the concerns raised by the LB&A.

CHAIR HALTERMAN asked for any questions, and stated that they would be learning more in time. With that, she asked for a motion to go into Executive Session.

MOTION: A motion that the Board of Trustees go into Executive Session to receive legal advice from our counsel concerning our governance documents and procedures. Pursuant to AS 44.62.310 (c) 2 and 3, the discussion on the governance documents will touch upon personal matters that may tend to prejudice the reputation or character of

individuals, and we will also discuss information that is protected by the attorney/client privilege that is confidential under the law. The motion was made by TRUSTEE FISHER; seconded by TRUSTEE MORRIS.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Boyles, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Sturgeon, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Moran, yes; Trustee Morris, yes; Chair Halterman, yes.)

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated that they would be going into Executive Session and that Gene Hickey will be in the room with the board.

(Executive Session from 1:06 p.m. until 2:47 p.m.)

MOTION: A motion that the trustees and members of the Trust Authority and the Trust Land Office are returning to the Full Board of Trustees meeting from the Executive Session. We did not make any decisions during the Executive Session. The motion was made by TRUSTEE FISHER; seconded by TRUSTEE MORRIS.

MR. HICKEY stated, just for clarification, that no decisions were made during Executive Session other than to give direction to the attorney.

CHAIR HALTERMAN noted that Trustee Moran had to leave for a brief time during that Executive Session, so she was not available for the entire Executive Session, but she was now back in the room. She called the vote.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Morris, yes; Trustee Moran, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Sturgeon, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Boyles, yes; Chair Halterman, yes.)

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated that after the Executive Session, there was a motion to be considered.

MOTION: A motion moved that the board direct the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority CEO, as trustees have encountered some difficulty in opening documents provided to us by counsel that are necessary for the performance of our duties, to immediately acquire and provide to each trustee a laptop computer that includes the software Work, Microsoft Office Suite, Adobe, State of Alaska e-mail access, and the policies and procedures of the Mental Health Trust Authority. The motion was made by TRUSTEE MORRIS; seconded by TRUSTEE FISHER.

CEO WILLIAMS asked for some clarification. He wanted to make sure that typically what has happened when trustees onboard they are given the opportunity for an iPad or a laptop.

TRUSTEE MORRIS stated that they need to be able to use the Office Suite and may or may not want to have a choice on that in the future. Basically, it would just be laptops.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Boyles, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Sturgeon, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Moran, yes;

Trustee Morris, yes; Chair Halterman, yes.)

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated that the motion passed and asked for some real small, compact laptops. She asked for the next motion.

MOTION: A motion that per A 44.62.310(c), the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Full Board of Trustees move into Executive Session to receive legal counsel regarding Constantine Mine and a recently received memorandum of audit from the Legislative Budget & Audit Committee. No decisions will be made in Executive Session. The motion was made by TRUSTEE MORRIS; seconded by TRUSTEE MORAN.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Morris, yes; Trustee Moran, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Sturgeon, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Boyles, yes; Chair Halterman, yes.)

(Executive Session from 2:55 p.m. until 3:52 p.m.)

MOTION: A motion was made that he, his fellow trustees and the members of the Trust Authority are returning to the Full Board of Trustees meeting from the Executive Session. We did not make any decisions during Executive Session other than to advise legal counsel. The motion was made by TRUSTEE FIMON; seconded by TRUSTEE MORAN.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Morris, yes; Trustee Moran, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Sturgeon, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Boyles, yes; Chair Halterman, yes.)

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated that they were back on the record and moved into the board elections. She continued that she was making one change to committee assignments. A new trustee will step into the role of our Finance Committee. She asked for clarification from Mr. Hickey on the effective date of committee assignments. She knows that the Executive Committee, the board chair, vice chair, and secretary are clear on when the effective date of their assignments are.

MR. HICKEY stated that he would look into it and get back to her.

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated that Trustee Moran will continue as chair of Program & Planning; Trustee Sturgeon as Resource Committee chair; Trustee Fimon will continue on as Audit & Risk chair; and Trustee Morris will be moving into the Finance Committee chair position. She opened the floor for nominations for the position of chair.

MOTION: A motion was made nominating Anita Halterman to be the chairman. The motion was made by TRUSTEE STURGEON; seconded by TRUSTEE MORAN.

TRUSTEE FIMON asked for a clarification of the succession of how many terms in a row a person could serve, and asked if a term was a full term or is a term when someone fills another's position.

CHAIR HALTERMAN replied that the governance rules as written were not very clear on that and gave a historical perspective of Chris Cooke and his chairmanship. She consented to the nomination. She asked three times for any other nominations for the position of chair. Hearing and seeing none, she closed the nominations.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Morris, yes; Trustee Moran, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Sturgeon, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Boyles, no; Chair Halterman, yes.)

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated that she would continue as chair and thanked all. She opened the nominations for the position of vice chair.

MOTION: A motion was made nominating Brent Fisher as vice chair. The motion was made by TRUSTEE MORAN; seconded by TRUSTEE BOYLES.

TRUSTEE FISHER accepted the nomination.

CHAIR HALTERMAN asked three times for other nominations for the position of vice chair. Hearing and seeing none, she moved to the roll-call vote.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Boyles, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Sturgeon, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Moran, yes; Trustee Morris, yes; Chair Halterman, yes.)

CHAIR HALTERMAN congratulated Trustee Fisher on the position of vice chair. She stated that the position of secretary was open, and asked for a nomination for the position of secretary.

MOTION: A motion was made nominating Agnes Moran as secretary. The motion was made by TRUSTEE FISHER; seconded by TRUSTEE STURGEON.

CHAIR HALTERMAN asked three times other nominations for the position of secretary. Hearing and seeing none, she moved to the roll-call vote.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Boyles, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Sturgeon, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Moran, yes; Trustee Morris, yes; Chair Halterman, yes.)

CHAIR HALTERMAN congratulated Trustee Moran and welcomed her to the Executive Committee. She stated that the nominations were closed, and they have their Executive Committee. She thanked the Board for their support and hoped as they made their way through the governance changes the next successor would be identified. She moved to trustee comments.

TRUSTEE COMMENTS

TRUSTEE BOYLES stated that she did not mean to be offensive by not voting for Chair Halterman, but she had done a lot of homework and wanted to draw out attention under comments, as a matter of record. Regarding Article 5, Section 3, she went back and had phone conversations with the people who last signed these in 2017, and our officers may be reelected just like we just did. In the second sentence is also says: "The Board's intention is to allow

members the opportunity to serve in officers' roles in support of ongoing board development." She philosophically aligned with that, and purposely did not accept the offer to serve as your vice chair another time. She also would like to make it clear, and it is time to do it now, regarding our governance and bylaws, and she hoped that Mr. Hickey was listening and put it in writing. She noted that she served as secretary-treasurer and as vice chair, two basic terms, and did no work. She did not chair a meeting. She did not have to do much but make sure that Sandi and Miri did their jobs. She came on this Trust to be substantively a supporter of our benefactors and would like to free herself up from the Executive Committee and would do whatever this Board or the chair asks her to do. Lastly, she thought that they need to delegate to the vice chair something to do, because, sure, you can read the minutes, you can participate in the meetings, but unless the Chair asks you to do something, you do not feel like getting in her lane. She thanked everybody for listening.

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated that those were all good points, and we have begun the process. She thanked Trustee Boyles for her comments.

TRUSTEE FISHER thanked staff for everything they have done. He thought there was some significant transparency achieved with the financial documents that we now have available, and he appreciated the time and effort that went into that. There has been some very substantive discussion that will help the trustees in moving forward with any changes that need to be made in the charters and bylaws in re-looking at things. He stated appreciation for all the effort that the trustees have put in and their comments and willingness to be open about their concerns and direction that will ultimately benefit the beneficiaries of the Trust.

TRUSTEE STURGEON thanked the staff for the great work in getting the packets together and making the trustees look good. We are well informed with some good information, and it is presented logically. He agreed with Trustee Fisher, the new financial explanations were very helpful, understanding where the money is spent. The discussions were very substantive, and he felt it was a very good meeting.

TRUSTEE FIMON thanked all for running a great set of meetings. His first thank-you was to all of his fellow trustees. There were some hard issues that were worked through, and he stated appreciation for everyone's opinion and input. He was happy for the Mission Moment and getting to do a site visit. It gives a different perspective, and he came away with more appreciation of what we do. A big thank you to the CEO and to staff who always provide very good information. I agree that having a bit more backup and clarity was very helpful and very responsive to the things that were asked for in previous meetings.

TRUSTEE MORAN stated that a lot of work goes into these packets, and she appreciated it. She added that it was nice to have the clarity of the new financial forms and thanked all for some good discussions.

TRUSTEE MORRIS stated that everyone covered what he was going to say. He thanked all and appreciated the frank conversation we had. It is fairly often I am reminded there are a lot of folks smarter than I am, and today is one of those days.

TRUSTEE FISHER commented that he and Chair Halterman attended the groundbreaking for the crisis center, stabilization center over at Providence and wanted to commend CEO Williams.

He really represented the Trust well when he gave his speech, not only covering the role the Trust played in the Crisis Stabilization Center, but also everything that we had done within the State of a similar nature that was happening with Providence here in Anchorage. He did a really nice job, and he just wanted to acknowledge that because not everyone got to hear it.

CHAIR HALTERMAN added that it was a great event and we do not often get to do fun things. It was good to see the ribbon-cutting and that service coming online for the Anchorage residents. That was comforting for her. She thanked her fellow trustees for a very respectful discourse today. We are a very cohesive Board, and we work well together. She stated appreciation for the respect that we all show for each other and other folks that are in the room. She thanked the court reporter for always being tolerant of our need for going long or short or making adjustments and taking them all out of the room on occasion. She thanked Miri for always making sure that the technology is running efficiently. All of the staff contribute to developing the agenda, the material, and the transparency in the reports. It is an improved process, and she thanked her fellow trustees for weighing in to insure that has happened. She thanked all, and wishes everybody a great week and weekend.

CEO WILLIAMS thanked Trustees Fisher and Halterman for being at the event and for the kind remarks. He stated that Travis Welch had been offered and accepted the position of Director of Health and Rehabilitative Services over at the Department of Corrections. A huge compliment to him, and we could not think of a better person to be in that role. He will leave a big hole here, but will continue looking out for the beneficiaries in his new role. The Department of Corrections is one of the State departments that has a lot of interfaces with the Trust beneficiaries, and is also a good partner of the Trust. He thanked Mr. Welch for his five years. He did an amazing job, and we will continue to look forward to partnering with him over at the Department of Corrections.

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated that it was not goodbye; it was until we see you later. She wished Travis well.

MR. HICKEY got back on the question on the committee assignments. He stated that the bylaws and the charter documents are silent on both. If she reappointed new committee members, the terms of the prior membership would have terminated when their successors were appointed. In his opinion, those terms commence at the conclusion of this meeting.

CHAIR HALTERMAN asked for a motion to adjourn.

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

There being no objections, the MOTION was APPROVED.

(Alaska Mental Health Trust Full Board meeting adjourned at 4:17 p.m.)

**Minutes for the
October 9, 2023
Full Board of Trustees
Meeting**

**ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH TRUST AUTHORITY
SPECIAL FULL BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING
HYBRID
October 9, 2023
12:00 p.m.**

**Originating at:
Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority
3745 Community Park Loop, Suite 200
Anchorage, Alaska 99508**

Trustees Present:

Anita Halterman, Chair
Brent Fisher
Kevin Fimon
Agnes Moran
John Sturgeon
John Morris
Rhonda Boyles

Trust Staff Present:

Steve Williams
Katie Baldwin-Johnson
Miri Smith-Coolidge
Michael Baldwin
Allison Biastock
Kelda Barstad
Valette Keller

Trust Land Office staff present:

Jusdi Warner

Also participating:

Gene Hickey; John Springsteen; Jordan Shilling.

PROCEEDINGS

CALL TO ORDER

CHAIR HALTERMAN called the meeting to order and began with a roll call. She stated that all trustees were present. She asked for any announcements. There being none, she asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: A motion to approve the agenda, as presented, was made by TRUSTEE MORAN; seconded by TRUSTEE MORRIS.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Boyles, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Moran, yes; Trustee Morris, yes; Trustee Sturgeon, yes; Chair Halterman, yes.)

ETHICS DISCLOSURES

CHAIR HALTERMAN asked for any ethics disclosures. Hearing and seeing none, she moved to the Governance Discussion.

GOVERNANCE DISCUSSION

CHAIR HALTERMAN understood there was a motion, and entertained that motion.

MR. HICKEY noted that the motion was amended, and asked for the proper motion to be read.

MOTION: Per AS 44.62.310 (c)2 and 3, a motion that the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Full Board of Trustees move into Executive Session to receive legal counsel regarding AMHTA governance documents. The discussion will involve attorney/client privileged communication and subjects that may tend to prejudice the reputation and character of individuals. No decisions will be made in the Executive Session. The motion was made by TRUSTEE FISHER; seconded by TRUSTEE MORAN.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Boyles, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Moran, yes; Trustee Morris, yes; Trustee Sturgeon, yes; Chair Halterman, yes.)

CHAIR HALTERMAN moved into an Executive Session.

CEO WILLIAMS asked if they were planning to have any staff from the Trust Authority or the Trust Land Office as a part of this Executive Session.

CHAIR HALTERMAN asked what the will of the trustees was.

TRUSTEE FISHER could not think of a reason that he needed anyone in the room.

TRUSTEE MORAN stated that she was fine to start without, and noted that staff would be around if they were needed.

TRUSTEE FIMON stated that he was fine starting without staff, knowing they can be called in if

needed.

TRUSTEE MORRIS agreed with Trustee Fimon.

TRUSTEE STURGEON agreed with Trustees Fimon and Morris.

TRUSTEE BOYLES stated that our work can start and, at some point, she would like a clarification on when we would get input from staff regarding what is being done.

CHAIR HALTERMAN agreed and hoped to get some answers to questions that can be done with the board and then quickly bring in the appropriate staff. Hearing no objection, she called the Executive Session.

MS. SMITH-COOLIDGE asked the trustees and Mr. Hickey to follow the instructions that were sent this morning.

(Executive Session from 12:07 p.m. until 4:10 p.m.)

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated that Trustees Morris and Sturgeon were excused. Trustee Sturgeon was having technical problems, and Trustee Morris had to leave. She took the roll and stated that there was a quorum. She asked for the motion.

MOTION: For the Record, TRUSTEE FISHER stated that he, his fellow trustees and members of the Trust Authority and Trust Land Office are returning to the Full Board of Trustees' meeting from the Executive Session. We did not make any decisions during the Executive Session except to give direction to our counsel. The motion was seconded by TRUSTEE MORAN.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Fisher, here; Trustee Moran, here; Trustee Boyles, here; Trustee Fimon, yes; Chair Halterman, yes.)

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated they were out of Executive Session and have some governance documents forthcoming that would be coming back for public process. Other than that, she had no news for anyone. She stated that they were done with business.

CEO WILLIAMS checked in to see if there was anything related that would be needed to work with the Board and the attorney on the updated documents, the charters and the bylaws, so they could support the Board in this effort going forward.

CHAIR HALTERMAN thanked him and replied not yet. They were going to get a cleaned-up version of the governance document and hope to turn that around. The Board had decided they were to a point where they were ready to share the governance revision recommendations with staff and will need to pull together another session to finalize this work product. She added that she would meet with him to make that happen, but we are not ready to finalize yet. She thanked all for giving up their holiday to work hard today and stated appreciation for that. She entertained a motion for adjournment.

MOTION: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by TRUSTEE MORAN; seconded by TRUSTEE FISHER.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Moran, yes; Trustee Boyles, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Chair Halterman, yes.)

CHAIR HALTERMAN thanked all and stated appreciation for their time and attention.

(The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Special Full Board of Trustees meeting adjourned at 4:16 p.m.)

Current Trust Bylaws

1
2
3 ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH TRUST AUTHORITY
4 BYLAWS
5

6
7 ARTICLE I
8 NAME
9

10 The name of this organization is the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority.
11

12
13 ARTICLE II
14 PURPOSE OF THE AUTHORITY
15

16 The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority acts in the best interest of the beneficiaries
17 of the trust. It is accountable to:

- 18 (a) Provide for sound governance, fiduciary oversight and direction in achieving the
19 mission of the Trust Authority;
20 (b) Ensure an integrated, comprehensive mental health program for the State of Alaska
21 in partnership with Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS); and
22 (c) Preserve, protect, and grow the trust corpus and administer trust assets.
23
24

25 ARTICLE III
26 BOARD OF TRUSTEE MEMBERSHIP AND TERMS OF OFFICE
27

28 Section 1. Trust Authority board of trustees composition:

- 29 (a) The Trust Authority shall be governed by its board of trustees.
30 (b) The Trust Authority board of trustees, hereafter referred to as the board, consists of
31 seven members appointed by the governor in accordance with AS 47.30.016 and
32 confirmed by the legislature.
33

34 Section 2. Term of office, vacancies, and removal:

- 35 (a) The members of the board serve staggered five-year terms. A member shall continue
36 to serve until the member's successor is appointed and confirmed by the legislature.
37 (b) A vacancy occurring in the membership of the board shall be filled within 60 days by
38 appointment of the governor for the unexpired portion of the vacated term.
39 (c) The governor may remove a member of the board only for cause per AS 47.30.021.
40 (d) Except for a trustee who has served two consecutive five-year terms, a member of
41 the board may be reappointed. A member of the board who has served two
42 consecutive five-year terms is not eligible for reappointment to the board until one
43 year has intervened as per AS 47.30.021(d).
44
45

ARTICLE IV
BOARD OF TRUSTEE DUTIES

Section 1: The role of the board is to:

- (a) Set the vision for the organization;
- (b) Set policies for the organization, including adoption of regulations as appropriate under AS 47.30.031;
- (c) Adopt charters that define the role, authority, operating procedures, duties, and responsibilities of the board and standing committees; and
- (d) Approve contractual agreements with advisors as defined in statute and the settlement agreement, specifically Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation (APFC), Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and Statutory Advisory Boards.
- (e) Fulfill the duties listed in AS 37.14.007(b)(1)-(12).

Section 2: The board will conduct business in accordance with AS 47.30.036.

ARTICLE V
OFFICERS AND DUTIES

Section 1. The board, by a majority vote of its membership, shall annually elect a Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary from its membership.

Section 2. The officers will be elected by a majority vote at the annual budget approval meeting, and officers' terms of office commence upon adjournment of that meeting. Officers' terms of office end effective at adjournment of the meeting in which new officers are elected.

Section 3. Officers may be re-elected to the office in which they serve by vote of the membership of the board as above. The board's intention is to allow board members the opportunity to serve in officer roles in support of ongoing board development. To that end, no member may serve more than 2 consecutive terms in the same office except as provided for by affirmative vote of 5 board members.

Section 4. If the office of the Chair becomes vacant, the Vice Chair succeeds to the office of the Chair and serves until an election held at the next board meeting. The newly elected Chair will serve until the next annual election.

Section 5. Except for the office of Chair, if an office of the board becomes vacant, an election shall be held to fill the vacancy at the next regular meeting following the vacancy. The officer will serve until the next annual election.

Section 6. The duties of the officers shall be as follows:

(a) Chair

- 1. Call all meetings. Preside at all meetings.
- 2. Appoint chairs of committees and committee members.

3. Serve as ex-officio (voting) member of all committees, but may not concurrently serve as board Chair and chair of any standing committee, with the exception of the Executive Committee.
4. Act as primary spokesperson for the board.
5. Act as one of the official spokespersons for the Trust Authority, together with the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), when requested by the Chief Communications Officer.

(b) Vice Chair

1. Assist the Chair in the discharge of his/her duties.
2. Perform the duties of the Chair in the absence or incapacity of the Chair.
3. Perform other duties as assigned by the board.

(c) Secretary

1. Assume duties of the Chair when Chair and Vice Chair are unavailable.
2. Perform other duties as assigned by the board.
3. Assure that the records of board proceedings are maintained in accordance with these bylaws and in accordance with AS 37.14.007(b)(2) and the Records Management Act (AS 40.21).

ARTICLE VI
MEETINGS

Section 1. The board will hold four regular meetings each fiscal year. Committees will meet as necessary to accomplish their responsibilities.

Section 2. Special or emergency meetings of the board may be held at such time and place as the Chair may order; or upon the written request to the Chair of any four trustees.

Section 3. Reasonable public notice of board and committee meetings shall be provided in accordance with AS 44.62.310. Meetings of the board and its committees are subject to the Open Meetings Act, AS 44.62.310 and 44.62.312.

Section 4. A quorum at all board meetings shall consist of four board members. A quorum at committee meetings is a majority of the committee's members.

Section 5. No member of the board may designate a proxy.

Section 6. The board will schedule at least one period for public comment during each regularly scheduled board meeting.

Section 7. Formal actions by the board are accomplished through adoption of motions.

ARTICLE VII
COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

There will be five standing committees of the board. Standing committee chairs and members will be appointed by the Chair after polling the board regarding individual trustee's interest and ability to serve. A member may serve as chair of only one standing committee at any time except as a stand-in until the next regularly scheduled board meeting. Standing committees will have a minimum of 3 committee members. The board chair may designate ad hoc committees to accomplish special purposes. Persons other than board members may serve on the board's ad hoc committees; however, such persons may not be voting members of such committees, only appointed board members may vote on committee actions. Committee recommendations will be reported to the board for action at the next regular board meeting.

Section 1. The Executive Committee of the board is composed of three board officers, the Chair, the Vice Chair, and the Secretary. The Executive Committee will:

- (a) Ensure development of policies for governing the Trust Authority for approval by the board.
- (b) Oversee implementation of governance policies at the direction of and on behalf of the board in accordance with law and the committee charter adopted by the board.
- (c) The Executive Committee will meet only as needed.

Section 2. The Resource Management Committee will, in consultation with the CEO and Executive Director (ED) of the TLO:

- (a) Ensure development of policies for protecting, enhancing, and managing the trust's non-cash resources in the best interests of the beneficiaries for approval by the board.
- (b) Oversee implementation of plans at the direction of and on behalf of the board in accordance with law and the committee charter adopted by the board.

Section 3. The Program and Planning Committee will, in consultation with the CEO and Executive Director (ED) of Mental Health Policy and Programs.:

- (a) Ensure development of policies to meet needs and improve the circumstances of beneficiaries; and recommends to the board for approval.
- (b) Oversee implementation of plans at the direction of and on behalf of the board in accordance with Trust Authority statutes and regulations and the committee charter adopted by the board.

Section 4. The Finance Committee will, in consultation with the CEO and Chief Financial Officer (CFO):

- (a) Ensure development of policies for investment and fiscal management for approval by the board.
- (b) Oversee implementation of approved investment and fiscal management policies on behalf of the board in accordance with Trust Authority statutes and regulations and the committee charter adopted by the board.

- 1 Section 5. The Audit and Risk Committee will, in consultation with the CEO and CFO:
2 (a) Ensure development of policies for managing the annual audit process and
3 identifying and addressing organizational risk for approval by the board.
4 (b) Oversee implementation of approved audit and risk management policies on behalf
5 of the board in accordance with Trust Authority statutes and regulations and the
6 committee charter adopted by the board.

7
8
9 ARTICLE VIII
10 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
11

12 Section 1. The board shall select and employ a Chief Executive Officer as provided by law.

13
14 Section 2. The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for day-to-day operations of the Trust
15 Authority including planning, organizing, coordinating, and directing all activities
16 necessary to enable the Trust Authority to exercise its powers and duties, and
17 fulfill the purpose of the Trust Authority. The CEO will operate and conduct the
18 business and affairs of the Trust Authority according to the statutes, regulations,
19 bylaws, policies, and charters adopted by the board. The CEO duties and
20 responsibilities shall be set forth in a CEO Job description to be adopted by the
21 board.

22
23 Section 3. The Chief Executive Officer shall oversee administration of the contract with the
24 Trust Land Office on behalf of the Trust Authority to ensure compliance with
25 AS 37.14.009(a)(2).
26

27
28 Section 4. The board will evaluate the Chief Executive Officer's performance annually in
29 writing. The board will define the process for conducting annual reviews and
30 include it in the Board Operations Manual.
31

32 Section 5. Termination of employment of the Chief Executive Officer is by majority vote of
33 the board.
34
35

36 ARTICLE IX
37 PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY
38

39 Unless otherwise provided by law or these bylaws, the board's procedures shall be
40 governed by Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised. The Chair may appoint an appropriate
41 person to serve as parliamentarian.
42
43

44 ARTICLE X
45 ETHICS
46

47 Board members are required to comply with the Alaska Executive Branch Ethics Act
48 (AS 39.52) and AS 47.30.016(c)(2).

1
2
3 ARTICLE XI
4 AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS
5

6 These bylaws may be amended at any meeting of the board. Amendment of these
7 bylaws requires 5 affirmative votes of board members provided that written notice and
8 copies of the proposed amendment have been submitted to the members 30 days prior to
9 the meeting, or by unanimous vote without notice.
10

11
12 ARTICLE XII
13 DEFINITIONS
14

15 In these bylaws,
16

17 **The Alaska Mental Health Trust** means the sum of all assets owned by the Alaska
18 Mental Health Trust as established by the Alaska Mental Health Trust Enabling Act, P.L. 84-
19 830, 70 Stat. 709 (1956) and the Mental Health Settlement Agreement (June 10, 1994),
20 including cash and non-cash assets.
21

22 **The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority (the Trust Authority)** means the entity
23 charged with administering the trust, as trustee, is governed by a seven-member board. (AS
24 37.14.007, AS 47.30.011, AS 47.30.016)
25

26 **The Trust Land Office (TLO)** means the unit of the Alaska Department of Natural
27 Resources that is charged with managing the trust's natural resources, land, and other fixed
28 assets. (AS 44.37.050)
29

30 **Regular Meeting** means a board meeting that is scheduled at the annual budget
31 meeting to occur during the succeeding year, provided that a regular meeting that is
32 rescheduled on reasonable notice to the public is still a regular board meeting.
33

34 **Special Meeting** means any board meeting other than a regular meeting, including
35 an emergency meeting.
36

37 **Emergency Meeting** means any board meeting conducted for the purpose of
38 addressing time sensitive matters that may not be capable of resolution within the statutory
39 or delegated authority of the Executive Committee or the CEO. If an emergency meeting is
40 conducted on less than the customary public notice, public notice shall be published as
41 soon as practicable. If the agenda of an emergency meeting is not available in advance, the
42 agenda will be published as soon as practicable after the emergency meeting.

Mary Jane Michael, Chair

Laraine Derr, Secretary

Finance Committee Report / Update

To: Anita Halterman, Chair
Through: Steve Williams, Chief Executive Officer
From: Julee Farley, Chief Financial Officer
Date: November 6, 2023
Re: Finance Committee Report

Meeting Summary

The Finance Committee met on October 20, 2023. The meeting was attended in person by trustees John Morris (chair), Rhonda Boyles, Kevin Fimon, Brent Fisher, Agnes Moran, and John Sturgeon. Trustee Anita Halterman attended via the online WebEx platform.

Board Action Required: *On October 20, 2023 the Finance Committee approved a recommendation to the full board of trustees to authorize the transfer of Trust funds from the Alaska Permanent Fund Income Account of Trust Budget Reserves to the Mental Health Trust Settlement Income Account. This committee action requires full board of trustees' approval.*

MOTION

The board of trustees approve the Finance Committee's recommendation to authorize the transfer of \$30,240,200 from the Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation Budget Reserve account to the Mental Health Settlement Income Account to finance the FY2024 base disbursement payout calculation. The CFO may fulfill this motion with one lump sum or multiple transfers.

Financial Dashboard

Julee Farley presented the 2024 financial summary through August 2023. At this point in the year, Operations expenditures were slightly below expectations but are expected to be at budget later in the year. TLODA projects were frontloaded with Icy Cape expenditures at \$6.2MM through August 2023. The TLO has \$2.1MM of principal and spendable income. The Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation (APFC) has \$4.6MM in earnings with other investment activity bringing the two-month total to \$5.3MM.

FY23 Performance Review

Staff reviewed assets under management, which closed with an approximate \$20MM increase in net position from FY22 to FY23. Performance of the investments managed by APFC earned

5.18% in FY23 and were \$708,257,000 at June 30, 2023. DOR Reserves earned 11.61% and GeFONSI earned 3.56% ending at \$53,962,974 and \$30,588,198, respectively. The Trust Land Office (TLO) Commercial Real Estate Assets were valued at \$61,378,000 at June 30, 2023, for a -16.37% year-over-year decline in value.

Statutory Advisor Update

Deven Mitchell, Executive Director of APFC, presented Trustees with an update on Trust principal and budget reserves managed for the Trust. Reviewed were APFC's statutory management obligations to the Trust, asset allocation, and total and realized returns. The funds managed by APFC, while generating 5.18%% return in FY23, underperformed their Passive Benchmark of 8.78% and the Performance Benchmark of 5.74%. Over the longer term, APFC has outperformed Passive and Performance Benchmarks for 3, 5 and 10 year periods.

DOR Treasury Update

Shane Carson, State Investment Officer at DOR, reviewed assets under management, market expectations and performance of cash and budget reserves totaling \$84.6MM at FY23 year-end. In FY23, cash, managed within the state's General fund and Other Non-Segregated Investments (GeFONSI) pool, generated a 3.56% return, 0.45% above its benchmark. Budget reserves, with a year-end balance of \$54.0MM, posted a 11.61% return, 0.49% above benchmark. The asset allocation for FY23 of 67% equity/33% fixed income will be reviewed in 2024.

Payout Approval

Trustees were asked to approve the FY24 revenue distribution from APFC-managed budget reserves in the amount of \$30,240,200, which is 4.25% of the Trust's principal and budget reserves' average balance over the prior four years.

The next scheduled meeting of the Finance Committee is **January 4, 2024**.

MEMO

To: John Morris, Finance Committee Chair
Through: Steve Williams, Chief Executive Officer
From: Julee Farley, Chief Financial Officer
Date: October 19, 2023
Re: Annual payout transfer
Fiscal Year: 2024

REQUESTED MOTION:

The Finance Committee recommends that the full board of trustees authorize the transfer of \$30,240,200 from the Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation Budget Reserve account to the Mental Health Settlement Income Account to finance the FY2024 base disbursement payout calculation. The CFO may fulfill this motion with one lump sum or multiple transfers.

BACKGROUND

The revenue determination for supporting the Trust's annual budget is outlined in the Asset Management Policy Statement. The Trust's primary funding is based on a "spending policy" that allows the Trust to draw 4.25% of the four-year average net asset value (NAV) of 1) principal and budget reserve year-end investment balances managed by the Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation (APFC) and 2) the budget reserve year-end investment balance managed by the Department of Revenue. The spending policy establishes that this withdrawal (or "payout") comes from APFC budget reserves.

The calculation for the FY24 payout and drawdown from APFC budget reserves is as follows:

	FY Ending NAV
FY 2020	587,908,300
FY 2021	766,169,400
FY 2022	736,377,000
FY 2023	755,687,200
Average:	711,535,475
	<u>x 4.25%</u>
Payout disbursement calculation (rounded):	30,240,200

This requested payout is \$1,819,700 above that authorized in FY2023. Budget reserves under APFC management are sufficient to support this FY2024 payout.

Audit & Risk Committee Report / Update

To: Anita Halterman, Chair
Through: Steve Williams, Chief Executive Officer
From: Julee Farley, Chief Financial Officer
Date: November 6, 2023
Re: Audit & Risk Committee Report

Meeting Summary:

The Audit & Risk Committee met on October 20, 2023. The meeting was attended in person by trustees Kevin Fimon (chair), Rhonda Boyles, Brent Fisher, Agnes Moran, John Morris, and John Sturgeon. Trustee Anita Halterman attended via the online WebEx platform.

Audit Presentation for Year Ending June 30, 2023: Bikky Shrestha, Assurance Partner, of the Anchorage BDO office, presented preliminary information on the Trust's FY23 financial audit, noting the audit was "clean" and BDO planned to issue an unmodified opinion. In the audit process there were no uncorrected misstatements or disagreements with management. There was a corrected misstatement relating to the FY23 starting trial balance that did not match BDO's FY22 year-end trial balance, requiring an \$8MM adjustment; this was noted as a Significant Deficiency by BDO.

The next scheduled meeting of the Audit & Risk Committee is ***January 4, 2024.***

BDO FY23 Financial Audit

To: Anita Halterman, Chair
Through: Steve Williams, Chief Executive Officer
From: Julee Farley, Chief Financial Officer
Date: November 6, 2023
Re: FY23 Financial Audit Acceptance

MOTION

The Board of Trustees accepts the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Basic Financial Statements and Government Accounting Standards Auditor's Report for the year ended June 30, 2023.

The Trust's auditor, BDO USA, LLP, with completion of its audit for the year ended June 30, 2023, provides trustees with an opinion that the Trust has presented fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Trust.

The audited financial statements and notes include the Independent Auditor's Report, Management's Discussion & Analysis, Basic Financial Statements and Notes, Required Supplementary Information related to the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS), Government Auditing Standards Auditor's Report, and the Trust's Audit Responses.

Program & Planning Committee Report / Update

To: Anita Halterman, Chair
Through: Steve Williams, Chief Executive Officer
From: Katie Baldwin-Johnson, Chief Operating Officer
Date: November 8, 2023
Re: Program and Planning Committee Report

The meeting occurred on October 19th, 2023, and was attended by trustees Agnes Moran (chair), John Sturgeon, Kevin Fimon, Rhonda Boyles, Brent Fisher, John Morris and Anita Halterman (attended via Webex).

Meeting Summary

The following items were presented and discussed by the committee.

1) *CEO Update*

Steve Williams (CEO, Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority) provided an update on the following items:

- ***HB172 Report to the Legislature:*** As outlined in HB172, the joint report from the Department of Health (DOH), the Department of Family and Community Services (DFCS), and the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority was submitted to the Senate Secretary and Chief Clerk of the House for the Alaska State Legislature on October 16th, 2023. The report was also sent to the chairs and members of the House and Senate Health and Social Services Committees, posted on the Trust website [here](#), and shared on the [Department of Family and Community Services Public Notice](#) page.
- ***Comprehensive Integrated Mental Health Plan (Comp Plan):*** Following the board's approval of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with DOH and DFCS, the Trust is actively collaborating with division and department leaders in preparation for revision and updates to the 2024-2029 plan. Staff will provide regular updates to trustees in coming meetings.
- ***Department of Health Behavioral Health Roadmap:*** The state of Alaska Department of Health has initiated a region-focused, iterative approach to improve the continuum of care for youth with behavioral health disabilities. Regional stakeholder work sessions have been occurring for the past couple of months and will assist the department in establishing a shared vision for behavioral health services in Alaska, align funding opportunities and requests with service delivery needs, identify barriers including regulatory, fiscal, technology, or other issues not fully addressed; and ensure unique regional and cultural needs are cared for and local solutions leveraged as much as possible. To date, work sessions have been held in the communities of Fairbanks, Nome, and Ketchikan have been visited. Visits to the Yukon Kuskokwim and southcentral regions are planned to occur in November of 2023.

- *Annual Alaska Principal's Conference:* Steve participated in a panel presentation during the Annual Alaska Principal's Conference on Saturday, October 14th, to highlight the Trust-sponsored reports focused on Behavioral Health in schools. The Mental Health in Alaska Schools Phase One and Two reports are posted [here](#) for reference.
- *Rural outreach trip:* The Trust rural outreach trip to the Yukon Kuskokwim region is scheduled to occur November 1st-3rd, 2023. The Trust-sponsored delegation will spend the first day and a half in Bethel learning about the region and community. Travelers will be broken up into smaller groups, which will each visit an outlying village community, including St. Mary's, Napakiak, Tooksook Bay, and Kewthluk. Staff anticipate 20-25 participants, which will include trustees, legislators, state of Alaska department and division administrators, trust staff, and contractors helping to organize the trip. These trips are something the Trust has done in the past and provide an opportunity for the Trust and key partners to travel to rural areas of Alaska and learn from area providers and partners about service provision for beneficiaries (both the challenges and opportunities) and to build relationships with regional organizations.
- *CEO Quarterly Grant Approvals Report:* Trustees did not have questions about the information in the Quarterly Grant Approval Report.

2) *Data/Evaluation Presentation*

- Mike Baldwin, Senior Evaluation & Planning Officer, provided an overview of the Trust's engagement in evaluation, which includes different levels of evaluation, considerations such as the capacity to engage in evaluation, practical use of evaluation and data, and necessary resources, including staff time and funding, to evaluate supported projects.

3) *Consideration of funding proposals*

Below are the funding requests presented to the Committee and the corresponding actions taken by the committee.

- Alaska Impact Alliance: Reimagining Child Welfare Project (\$400,000) - Approved
- Ketchikan Indian Community: Yi gu.aa xáx x'wán Permanent Supportive Housing Project (\$350,000) – Approved
- True North Recovery: Mat Su Valley Mobile Crisis Team (\$750,000) – Recommended for full board approval
- Alaska Behavioral Health: Fairbanks Mobile Crisis Team (\$750,000) – Recommended for full board approval
- Salvation Army Booth Transition Housing (\$200,000) - Approved

The Program and Planning Committee adjourned at approximately 2:15 p.m. on October 19, 2023. The committee's next meeting is scheduled for *January 5, 2023*.

MEMO

To: Agnes Moran - Program & Planning Committee Chair
Date: October 19, 2023
Re: FY24 Mental Health and Addiction Intervention Focus Area Allocation
Amount: \$750,000.00
Grantee: True North Recovery Inc
Project Title: Year-Two Mat-Su Mobile Crisis Team

REQUESTED MOTION:

"The Program & Planning Committee recommends that the full Board of Trustees approve a \$750,000 FY24 Mental Health and Addiction Intervention focus area allocation to True North Recovery, Inc. for the Year Two Mobile Crisis Team project. These funds will come from the FY24 Crisis Continuum of Care budget line."

Assigned Program Staff: Janie Caq'ar Ferguson

STAFF ANALYSIS

True North Recovery (TNR) Inc. is a Joint Commission accredited, comprehensive substance use disorder (SUD) and behavioral health provider serving the Mat-Su Valley and Fairbanks regions. TNR is requesting Trust funding for year two operations of the existing mobile crisis team (MCT), and Trust funds will also support a second full-time MCT in the Mat-Su allowing for expansion into Palmer and surrounding communities. Trust staff anticipates, based on financial modeling, that Mat-Su MCTs will need financial support for up to five years while alternative funding sources such as Medicaid are fully leveraged.

Following best practices, the MCT consists of a master's level behavioral health clinician and a certified peer support specialist operating 24/7. Currently, the Mat-Su MCT is housed in the Day One Center and responds to crisis calls in the Wasilla region. In year two, the MCTs plan to expand to additional jurisdictions by serving the city of Palmer and surrounding areas such as Sutton.

Since its launch in March 2023, the TNR MCT has responded to 163 calls, of which 132 were unique contacts, with 100% of the calls responding to Trust beneficiaries. TNR MCT's engagement with Trust beneficiaries through their response has fostered connections to additional levels of care and diverted Trust beneficiaries from the hospital emergency rooms and the criminal justice system. The current limitation for the single TNR MCT is the capacity to only respond within the City of Wasilla jurisdiction, with its approximate population of 9,426 (U.S. Census, 2021). With the addition of a

second MCT, TNR anticipates operation out of an independent location in the city of Wasilla allowing for coordination between the MCTs and rapid response times.

With the demonstrated impact to Trust beneficiaries currently served by the one TNR MCT, the potential to reach more beneficiaries with a second TNR MCT is substantial. TNR is uniquely poised to continue operating the MCTs, as TNR currently operates several services within the Day One Center, an innovative behavioral health approach to meeting the needs of Trust beneficiaries seeking and needing support. The service array consists of comprehensive same-day integrated assessments, psychiatric medication management, withdrawal management, intensive out-patient (IOP), out-patient services and peer support and recovery. TNR has developed strong community partnerships in the full continuum of care by partnering with the Wasilla Police Department and Mat-Com Dispatch, as well as strong referral connections with the Community Care Team, formerly known as the Post-Crisis Network (PCN).

Agnew::Beck Consulting LLC, provided the technical support to TNR for business modeling for all the operations of their Day One Center, including the MCT. The Medicaid 1115 reimbursement for MCT does not come close to covering the cost of a 24/7 two-person team, so other funding support must be considered. The withdrawal management service and the assessment program factored together can generate enough income to offset the MCT losses. If this innovative model proves successful in the coming years, it could provide the blueprint for offering similar services in other regions of Alaska. The Trust and our partners are working with the State of Alaska partners and looking at the low reimbursement rate for MCTs. For MCTs to be sustainable at the Day One Center and across Alaska, it will be imperative that the rate structure is increased, but until that occurs, it is critical to find business strategies for braiding funding to cover MCT costs.

In addition to requested trust funding, TNR anticipates additional funding from the Mat-Su Health Foundation, the State of Alaska Department of Behavioral Health through a Request for Proposals, and the State of Alaska Department of Public Health.

Finally, community members and providers in the region have expressed strong support for the TNR MCT, and a willingness to expand the current service area beyond Wasilla.

This project is recommended for funding as it aligns with the Mental Health and Addiction Intervention focus area, and enhances supports for Trust beneficiaries in a mental health crisis.

COMP PLAN IDENTIFICATION

Goal	Objective	Comments
Goal 5 Suicide Prevention	5.2 Crisis system improvement	Strategy: Develop a continuum of community-based crisis intervention services to support beneficiaries in community settings whenever possible.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The following is excerpted from the prospective grantee's application.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

True North Recovery is currently facilitating the Mobile Crisis Team that is working within the City of Wasilla City Limits. Through this year two grant we will be adding a second full-time team which will allow us to increase our coverage area. With the increased services area we will also be able to increase the number of Trust Beneficiaries we are able to support during a crisis that is dispatched by emergency responders. True North Recovery is excited to be able to increase our service area and provide mobile crisis response to a wider area of the Mat-Su Valley.

True North Recovery is excited to begin year two of the Mobile Crisis Team Response to the Mat-Su Valley. It has been an exciting first year, as we have developed impactful relationships, navigated development and implementation, and begun serving our community with excellence.

In our initial proposal we proposed starting within the city of Wasilla followed by expanding the reach of our Mobile Crisis Team throughout the Mat-Su Valley. This proposal expands the service area from the city of Wasilla to the surrounding areas. True North Recovery plans to expand the radius of the Mobile Crisis Team by approximately 30 miles surrounding the city of Wasilla. This growth will allow us to reach nearly one hundred thousand residents of the Mat-Su valley. We plan to accomplish this by adding an additional Mobile Crisis Team. With two teams operating 24/7, True North Recovery will be able to rapidly respond to multiple locations in a timely manner. This additional team would have a direct impact on those suffering from substance misuse, mental health, co-occurring disorders, and any other immediate crisis.

Since the launch of our Wasilla MCT program, the team has been on 163 calls as of 9/14/2023, of those 132 were unique contacts. Our first call was on 3/16/2023. Our current team is only responding within the City of Wasilla (population 9426). Community members and providers have seen and experienced the impact of the Mobile Crisis Team and have expressed desire to expand this service collaboration. We have identified partnership opportunities with the Alaska State Troopers, Palmer Police, Chickaloon Tribal Police, as well as the Mat-Su borough EMS. There is excitement to have these partnerships formalized and a wider community served. We realize that while we have made an impact in the city of Wasilla, the entirety of the Mat-Su would benefit greatly from this expansion.

True North Recovery plans to launch a second Mobile Crisis Team to our expanded service area in early 2024, with a target launch date of 1/31/24. Our new perimeter will include but is not limited to: Palmer, Butte, Sutton, Chickaloon, Meadow Lakes, Big Lake, Point Mackenzie, Houston, and the surrounding areas. With the addition of a second team, we plan to have the Mobile Crisis Team operate out of an independent location in the city of Wasilla; this will allow coordination between the teams and faster response times.

True North Recovery has identified the additional staff needed and are excited to offer Mobile Crisis Response throughout the Mat-Su valley. We have a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Wasilla PD and Matcom Dispatch to respond to calls. True North Recovery has also assisted with developing the "Post Crisis Network" alongside Connect Mat-Su and The Mat-Su

Crisis Now Coordinator. This network takes a collaborative approach to the follow up of Mobile Crisis Team calls. We have developed a network of providers to include: Alaska Addiction Rehabilitation Services, Alaska Therapeutic Courts, Alaska Family Services, Alaska Youth and Family Community Care Team, Beacon Hill Alaska, Connect Mat-Su, Daybreak Inc., LINKS, High Utilizers Mat-Su, Mat-Su Health Services, MyHouse, Set Free Alaska, Sunshine Community Health and Valley Charities. Through biweekly workgroups, protocols, and partnership within this MOU, we have begun to streamline access to care for Mat-Su Valley residents in crisis across multiple provider types.

True North Recovery believes Mobile Crisis Team responses must be met with rapid access to critical services to meet the needs of our residents and ultimately mitigate or resolve the crisis. True North Recovery has opened the Day One Center as another effort to address crisis response. The Day One Center hosts a range of programs and includes medical personnel, withdrawal management services, peer support services, psychiatric services, integrated behavioral health assessments and crisis case management as well as a peer living room model walk-in center. We received \$250,000 to support the operations of Crisis Response within True North Recovery's Day One Center from Alaska Department of Behavioral Health through the Restore Hope Grant. This funding provided supplies ranging from non-perishable food, hygiene products, winter gear, tents, sleeping bags, underwear and socks, cell phones, prescription and medical co-pay support, travel assistance and coverage for the cost of integrated behavioral health assessments. True North Recovery was also awarded the CBHTR grant for Peer Support in the amount of \$239,8872. This grant allows us to cover current payroll costs of the Launchpad while also adding two additional staff to the program. The Launchpad delivers immediate access to walk-in peer services. Many individuals served in Launchpad come from Mobile Crisis calls.

It is our hope to continue to expand the Mobile Crisis Team's reach, as well as to build lasting and meaningful relationships within the community to best serve those in need. This service will continue to support integration to community services and partnerships among providers.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) publication National Guidelines for Behavioral Health Crisis Care – A Best Practice Toolkit identifies system transparency and regular monitoring of key performance indicators to support continuous quality improvement efforts as essential elements of a robust behavioral health crisis system. The SAMHSA toolkit identifies performance metrics for mobile crisis services. Key performance indicators identified in the SAMSHA report include:

1. Numbers served
2. Average response time
3. Percentage of calls responded to within one hour, two hours and more than two hours
4. Longest response time
5. Percentage of mobile crisis responses resolved in the community

Every Mobile Crisis Response call is documented in our electronic health record and tracked simultaneously by the Mobile Crisis Team. Both of these allow us to collect data on the total

number of calls received and responded to, as well as how many of those were unique or repeated contacts. While tracking each call, referrals made while on scene or at follow-up show the succession of crisis diversion through providing critical services to the beneficiaries. Referrals made are being tracked as well, and the Post Crisis Network is also collecting data alongside us on referrals with participating providers. Internal referrals from Mobile Crisis that continue on to receive additional services at True North Recovery demonstrate improved quality of life as beneficiaries navigate their next step in addressing their substance misuse, mental health, co-occurring disorder, or other critical needs.

All data is tracked within our electronic health record and internal Mobile Crisis Team tracker. Analyzing the key performance indicators from SAMHSA as well as succession through referrals and continuation of services allows us to provide data on beneficiaries that have improved quality of life from this service.

SUSTAINABILITY

The Day One Center operates a diverse range of programs, including withdrawal management (inpatient and ambulatory), walk-in integrated behavioral health assessments, Launchpad (peer crisis services), medical providers, medication management, psychiatric evaluations, and the Mobile Crisis Team. Each program is run independently, yet the income generated from each program is utilized unilaterally across all programs to ensure the center's financial stability as a whole. We have been working with Agnew::Beck on the financial modeling of the Day One Center since July of 2022. Through this financial modeling we are developing a five-year plan for sustainability. Some of the other programs within the building have higher billing rates and billing capacity that can provide additional financial support to the center that can offset the deficit that the Mobile Crisis Team currently produces. We continue developing and implementing new services provided at the Day One Center to create sustainability for all of our crisis services to expand community impact.

Additionally, we have a provider agreement through DBH to bill for Safety-Net funding, which provides billing capacity for services provided to those who do not have Medicaid at time of service. The billing rates both through Medicaid and Safety Net funding do not provide sustainability alone for the Mobile Crisis team, as the rate is currently \$183.54. However, they provide some reimbursement for most of the Mobile Crisis Response calls. Through Safety Net billing we are able to bill for both the call out services and the follow up call. However, the current 1115 Waivers Regulations do not allow for both of these services to be billed through Medicaid; this is fortunately one of the proposed changes for the updated regulations. We have communicated the benefits of increasing billability with this service through public forums and submitting public comments.

As well as billable options, DBH has indicated that they may have \$250k-\$500k in RFP's coming out for crisis services that we intend to apply for. We are also preparing to submit a grant request to the Mat-Su Health Foundation, in the amount of \$93,968 to cover the balance of the total project budget for the Year Two of the Mobile Crisis Team.

WHO WE SERVE

Alaska Mental Health Trust beneficiaries that would benefit from this expansion include; any community member experiencing crisis that may be the result of substance misuse, mental health, or co-occurring disorders. However, response and mitigation of these crises also have a direct impact on the community served, as well as the immediate family of those in active crisis. Mobile Crisis response reduces additional burden on the hospital as well as correctional facilities by mitigating the crises at hand and providing referrals to address the underlying cause of the call. Mobile Crisis response has greatly reduced the time law enforcement is spending on scene; once the Mobile Crisis team arrives law enforcement only spends an average of 15 minutes there whereas in the past, law enforcement would have been spending hours to address crises. Crisis diversion and referrals to services benefit more than just the recipient. Response call recipients are given a safe space to process their crisis and given immediate support by our peers sharing lived experience and professional interventions provided by the mental health clinicians. Recipients may:

- have limited access to services,
- have minimal natural supports,
- have exasperated mental health symptoms,
- have ongoing substance withdrawal symptoms

The response call can provide:

- direct referrals to the most appropriate providers,
- provide relation and comfort through peer interventions,
- provide mental health intervention and suicide screening,
- provide referral to withdrawal management services or walk-in peer crisis services.

Recipients served have access to numerous community providers and services, including but not limited to: housing, primary care, mental health services, and other additional social services. Some recipients are more apprehensive to engage, but will still be provided with the same support from the Mobile Crisis Team including a care packages (including: socks, winter gear, gloves, blankets, hygiene products and nonperishable foods- as well as feminine care products when necessary) immediate food needs, and a referral to our Launchpad program for walk-in services, should they choose to engage at a later date.

True North Recovery offers a wide variety of referrals and linkage to care through the Post Crisis network and longstanding community partnerships. The following data demonstrates the impact our collaboration of providers has had to the beneficiaries. The results of which are as follows:

Our current referrals:

- 1- Referral made to primary care through Mat-Su Health Services.
- 5- Referrals to DV Prevention through AFS Women's Shelter or other safe housing
- 27-Referrals to housing which is typically emergency housing or other temporary housing resources that are available for immediate access until more permanent housing becomes available. These referrals include MyHouse, the DV shelter, LINKS, Set Free Crisis Housing, Family Promise as well as our emergency housing at the Grandview.

38- Referrals to Mental Health Services through Mat-Su Health Services, Day Break and True North Recovery and when necessary, the behavioral health unit at Mat-Su Regional.

67- Referrals to other social services

Of the referrals to other social services, 28 were referred to services with True North Recovery which included referrals for detox, residential or outpatient services. Of the 28 referrals, 9 were at risk of overdose and 8 of the referrals engaged in services with us.

Our Launchpad program at the Day One Center is available to all beneficiaries to provide additional referrals, linkage to care and follow up crisis services.

ESTIMATED NUMBERS OF BENEFICIARIES SERVED EXPERIENCING:

Mental Illness:	700
Substance Abuse	400
Secondary Beneficiaries(family members or caregivers providing support to primary beneficiaries):	2,000
Number of people to be trained	15

BUDGET

Personnel Services Costs	\$608,347.00
Personnel Services Costs (Other Sources)	\$29,040.00
Personnel Services Narrative:	<p>We are proposing adding an additional Mobile Crisis Team to complement our original team and increase the service radius of the Mobile Crisis Team by approximately 30 miles.</p> <p>We have carefully developed a shift rate to retain quality staff and reduce overhead costs of the program. If we add an additional team, there will be two peers and two clinicians on staff per 24-hour shift. The Mobile Crisis Peers remain on site for their entire 24-hour shift, ensuring immediate response to dispatch. The peers receive \$400 per 24-hour shift</p> <p>The Mobile Crisis Clinicians are on standby within a ten-mile radius, readily available to respond to a call at any point during their 24-hour shift. The clinicians receive \$450 per shift.</p> <p>The overall cost of the payroll includes the employer portion of taxes, workman's comp and paid time off. The anticipated fringe rate for our employees is 17%. Our total payroll expense for year 2 is \$707,370.</p>

	In year one, we extended our funding for an additional quarter and will still have a surplus from the original grant in the amount of \$69,683. That surplus will be rolled into year two and utilized towards the overall personnel cost, reducing the total payroll expense for year 2 to \$637,387.
Travel Costs	\$6,000.00
Travel Costs (Other Sources)	\$18,000.00
Travel Narrative:	<p>Expansion of our service area will increase travel costs associated with the Mobile Crisis Team. Monthly fuel costs fluctuate based on the locations of the call outs and the number of calls dispatched. We are estimating monthly fuel to cost on average \$2000 a month for both vehicles.</p> <p>The anticipated service volume increasing in year two with the perimeter expanding, vehicle maintenance costs will increase. We are estimating both vehicles to have a \$12,000 vehicle maintenance expense for the year. This includes tires, oil changes and other vehicle maintenance as needed.</p>
Space or Facilities Costs	\$52,329.00
Space or Facilities Costs (Other Sources)	\$19,671.00
Space or Facilities Narrative:	<p>We would like to station both teams together in an independent facility outside of the Day One Center. We have identified a number of potential buildings that would support our facility needs. We have identified one building we intend to pursue; this building is also centrally located and within a close radius to our Day One Center. This building location would be ideal for dispatch within the community. The facility rental costs is \$5000 monthly. Utilities for this facility will cost \$1000 a month for electric, gas and water expenses.</p>
Supplies Costs	\$0.00
Supplies Costs (Other Sources)	\$10,000.00
Supplies Narrative:	<p>The Mobile Crisis Team has a stock of emergency supplies on hand to provide during calls. These include needed hygiene products, underwear, socks, nonperishable foods, hand warmers, drinking water, feminine products, etc. Previously we have been able to fund the purchase of these items through other grant funds for the previous grant period. These items allow the Mobile Crisis Team to</p>

	<p>provide essential items to beneficiaries during the call. The estimated per month cost is \$500.</p> <p>The Mobile Crisis Team needs to be clearly identifiable and distinguishable from law enforcement during the Mobile Crisis calls. Adding an additional team would require more uniforms to be purchased and ID badges, at a one-time cost of \$4000.</p>
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Equipment Costs	\$6,600.00
Equipment Costs (Other Sources)	\$17,257.00
Equipment Costs Narrative:	<p>With the expansion, we would need to provide additional equipment for the team. This includes computers, an iPad, a second Mobile Crisis Team vehicle, and the emergency lighting for the vehicle.</p> <p>The laptops and iPad would cost \$5000 and are utilized to document the call, track data, assist clients with completing referral paperwork and completing follow ups. This equipment is used in the field and in the office after the calls occur. Adding a second team would require purchasing a additional vehicle to allow both teams to dispatch simultaneously within the community. The monthly cost of the vehicle is estimated at \$1100. The emergency lighting and radio installation would cost \$ 5657 and will be necessary for communication between law enforcement and to remain identifiable to the community, local responders and beneficiaries.</p>

Other Costs	\$76,724.00
Other Costs (Other Sources)	
Other Costs Narrative:	<p>Administrative Fee of 10% for a total of \$76,724</p> <p>The administrative fee helps cover the costs of shared expenses that are associated to our administration and leadership team who work on the development and implementation of the expansion.</p>

Total Amount to be Funded by the Trust	\$750,000.00
Total Amount Funded by Other Sources	\$93,968.00

OTHER FUNDING SOURCES

Mat-Su Health Foundation, Pending	\$93,968.00
State of Alaska DBH RFP, anticipated	\$250,000.00-\$500,000.00
State of Alaska DPH, anticipated	\$250,000.00
Total Leveraged Funds	\$593,968.00-\$843,968.00

Committee took Action 10/19/23

MEMO

To: Agnes Moran - Program & Planning Committee Chair
Date: October 19, 2023
Re: FY24 Mental Health and Addiction Intervention Focus Area Allocation
Amount: \$750,000.00
Grantee: Anchorage Community Mental Health Services, Inc. dba Alaska Behavioral Health
Project Title: Fairbanks Mobile Crisis Team

REQUESTED MOTION:

The Program & Planning Committee recommends that the full Board of Trustees approve a \$750,000 FY24 Mental Health and Addiction Intervention focus area allocation to the Anchorage Community Mental Health Services, Inc. dba Alaska Behavioral Health for the Fairbanks Mobile Crisis Team project. These funds will come from the FY24 Crisis Continuum of Care budget line."

Assigned Program Staff: Eric Boyer

STAFF ANALYSIS

Alaska Behavioral Health (AKBH) requests \$750,000 to fund their mobile crisis team (MCT) to operate 24/7, 365 days a year in the Fairbanks region. The MCT is dispatched to stabilize and treat people from Fairbanks to North Pole, and 100% of the people they respond to are Trust beneficiaries. This is the third requested Trust grant for the Fairbanks MCT. Trust staff anticipates, based on financial modeling, that the Fairbanks MCTs will need financial support for up to five years while alternative funding sources such as Medicaid are fully leveraged.

The MCT in Fairbanks is producing outcomes that meet and exceed the federal guidelines for benchmarks around stabilizing individuals experiencing behavioral health crises in the community. The national benchmark is 70% of the time, where AKBH maintains an 83% successful stabilization rate in the community. Stabilizing Trust beneficiaries in the community allows the MCT team to provide follow-up care and warm hand-offs to less restrictive settings in the community. This lowers the utilization of the emergency room and jail in the continuum of care.

The MCT is one of the key elements in the Crisis Now Framework, as it allows dispatch and the community to request the team (clinician and peer) to respond to a person having a behavioral health crisis. The next 1-2 years will be critical in supporting AKBH and the MCT to develop their infrastructure in Fairbanks as they expand to the surrounding regions of the interior.

The Medicaid 1115 reimbursement for MCT does not come close to covering the cost of a 24/7 two-person team, so other funding support must be considered. The Trust and our partners are working with the State of Alaska partners and looking at the low reimbursement rate for MCTs. For MCTs to be sustainable in Fairbanks and across Alaska, it will be imperative that the rate structure is increased, but until that occurs, it is critical to find business strategies for braiding funding to cover MCT costs.

In addition to requested trust funding and its own contribution, AKBH anticipates additional funding from the State of Alaska Department of Behavioral Health through a Request for Proposals.

This project is recommended for funding as it aligns with the Mental Health and Addiction Intervention focus area, and enhances supports for Trust beneficiaries in a mental health crisis.

COMP PLAN IDENTIFICATION

Goal	Objective	Comments
Goal 5 Suicide Prevention	5.2 Crisis system improvement	

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The following is excerpted from the prospective grantee’s application.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Individuals in crisis need the right care in the right setting when they need it. To provide a comprehensive crisis system of care, there must be a crisis call center, a mobile crisis team, and a crisis response center in order to provide multiple opportunities for intervention at less intensive levels of care. This grant proposal specifically focuses on requesting funding to continue running one portion of the behavioral health crisis system of care, the mobile crisis team, which provides crisis services to any person in Fairbanks in their home, workplace, or any other community-based location. The essential functions of the team include triage and screening (explicit screening for suicidality); assessment; de-escalation/resolution; peer support; coordination with medical and behavioral health services; collaboration with families and natural supports, information and referrals; transportation; and crisis planning and follow-up. The mobile crisis team also addresses recovery needs and provides trauma-informed care with a specific focus on suicide prevention.

As discussed in the Crisis Now Alaska Mental Health Trust Report, Fairbanks needs a comprehensive crisis response system, as it is essential to provide timely access to crisis services and meet individuals where they are experiencing the crisis. If a crisis system of care is in place, individuals are often diverted from higher levels of care, law enforcement, and the criminal justice system. If an adequate crisis system of care is not in place, as noted in the Crisis Now Consultation Report by RI International, the burden on law enforcement and the criminal justice system adds to incidences of crises associated with violence, suicide, alcohol, opioid overdose, mental illness, and homelessness.

In response to this need, Alaska Behavioral Health continues one part of the behavioral health crisis system of care, a mobile crisis team, starting in Fall 2021. This team serves Fairbanks by providing mobile crisis services through triage/screening, assessment, de-escalation, coordination with community services, and crisis planning and follow-up. In order to adhere to best practices for operating a mobile crisis team, per SAMHSA's National Guidelines for Behavioral Health Crisis Services, the team fully incorporates peers within the mobile crisis team, responds where the person was at, and does not restrict services to select locations within Fairbanks or during particular days/times, and connected individuals to facility-based care as needed through warm hand-offs and coordinating transportation when the situation warrants transition to other location.

The Fairbanks community, including the Fairbanks Fire Department, the Fairbanks Police Department, the North Pole Police Department, and the Fairbanks Emergency Communication Center (FECC), continue to be supportive of the mobile crisis team. Currently, FECC continues to dispatch the Fairbanks mobile crisis team using the response levels developed by Alaska Behavioral Health to dispatch the calls.

The response levels include the following:

- Level 1 Response - Law Enforcement response required with MCT accompanying or staging. This level indicates situations that are too dangerous to deploy without the scene first being secured by law enforcement. It is also key in these situations to have a response within the shortest amount of time possible. The caller is in imminent danger to self-and/or others.
- Level 2 Response: MCT Lead with law enforcement staging near the scene. This level indicates situations where MCT staff enter the environment first, but law enforcement is immediately available if needed.
- Level 3 Response: MCT Lifeline – Law Enforcement on standby via phone call. A call will be stacked for law enforcement with all information and waiting for MCT to advise if law enforcement is needed. Law enforcement will not respond until requested by MCT.
- Level 4 Response: MCT without law enforcement on standby. Law enforcement will still be aware of the MCT call.
- Level 5 Response: MCT clinicians may respond to secure site (school, hospital, clinic, etc.) without a peer support specialist. Residences are not considered secure sites.

Implementing the Fairbanks mobile crisis team has resulted in individuals experiencing a behavioral health crisis getting the right care in the right setting when they need it. Since October 1st, 2022, through June 30th, 2023, there were 575 calls. Of the calls, 4% were Level 1, 6% were Level 2, 23 % were Level 3, 54% were Level 4, and 13% were Level 5. Of those call, 92% were responded to without law enforcement involvement. Additionally, 83% of individuals in crisis were able to stay in the community instead of moving to a higher level of care and/or interacting with the criminal justice system.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

To measure project success, AKBH will continue to track the following performance metrics: the number of calls, the number of individuals served, the number of calls per response level, the response time from dispatch to arriving on scene, the time spent on scene; the outcome/disposition of the crisis (community, hospital, law enforcement involved, etc.); and the demographics of those served.

SUSTAINABILITY

Various studies suggest that mobile crisis services are effective at diverting people in crisis from psychiatric hospitalization and/or reducing arrests, are effective at linking suicidal individuals discharged from the emergency department to services, and are often better (than hospitals) at linking people in crisis to outpatient services. Studies have shown that this diversion has resulted in a 23% lower average cost per case than police intervention and a reduction of costs associated with inpatient hospitalization by approximately 79% in a six-month follow-up period after the crisis episode. Throughout the course of the program, the Fairbanks Mobile Crisis Team has maintained a community stabilization rate at or above 80%, which is well above the national target of 70% for Mobile Crisis services.

Regarding sustainability, this service continues to rely heavily on grant funds and other funding sources due to Alaska's current reimbursement rate for crisis episodes. The budget outlines the cost of running a full 24/7 mobile crisis team (including clinicians, peers, and clinical management) to be \$1,056,700. The budget includes approximately 1032 annual crisis episodes of care (based on Agnew-Beck's numbers and the RI Report in 2021). The 1115 Waiver provides \$175.64 per call out, which could result in \$181,260 in revenue. Additionally, there is an option to bill short-term crisis intervention services (STCIS), a time-based code (every 15 minutes is \$31.44) if a crisis takes significant time to resolve. Alaska Behavioral Health is requesting \$750,000 to fund the Fairbanks 24/7 mobile crisis team (to include clinicians, peers, and clinical management).

WHO WE SERVE

The Fairbanks mobile crisis team provides necessary crisis services to beneficiaries which include those who are mentally ill (i.e. those diagnosed with schizophrenia, delusional disorder, mood disorders, anxiety disorders, somatoform disorders, personality disorders, dissociate disorders, and other psychotic or severe and persistent mental disorders); chronic alcoholics suffering from psychosis; and other persons needing mental health services. As highlighted in the Alaska Statutes, the integrated comprehensive mental health program, for which expenditures are made by The Trust, gives priority in service delivery to persons who, because of a mental disorder, may require or are at risk of hospitalization or are experiencing such a major impairment of self-care, self-direction, or social and economic functioning that they require continuing or intensive

services. By providing mobile crisis team services in Fairbanks, Trust beneficiaries who are in crisis have received the right care, in the right setting, when they needed it. Beneficiaries are better off, as the mobile crisis team has led to a decrease in use and interaction between Trust beneficiaries and emergency departments, jails, and police, and has also increased linkage to appropriate care and treatment through triage/screening, assessment, de-escalation, coordination with community services, and crisis planning and follow-up. Organically, throughout the operation of MCT, a significant need has been identified for advocacy, stabilization, and care coordination of individuals experiencing SMI and acute homelessness. MCT has worked to develop working relationships with area housing providers to provide stabilizing care within the community to individuals at acute risk of losing shelter access or experiencing other housing insecurity as a result of SMI symptomology and crisis experiences.

ESTIMATED NUMBERS OF BENEFICIARIES SERVED EXPERIENCING:

Mental Illness:	300
Developmental Disabilities:	20
Substance Abuse	250
Traumatic Brain Injuries:	50
Secondary Beneficiaries(family members or caregivers providing support to primary beneficiaries):	100
Number of people to be trained	50

BUDGET

Personnel Services Costs	\$600,000.00
Personnel Services Costs (Other Sources)	\$114,000.00
Personnel Services Narrative:	Clinical Management 0.2 \$26,000 Clinician (24/7) 4.3 FTE \$430,000 in salary and benefits (Covered by the Trust) Peer (24/7) 4.3 FTE \$258,000 in salary and benefits (\$170,000 covered by the Trust). Remainder covered by AKBH.
Space or Facilities Costs	\$0
Space or Facilities Costs (Other Sources)	\$12,000.00
Space or Facilities Narrative:	Space for staff working in this program is allocated at a cost of \$12,000 per year
Supplies Costs	0
Supplies Costs (Other Sources)	\$3,000
Supplies Narrative:	

Other Costs	\$150,000
Other Costs (Other Sources)	\$43,500.00
Other Costs Narrative:	<p>Training, Vehicle operational cost/maintenance Allocated insurance (automotive and professional liability). Allocated Costs for IT Services (Desktop Support, Software Licenses, Electronic Health Record Licenses). Costs for miscellaneous expenses, including fuel for vehicles and staff training, total \$43,500.</p> <p>Indirect: Administrative costs: \$150,000, funded by the trust.</p>

Total Amount to be Funded by the Trust	\$750,000.00
Total Amount Funded by Other Sources	\$172,500.00

OTHER FUNDING SOURCES

State of Alaska Division of Behavioral Health- pending RFP this fall for MCT (Anticipated RFP)	\$250,000.00-\$500,000.00- TBD by the SOA
Alaska Behavioral Health	\$172,500.00
Total Leveraged Funds	422,500-672,500

Statutory Advisor Update

- **Alaska Commission on Aging**
- **Alaska Mental Health Board /
Advisory Board on Alcoholism &
Drug Abuse**
- **Governor's Council on Disabilities
and Special Education**

Statutory Advisor Update

November 15, 2023





The joint mission of AMHB/ABADA is to advocate for programs and services that promote healthy, independent, productive Alaskans.

Summary of Statutory Duties (ABADA AS 44.29.140, AMHB AS 44.29.850)

Planning & Coordination	Advising & Education	Advocacy & Public Engagement
<p>*Federal & State Laws related to alcohol, drug and other substance prevention and treatment</p> <p>*Comprehensive plan of services for prevention and treatment of alcohol, drug and other substances</p> <p>*Comprehensive plan of treatment and recovery for mental health <u>and</u> an implementation plan</p>	<p><i>Audience: Legislature, Governor, The Trust, State Agencies</i></p> <p>*Problems caused by alcohol use disorder (AUD) or substance use disorders (SUD) that affect mental health (<i>this is the only focus area where statute specifies audience is the public</i>)</p> <p>*Educational research and social problems that affect treatment and recovery of those with alcohol or drug problems</p> <p>*Legal processes that affect screening, diagnosis, treatment, and recovery</p> <p>*Evaluate effectiveness of mental health and SUD state programs for diagnosis, treatment and recovery</p> <p>*Development of Services for diagnosis, treatment and recovery.</p> <p>*Recommendations to Trust on the comprehensive mental health plan regarding people with chronic AUD suffering from psychoses and the mentally ill, and, on the use of settlement money (<u>AS 44.25.290(b)(3)</u> and <u>AS 44.25.240</u> & <u>AS 44.25.290</u>)</p> <p>*Periodic Reporting on planning, evaluation, advocacy, etc.</p>	<p><i>Audience: Legislature, Governor, Executive Agencies, the public</i></p> <p>*Advocate for the needs of persons with mental health and SUDs</p> <p>*Engage public to discuss issues related to mental health services related to all planning efforts</p>

Staff-Identified Priority Areas for 2024

Increase Public
Engagement/Consumer
Feedback

Stay knowledgeable and
engaged with new
research, data, legislation

Assist in drafting
legislation and
development of services

Evaluation of Programs

Reporting

Planning and coordination
for comprehensive
substance use prevention,
treatment, harm reduction
and recovery





Upcoming Activities

- Advocacy Committee will begin meeting in December
- Winter Meeting: January 10, 9:00am-12:00pm, Virtual
- Spring Meeting: late April/TBD, Wasilla
- Summer Meeting, mid July/TBD, Virtual
- Fall Meeting, October, TBD
Prospective Locations:
 - Dillingham
 - Prince of Wales Island
 - Wrangell
 - Galena





QUESTIONS?

Stephanie Hopkins
Acting Executive
Director

907-465-4667

Stephanie.Hopkins@alaska.gov





**GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON
DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL EDUCATION**

Council Report

Jena Crafton, Chair

Patrick Reinhart, Executive
Director

November 15, 2023

Council Employment Committee – 5 Year/\$10 M Disability Innovation Fund DIF/DEED Grant

Some of the programs supported by this grant:

- ▶ **SILC** – Youth Leadership Forum, Youth Aviation Academy, Community Emergency Response Team
- ▶ **SAIL** – RecWORKS Southeast and RecWORKS Kenai Peninsula!
- ▶ **UAA CHD** – Traditional Transitions, DB 101 School and Youth Calculator, Tapestry
- ▶ **GCDSE** – Project SEARCH, Peer Power Student Outreach

Disability Benefits 101 Website – Out of BETA!

- ▶ <https://ak.db101.org/>

Alaska Traditional Transitions Skills Curriculum: Implementation Fall 2023

- ▶ **Pilot sites:** Buckland, Hoonah, and Grayling.

Council Employment Committee

2023 BEST Job Fair / Symposium:

- ▶ Oct 13th, 2023 Fairview Rec Center in Anchorage

[Duane Interview AK News Source \(52 Seconds\)](#)

Business Employment Services Team (BEST)

EMPLOYMENT FIRST JOB FAIR & SYMPOSIUM

JOB SEEKERS!

Let BEST help you find an exciting career!

- This event is open to the public
- Meet with employers from various industries, including federal contractors
- Veterans and individuals with disabilities are especially encouraged to attend
- Come professionally dressed with copies of your resume
- An ASL interpreter will be available for those who need accommodation
- People Mover Bus Route 11

**10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 13, 2023**
Fairview Recreation Center,
1121 E. 10th Ave., Anchorage

For more information or to request accommodation:
Business Connection
Anchorage Midtown Job Center
Phone: (907) 269-4777
Email: anchorage_employers@alaska.gov

Alaska is an Employment First state where real wages and real jobs for Alaskans with disabilities are the first and preferred outcomes!

A proud partner of the  network

 **Jobs** ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

We are an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

Council Employment Committee

Project SEARCH

- ▶ **Anchorage Providence Medical Center**
 - 11 Current Interns
- ▶ **Fairbanks Memorial Hospital**
 - 6 Current Interns
- ▶ **Mat Su Regional Medical Center**
 - 5 Current Interns



Microenterprise Grants

Microenterprise Grant Committee

- ▶ Support self-employment for Alaska Mental Health Trust Beneficiaries
- ▶ Need volunteers to review and provide recommendations on Microenterprise Grant Applications.
- ▶ Grant Applications are processed 2x per year

Most Recent Application Period :

- ▶ 8 of the 9 applications were awarded
- ▶ 9 applicants, **4 were DD, 4 MI, 1 TBI**
- ▶ \$33 of \$96 K awarded (Approx. \$63 K still available for next application cycle)



NEXT APPLICATION DEADLINE

MARCH 6, 2024 at Noon

Community Inclusion Supports and Services (CISS) Committee

- ▶ Committee solicited and submitted comments to SDS Policy Unit regarding proposed **amendments to four of Alaska's 1915(c) HCBS waivers**.
- ▶ **App K flexibilities to continue** until proposed waiver amendments and subsequent regulation changes are finalized (anticipated date is July 1, 2024).
- ▶ Committee requested support for **National DSP Week** from members of AK congressional delegation.
- ▶ In collaboration w/Employment Committee, submitted comments to SDS IDD Unit regarding **Employment Services**, Conditions of Participation (COP's).

Community Inclusion Supports and Services (CISS) Committee

- ▶ **Committee tracking SDS operationalizing** of ‘Adult Host Home’ service, allocation of \$15M added to budget to support Medicaid HCBS, and new IDD waitlist targeted funds.
- ▶ Committee gathering input, developing a survey, and planning a PSA to discover needs and raise awareness about **housing** challenges for people with disabilities.
- ▶ Continues monitoring key HCBS provisions (80/20) of **proposed “Access Rule” by CMS.**

SDS Registry / Waitlist #s (as of 10/23/2023)

IDD Registry Only: 329 individuals, 300 on or offered ISW

IDD & ISW Registries: 110 individuals

ISW Registry Only: 10 individuals

Enrolled with the different waivers: 2,105 on or offered IDD waiver, 575 on or offered ISW waiver

FY 2024 draws: 22 people drawn for IDD waiver, 50 people for ISW.



Self-Advocacy and Leadership (SAL)

New Co-Chairs

- ▶ Anna Attla and Christine Bohan

Empower Hour

- ▶ Every 4th Thursday of the month, 7:00 PM.

I Have Dreams Presentation

- ▶ Webinar (Date: TBD - Winter 2024)

SA&L Committee

- ▶ Next meeting November 21st from 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM



105



Alternatives to Guardianship Townhall

Alternatives to Guardianship Workgroup Meeting

- ▶ Met on September 5th and November 2nd via (Zoom)
- ▶ Team is identifying tasks and implementing strategies to address public guardianship crisis and ease of access for SDMA and other alternatives to public guardianship.

Branched off into two focus points

- ▶ **SDMA:** Practical application of the SDMA process and public information materials
- ▶ **Other Alternatives to Guardianship:** Research other alternatives to guardianship that could be implemented in Alaska.

Supported Decision-Making Agreement (SDMA)



Housing Issues for Beneficiaries with I/DD

- ▶ CISS Committee to invite AHFC rep to attend upcoming meetings and have dialogue about housing opportunities (a CISS activity this next year).
- ▶ Facilitate a working group between DOHSDS, AHFC and Trust on any housing related issues in standing up Adult Host Home Care (with SDS permission of course).
- ▶ Organize a field trip of agency reps to see some high quality, easy to ship wheelchair ramps with discussion on scaling up to statewide effort.
- ▶ Facilitate meeting to discuss Section 8 homeownership idea and broaden to include Sect. 8 vouchers in general (some specific to persons with DD).
- ▶ Introduction to the director of the statewide housing authority association.





Alaska Association on Developmental Disabilities

- ▶ **AADSP Summit** Oct. 18 (supported by GCDSE and Living Well grant funding): Inaugural event a success, with DSPs from around state participating, resulting in recommendations to strengthen workforce.
- ▶ **AADD Fall Meeting** Oct. 19 -20: Another success, w/66 people participating, and 13 guests and/or presenters, including national keynote speaker recommended by the GCDSE.
- ▶ **AADD has produced a guide** on Becoming a Medicaid Waiver Care Coordinator (with support from the Trust).
- ▶ **DSP Standard Occupational Code Bill** (SB 1332) – federal legislation will address the direct support professionals (DSP) workforce crisis through creation of standard occupational classification for DSPs.
- ▶ **Employment Services** recommendations for COPS submitted.



Alaska Advisory Board for the Education of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students (DEB)

► Early Involvement Committee

- Developing resources for Deaf and Hard of Hearing families
 - Developing website and brochure
 - “Connect, Engage, Thrive”

► HB 111/SB 143 “Deaf Bill of Rights”

- Discussing language amendments

► Teacher Licensure

- Teacher shortage
- Praxis requirements and reasonable accommodations



2024 State Legislation We support

Legislation from 2023

- ▶ HB 111 Deaf and Hard of Hearing Bill of Rights
- ▶ SB 104/ HB 161 Civil Legal Services Fund

Legislation to Revisit

- ▶ Centralized Accommodation Fund—Budget
- ▶ Changes to HCBS Waivers to allow more flexibility and self-direction
- ▶ Joint Trust budget issues and legislation



Federal Bills and Issues We Support

- ▶ **DSP Standard Occupational Code Bill** (SB 1332)
- ▶ **FASD Respect Act** (HR 3946/S.1800)
- ▶ **Budget related to Labor/HHS/Education Appropriations**
- ▶ **H.R. 2941**: Recognizing the Role of Direct Support Professionals Act (OMB revising standard occupational code for DSPs).
- ▶ Council will submit comments to DHSS regarding **Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act** (DHHS proposing to amend regs, ensure greater protections).
- ▶ Council will support the **HCBS Relief Act of 2023** aimed at increasing DSP compensation, decreasing waitlists, and facilitating greater community integration.

Recent Event Highlights

- ▶ **August 21:** State Fair Embracing Abilities event.
- ▶ **September 8:** 8 Keys to Success FASD Film and FASD Governor's Proclamation.
- ▶ **September 28:** National Transportation in Indian Country Conference
- ▶ **October 11-12:** Disability and Aging Summit
- ▶ **October 13:** Employment Symposium at the Fairview Recreation Center
- ▶ **October 26:** ACT Program Agency Night!
- ▶ Staff on the planning committee for the Reducing Recidivism & Reentry Conference
- ▶ Living Well 1-Year No Cost Extension approved!



Upcoming Council Meetings and Events

Reducing Recidivism & Reentry Conference, Nov 30 – Dec 1, 2023

► **Location:** Marriott in Anchorage

Winter Council Meeting – Coordinated with the Statewide Independent Living Center (SILC) Feb 13 – 15, 2024

► **Location:** Centennial Hall, Juneau

Key Campaign Fly-in, Feb 27-29

► **Location:** Juneau

Spring Council Meeting, May 23 – 24, 2024

► **Location:** Atwood Building in Anchorage, Alaska





**GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON
DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL EDUCATION**

Questions?

Patrick Reinhart, Executive Director

Governor's Council on Disabilities &
Special Education

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Alaska 99501

907-269-8990 Cell: 907-301-0728

Patrick.Reinhart@alaska.gov

Additional Documents

Memorandum



To: Anita Halterman, Chair of the Board of Trustees
Through: Steve Williams, Chief Executive Officer
From: Jusdi Warner, Executive Director
Date: October 20, 2023
Subject: October 20, 2023 – Resource Management Committee Meeting Summary

The Resource Management Committee met on October 20, 2023, received an extensive update of key TLO activities from the Executive Director Report, current updates on the Icy Cape Project, a Commercial Real Estate Performance Review, a Forestry Update and Carbon Development Presentation, and a State Land vs. Mental Health Trust Land Presentation. Additionally, the committee received one (1) Approval request jointly presented by TLO and TA staff. The RMC recommended approval to the full board of trustees the proposed action to issue a Less than Fair Market Value Lease to the Tanana Chiefs Conference.

The recommendation requires full board approval and will move to the board of trustees at the January 2024 full board of trustees meeting after the completion of the 30-day public notice.

Board Action Required: *The following proposed action requiring full board of trustees' approval was recommended to the full board of trustees at the October 20th RMC Meeting:*

Meeting Summary:

1. Approval – Tanana Chiefs Conference Less than Fair Market Value Lease

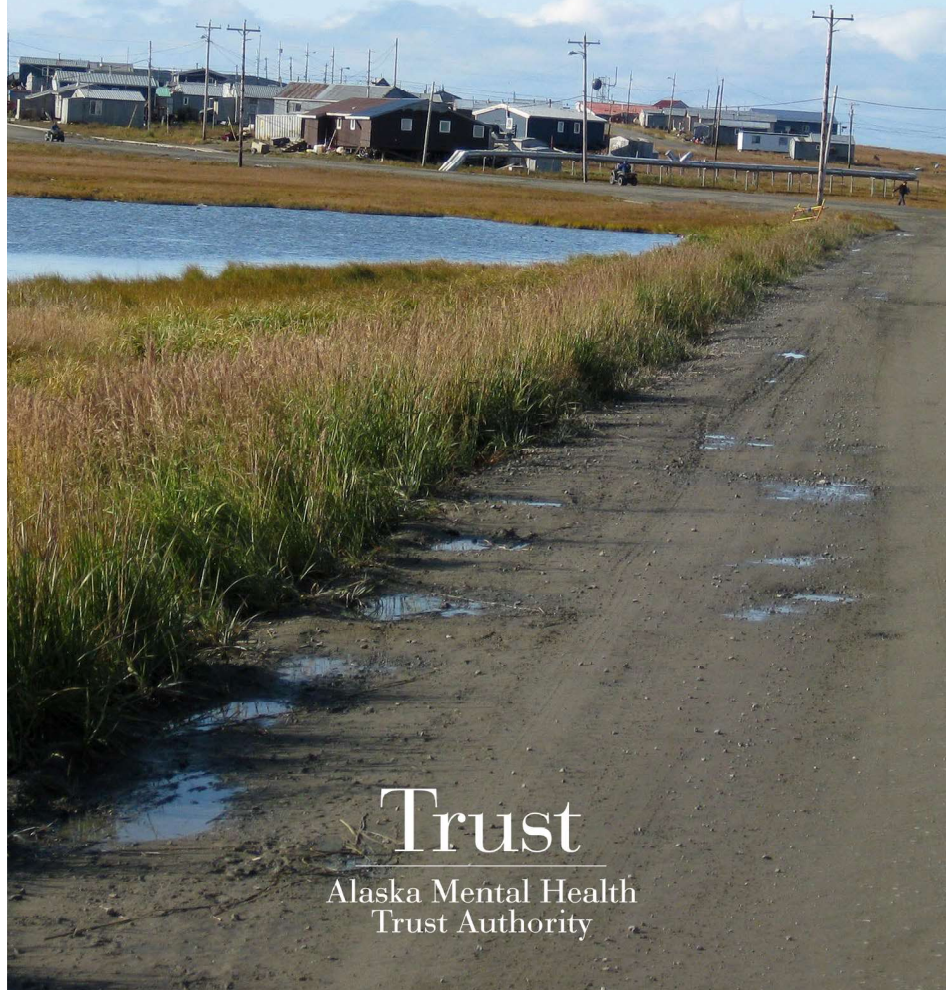
MOTION: *The Alaska Mental Health Trust Board of Trustees approves the annual lease rent of \$30,000 for a 30-year lease with a 10% rent increase every 5 years, of Lot 1, South Fairbanks Subdivision, according to Plat No. 2007-198 in the Fairbanks Recording District, Trust Parcel F1002, in Fairbanks, Alaska, to Tanana Chiefs Conference.*

Anticipated Revenues/Benefits: Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) requests a below fair market lease agreement for Lot One (1), South Fairbanks Subdivision, Plat No. 2007-198, which is the location of the Fairbanks Gateway to Recovery Detoxification Program. Staff recommends an annual lease rent of \$30,000 for a 30-year lease with a 10% rent increase every 5 years. TCC currently provides medically managed withdrawal management residential treatment services to Trust beneficiaries at this facility. TCC is also looking to expand its services at the site to add sobering center bed availability, which is part of their strategic planning at this location.

cc: Board of Trustees
Steve Williams, CEO Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority

Yukon Kuskokwim

Rural Outreach Trip 2023



Trust

Alaska Mental Health
Trust Authority



Welcome to the Alaska Mental Health Trust 2023 Rural Outreach Trip. Thank you for joining us!

Since the beginning of the Trust rural outreach program in 1999, we have hosted more than 418 visitors on 12 trips to 78 rural communities throughout the state with the goal of weaving connections among Alaskans. This year, we are visiting the Yukon-Kuskokwim region.

We are grateful for the support of our local partners: Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation (YKHC), the regional Tribal Health Organization (THO) and operator of the hospital serving Bethel and 58 surrounding communities, and the Association of Village Council Presidents, a nonprofit Tribal consortium dedicated to supporting the interests of the 56 member Tribes of the YK Delta. We are also thankful for the support of local Tribal leaders and the communities who are welcoming us.

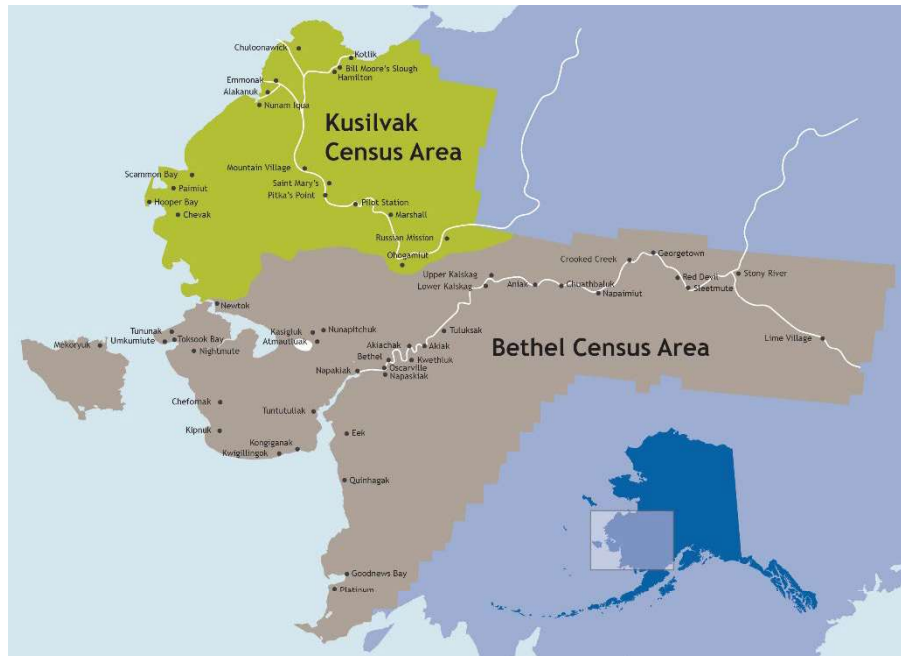
The trip will begin with an orientation for trip participants to learn about the region. We'll also tour a few sites in Bethel, learning from organizations who serve the community and region. On the second day, the group will divide into four small groups, traveling to smaller communities to learn about the strengths and challenges in the region. We encourage you to ask questions, engage with community members, and share as much as you can in the local way of life.

What are the outcomes of this trip?

- Gain a deeper understanding of the region, different cultures and values.
- Increase connections among the region, the Trust, other funding organizations, legislators, and state agencies.
- Increase understanding of the strengths and challenges facing Trust beneficiaries in rural Alaska.
- Increase awareness of the resources available to Trust beneficiaries, communities, and organizations in the region.

Thank you again for joining us. We hope you enjoy an enriching trip!

Yukon-Kuskokwim Region



The region has an area of 75,000 square miles, approximately the size of the state of Oregon with a population of 27,000 people who live among 58 rural communities not connected by road. Communities range in population from 25 to over 1,000 people. Bethel, the regional service and transportation hub community, has a population of 6,300. From the villages, Bethel is accessible by airplane, boat, and (in winter) snowmobiles and four wheelers. Surrounding villages often use frozen rivers as roads during winter.

The land and waters of the YK region are rich in fish, mammals, birds, and plants that support subsistence. The economy is mixed, with residents using wages to pay for the snowmobiles, boats, motors, ammunition, and fuel that traditional harvesting requires. Although prices are high, often making hunting and fishing difficult to afford, the region's residents remain committed to traditional harvesting activities and to sharing that return with loved ones, rooted in traditional Yup'ik cultural values.

Source: www.ykhc.org/story/about-yk/

Regional Population

City/Area	Census 2020	Est. July 2022
Bethel Census Area	18,666	18,207
Akiachak CDP	677	667
Akiak city	462	480
Aniak city	507	486
Atmautluak CDP	386	363
Bethel city	6,325	6,154
Chefornak city	506	515
Chuathbaluk city	104	83
Crooked Creek CDP	90	90
Eek city	404	404
Goodnews Bay city	258	238
Kasigluk CDP	623	652
Kipnuk CDP	704	725
Kongiganak CDP	486	510
Kwethluk city	812	787
Kwigillingok CDP	380	365
Lime Village CDP	13	6
Lower Kalskag city	278	270
Mekoryuk city	206	192
Mertarvik CDP	99	94
Napakiak city	358	336
Napaskiak city	509	494
Newtok CDP	209	182
Nightmute city	306	291
Nunapitchuk city	594	525
Oscarville CDP	70	67
Platinum city	55	49
Quinhagak city	776	762
Red Devil CDP	22	24
Sleetmute CDP	95	75
Stony River CDP	57	68
Toksook Bay city	658	638
Tuluksak CDP	444	420
Tuntutuliak CDP	469	492
Tununak CDP	411	393
Upper Kalskag city	212	205

City/Area	Census 2020	Est. July 2022
Kusilvak Census Area	8,368	8,158
Alakanuk city	756	728
Chevak city	951	940
Emmonak city	825	855
Hooper Bay city	1,375	1,359
Kotlik city	655	613
Marshall city	492	479
Mountain Village city	621	598
Nunam Iqua city	217	207
Pilot Station city	615	627
Pitkas Point CDP	120	121
Russian Mission city	421	407
St. Mary's city	599	585
Scammon Bay city	600	615
Balance	21	24
YK region	27,034	26,365
Alaska (statewide)	733,391	736,556

Population under the age of 19

Number and percent of the population under 19 years (Census 2020)

- Bethel Census Area: 7,661, 38% of the total population
- Kusilvak Census Area: 3,676, 44% of the total population
- YK region: 10,837, 40% of the total population

Economics

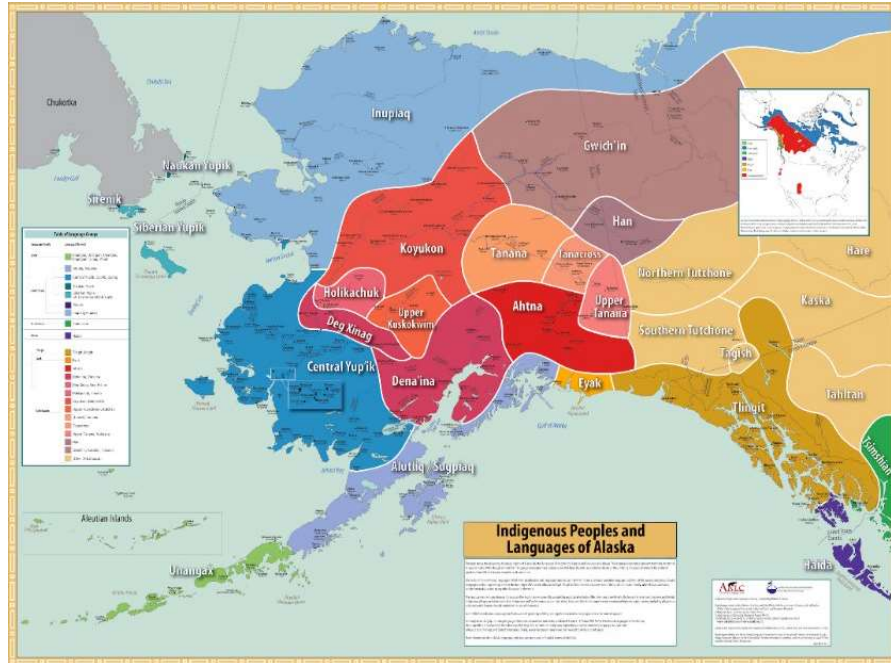
2020 Average Household Income (AVCP)

- Bethel Census Area: \$47,936
- Kusilvak Census Area: \$33,968
- Statewide: \$63,502

Housing

- 40% of homes in the region are overcrowded or severely overcrowded (2018, AHFC)
- 21% of homes are not served by water and sewer as of 2021 (ANTHC)

Map of Indigenous People and Languages of Alaska



Source: <https://www.uaf.edu/anla/collections/map/anlmap.png>

The Yukon-Kuskokwim (YK) Delta region is comprised of 58 federally recognized Tribes, representing a culturally diverse group of Central Yup'ik, Cup'ik, Cup'ig, Holikachuk, DegXinag, and Dena'ina Athabascan peoples.

About the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority

Trust Overview

The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority (Trust) is a state corporation that administers the Mental Health Trust, a perpetual endowment managed on behalf of Trust beneficiaries. The Trust operates much like a private foundation, using its resources to fund projects and activities that result in long-term system change and to help ensure that Alaska has a comprehensive mental health program to improve the lives and circumstances of Trust beneficiaries.

Trust Mission

The mission of the Trust is to improve the lives of beneficiaries. The Trust acts as a catalyst for change and provides leadership in advocacy, planning, implementing, and funding of Alaska's comprehensive integrated mental health program.

Trust Beneficiaries

Beneficiaries of the Trust include the following broad groups of Alaskans experiencing:

- Mental illness
- Intellectual and developmental disabilities
- Chronic alcoholism and other substance-related disorders
- Alzheimer's disease and related dementia
- Traumatic brain injuries



Agenda

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1

6:40-9:00 AM	Morning flight from Anchorage <i>Ravn charter from Ted Stevens, Lower A Concourse</i> <i>Flight departs at 7:30, please arrive 40 minutes prior</i>
9:00-9:30 AM	Pick-up rental vehicles <i>Bethel Car Rental</i>
9:30-11:15 AM	Welcome and Orientation (light breakfast) <i>YKHC Blueberry Conference Room</i>
11:15 AM-12:30 PM	YKHC site visits <i>DES unit, and the behavioral health outpatient unit</i>
12:30-1:00 PM	Lunch <i>YKHC Blueberry Conference Room</i>
1:00-4:00 PM	Site Visits in Bethel <i>Break into three groups, each visiting two sites</i>
4:00-4:45 PM	Break, check-in at hotels <i>Delta Cottages, Sleepy Salmon, Midtown Cottages</i>
4:45-5:00 PM	Shuttle from hotels to YKHC
5:00-7:00 PM	Community Reception (catered) <i>YKHC Blueberry Conference Room</i>
7:00-7:30 PM	Shuttles back to hotels

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2

More details about the day's events are available on each group's itinerary, provided on day 1 of the trip.

7:00-8:00 AM	Breakfast at hotels (bagged items, provided to participants on day 1)	
8:00-9:00 AM	Split into groups as assigned	
	Two groups will be shuttled from hotels to Bethel Airport for flights to St. Mary's and Toksook Bay	Two groups will visit additional sites in Bethel before departing to Kwethluk and Napakiak mid-day
	9:00-10:30 AM Outgoing flights to villages <i>Fox Air charter</i> (9:15 departures)	9:00-11:30 AM <i>Bethel Site Visits</i> <i>Break into two groups and visit two sites</i>
	10:30-3:30 PM Community Meetings and Conversations <i>St. Mary's and Toksook Bay</i>	11:30-12:15 PM Lunch at local restaurants
		12:15-1:45 PM Shuttle to Bethel Airport
		12:45-1:15 PM Outgoing flights to villages <i>Fox Air charters</i> (12:30 and 1:00 departures)
		1:30-5:00 PM Community Meetings and Conversations <i>Kwethluk and Napakiak</i>
	3:30-5:00 PM Return flights to Bethel <i>Fox Air charters</i> (4:00 departures)	5:00-5:30 PM Return flights to Bethel <i>Fox Air charters</i> (4:05 departures)
5:30-6:30 PM	Personal time at hotels	
6:30 PM	Shuttle drop-off at the AC, dinner on own <i>Walking options from the AC include: Fili's Pizza, Bun and Bake, UnCommon Pizza, and The Three Tortillas. Taxis are an option to others (remember to bring cash for taxis).</i>	
8:00 PM	Shuttle pick-up at AC for return to hotels	

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3

8:00-9:00 AM	Check out of hotels
9:00-11:00 AM	Facilitated trip debrief and brunch <i>YKHC, Blueberry Conference Room</i>
11:00 AM-1:30 PM	Airport check-in and return flight to Anchorage <i>Bethel Airport, Alaska Airlines, 12:29 PM flight departure</i>



What to Bring

All travelers should bring a full water bottle, some personal snacks (more will be provided in your Trust welcome bags), clothing that is warm, casual and comfortable including a good winter coat, hat, gloves, and boots (it will be cold!), toiletries including medications, a phone charger, and cash for taxis.

We advise you bring all these items to the villages in the event of a weather emergency impacting travelers return to Bethel.

Note: travel to small communities is weather dependent.

Community Information

More details about the day's events will be provided on day 1 of the trip.

GROUP 1: St. Mary's

Group leaders: Steve Williams, Tanya Iden

Lunch: AC food trays will be brought to the community

GROUP 2: Toksook Bay

Group leaders: Janie Ferguson, Thea Agnew Bemben

Lunch: AC food trays will be brought to the community

GROUP 3: Bethel and Kwethluk

Group leader: Allison Biastock

Food: Lunch in Bethel, refreshments brought to the community

GROUP 4: Bethel and Napakiak

Group leader: Katie Baldwin

Food: Lunch in Bethel, refreshments brought to the community





12 Rural Outreach Trip 2023 | Yukon-Kuskokwim Region

Emergency Contacts and Information

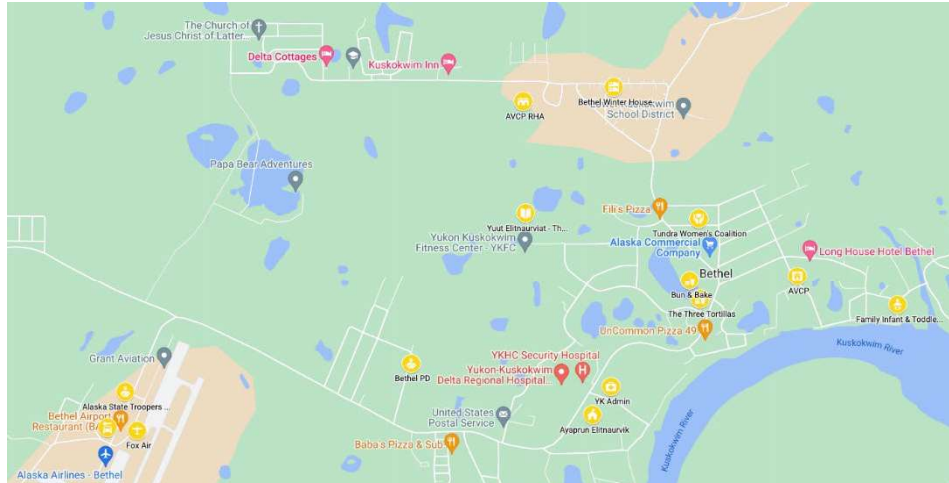
Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority office in Anchorage: 907.267.7960
Agnew::Beck Consulting office in Anchorage (ask for Kirsten Cohen): 907.222.5424
Valette Keller, Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority cell: 907-350-9772
Thea Agnew Bemben (Agnew::Beck) cell: 907-764-5855
Tanya Iden (Agnew::Beck) cell: 907-764-7974
Delta Cottages: 907-543-2387
Sleepy Salmon: 907-543-2519
Midtown Cottages: 907-545-6399
Bethel Police Department: 907-543-3781
YKHC Hospital: 907-543-6000
Kusko Cab: 907-543-2169

Alaska Airlines: 800.ALASKAAIR
State Travel Office: After hours EMERGENCY is 888.423.2434

The following cell providers **usually** have service in Bethel: GCI and AT&T



Places of Interest in Bethel



AC Store: 135 Ridgecrest Dr
 Alaska Airlines: 3521 Chief Eddie Hoffman Hwy
 Alaska State Troopers: 3200 Chief Eddie Hoffman Hwy
 AVCP: 101 Main St
 AVCP RHA: 411 Ptarmigan St
 Ayaprun Elitnaurvik (Yup'ik immersion school): 903 Chief Eddie Hoffman Hwy
 Baba's Pizza & Subs: 1725 State Hwy
 Bethel Car Rental: 3340 Chief Eddie Hoffman Hwy
 Bethel Winter House: 127 Atsaq St
 Bethel Police Department: 157 Salmonberry St
 Bethel Youth Facility: 950 Chief Eddie Hoffman Hwy
 Bun & Bake: 401 Ridgecrest Dr
 Delta Cottages: 124 Gunderson Ct
 Feli's Pizza: 110 Osage St
 Fox Air: 3411 N Apron Rd
 Grant Aviation: 3341 N Apron Rd
 Lower Kuskokwim School District Office: 1004 Ron Edwards Memorial Dr
 The Three Tortillas: 401 Ridgecrest Dr
 Tundra Women's Coalition: 248 6th Ave
 UnCommon Pizza 49: 401 Chief Eddie Hoffman Hwy
 USPS: 1484 Chief Eddie Hoffman Hwy
 YK Admin Building: 903 Chief Eddie Hoffman Hwy
 YK Family Infant & Toddler Program: 1821 Chief Eddie Hoffman Hwy
 YK Fitness Center: 267 Akiachak Dr
 YK Hospital: 528 Chief Eddie Hoffman Hwy

Community Profiles

Bethel

Bethel or *Mamterilleq* was first established by Yup'ik people from time immemorial, who called the village *Mumtrekhlogamute* meaning "Smokehouse People," named for the nearby fish smokehouse. There were 41 people in Bethel during the 1880 U.S. Census. At that time, it was an Alaska Commercial Company Trading Post. The Moravian Church established a mission in the area in 1884. The community was moved to its present location due to erosion at the prior site. A post office was opened in 1905. Before long, Bethel was serving as a trading, transportation, and distribution center for the region, which attracted indigenous Alaska Native peoples from surrounding villages. The city was incorporated in 1957. Over time, federal and state agencies established regional offices in Bethel.

The region is fortunate that rapid development did not occur before the importance of protecting Alaska Native culture was realized. The traditional Yup'ik practices and language remain predominant in the area. Subsistence activities and commercial fishing are major contributors to residents' livelihoods.

Bethel falls within the western transitional climate zone, characterized by tundra interspersed with boreal forests, and weather patterns of long, cold winters and shorter, warm summers.

Municipal Government

- City of Bethel

Tribal Government

- Orutsararmiut Traditional Native Council (Federally Recognized Tribe)

ANCSA Regional Corporation

- Calista Corporation

ANCSA Non-Profit

- Association of Village Council Presidents

Village Corporation

- Bethel Native Corporation

Schools

- Ayaprun Elitnaurvik
- Bethel Regional High School
- Bethel Youth Facility
- Gladys Jung Elementary
- Kuskokwim Learning Academy
- Mikelnguut Elitnaurviat
- UAF Kuskokwim Campus

Title 4 Status

The community of Bethel voted into the Title 4 Local Option Regulations under a "damp" status to allow for the sales of beer and wine at restaurant and eating place licenses.

Healthcare Facilities

- Bethel Family Clinic, provides Federally-qualified Health Center
- Bethel Public Health Center & Itinerant Nursing, provides Public Health Nursing
- Yukon - Kuskokwim Delta Regional Hospital, Hospital - General Acute Care, Hospital - Alaska Native Tribal Hospital, Critical Access Hospital, Dental Health Aide Therapist

Bethel

Total Population	6,276
Workforce (population over 16 years)	4,696
Percent in workforce	73.10%
Per Capita Income	\$38,073.00
Percent Living in Poverty	13.4%
Percent Alaska Native	69.0%
Percent White	26.7%
Other Races	4.3%

2021 Employment Characteristics

Residents age 16+	4,696
Residents employed	3,079
Female Workers	1,383
Male Workers	1,696
Sector Employed In	
Private	2,073
Government	895
Self-Employed	90
Unpaid Family Work	21

Sources: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey: 2017-2021 ACS 5-year estimates

More information and maps can be found online at:

<https://dced.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapJournal/index.html?appid=2cdfa71755f24d7e8db00a9be046292e>

St. Mary's

In 1899, Andreafsky was established as a supply depot and winter headquarters for the Northern Commercial Company's riverboat fleet. The village took its name from the Andrea family which settled on the river and built a Russian Orthodox church. In 1903, Jesuit missionaries set up a mission 90 miles downriver at *Akulurak* to educate and care for the children orphaned by the Spanish flu epidemic of 1900-1901. *Akulurak* means "in between place", aptly describing the village, which was on an island in a slough connecting two arms of the Yukon River. Successive epidemics left many children orphaned, others were forced to attend, so that by 1915 there were 70 full-time students. Over the years, the slough surrounding *Akulurak* silted in severely. In 1948, the villagers decided to move to higher ground. Materials from an abandoned hotel built during the gold rush were used to construct the new mission and several village homes at the modern-day site. In 1949, an unused 15' by 30' building and other building materials from Galena Air Force Station were barged to the area by Father Spills, a Jesuit priest. These materials, along with a tractor borrowed from Holy Cross, were used to construct a school. During the 1950s, numerous Yup'ik families moved into the Andreafsky area, only a short distance from the mission. Dormitories and a large house for the Jesuits were built during the 1960s. In 1967, the area adjacent to the mission incorporated as the City of Saint Mary's, although Andreafsky chose to remain independent. In 1980, the residents of Andreafsky voted for annexation into the city. In 1987, the Catholic church closed the mission school.

Saint Mary's is a Yup'ik community that maintains a traditional fishing and subsistence lifestyle.

Municipal Government

- City of St. Mary's.

Tribal Government

- Algaaciq Native Village
- Yupiit of Andreafski

Native Corporations

- ANCSA Regional Corporation: Calista Corporation
- ANCSA Non-Profit: Association of Village Council Presidents
- Village Corporation: St. Mary's Native Corporation

Transportation

Saint Mary's is served by barge and aircraft. The state-owned gravel runway with a crosswind strip provides year-round access. The airfield is capable of receiving large jet aircraft. A 22-mile road links St. Mary's to Andreafsky, Pitka's Point, and Mountain Village. They are not maintained during winter months but are used for travel via snow machines. Plans are in place to upgrade the road from Saint Mary's to Mountain Village in the summer of 2014. When this project is complete the road will be available for use year-round. The Andreafsky River provides the only deep-water dock in the area.

School

Saint Mary's School is a K-12 school and is administered by the Saint Mary's School District. The school curriculum includes Relevant Instructions Trips, which are educational outings taken by Saint Mary's School District students every year that combine Yup'ik subsistence lifestyle and Alaska State Academic Standards into trips that have true meaning for the unique student population. On these trips, students hunt, fish, and gather berries while learning Yup'ik traditions from the boat captains and chaperones who have grown up in Saint Mary's. Students then utilize the data collected on the trip to create projects that combine reading, writing, math, science, social studies, and Yup'ik. www.smcsd.us/

Title 4 Status

The sale of alcohol is banned in Saint Mary's.

Healthcare Facilities

- John Afcan Memorial Clinic, YKHC: Federally-qualified Health Center, Community Health Aide/Practitioner Site, Behavioral Health Aide, Itinerant, Dental Health Aide Therapist
- Saint Mary's Public Health Nursing - Bethel Itinerant Nursing: Provides Public Health Nursing

St. Mary's

Total Population	817
Workforce (population over 16 years)	532
Percent in workforce	326
Median Household Income	\$41,875.00
Per Capita Income	\$15,543.00
Percent Living in Poverty	9.4%
Percent Alaska Native	89.7%
Percent White	8.4%
Other Races	1.9%

Toksook Bay

The area has been inhabited by the Yup'ik for time immemorial. Toksook Bay was established in 1964 along the *Tuqsuk* River by residents of Nightmute. Cyril Chanar, Tom Sunny, and *Nasgauq Tangkaq* were the earliest inhabitants. Toksook Bay was settled to be more accessible to the annual freighter ship, the North Star. The city was incorporated in 1972.

Toksook Bay is one of three villages located on Nelson Island, which lies 115 miles northwest of Bethel. It is on *Kangirlvar* Bay, across the water from *Nuniwarr* or Nunivak Island. Tununak is about 8 miles to the northwest.

Toksook Bay is a traditional Yup'ik community with a reliance on fishing and subsistence activities.

Municipal Government

- City of Toksook Bay

Tribal Government

- Nunakauyarmiut Tribe

Native Corporations

- Village Corporation: Nunakauiak Yup'ik Corporation
- ANCSA Nonprofit: Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP)
- ANCSA Regional Corporation: Calista Corporation

Transportation

Toksook Bay is dependent on air transportation for year-round movement of freight and passengers. A state-owned gravel airstrip provides year-round scheduled and chartered service. Fishing boats, skiffs, snow machines, and ATVs are used by residents for local travel. Winter trails with markers exist to Nightmute (20 mi), Tununak (8 mi), Newtok (40 mi), and Cheforak (50 mi). There are no docking facilities, but boat haul-out services are available. Barges deliver goods during the summer months.

School

Nelson Island School, located in Toksook Bay, Alaska, has approximately 200 students, served by 18 teachers, and has a great athletic and academic reputation. The mission of the Nelson Island School and community is to ensure that students master basic academic, cultural, and vocational skills, become fluent in both Yup'ik and English, and demonstrate self-esteem, self-confidence, self-reliance and the necessary life skills that enable them to be successful.

Title 4 Status

The sale, importation, and possession of alcohol is banned in Toksook Bay.

Healthcare Facilities

- Toksook Bay Subregional Clinic, YKHC: Federally-Qualified Health Center, Community Health Aide/Practitioner Site, Behavioral Health Aide, Dental Health Aide Therapist
- Toksook Bay Public Health Nursing - Bethel Itinerant Nursing: Provides Public Health Nursing

Toksook Bay

Total Population	874
Workforce (population over 16 years)	538
Percent in workforce	310
Median Household Income	\$45,096
Per Capita Income	\$14,044
Percent Living in Poverty	---
Percent Alaska Native	95%
Percent White	2%
Other Races	3%

Sources: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey: 2017-2021 ACS 5-year estimates

More information and maps can be found online at:

<https://dced.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapJournal/index.html?appid=5604c64b88b849f4a9dfb6073cdcc5a5>

Kwethluk

Archaeological finds indicate that the area has been inhabited since prehistoric times. The name Kwethluk is derived from the Yup'ik word *Kuiggluk* meaning "dangerous river." In the late 1860s and early 1870s Russian Orthodox missionaries from Russian Mission founded a small congregation. The Moravian Church built a chapel in 1896 and a Russian Orthodox church was built in 1912. Discovery of gold in nearby creeks in 1909 attracted prospectors until 1911. Only one placer deposit, discovered on the upper Kwethluk River, delivered a small yield, and was mined until World War II. A Moravian orphanage, located three miles upriver, provided children's services between 1930 and the early 1970s. In 1939, the villagers owned 31,000 reindeer and harvested the herd for food and skins. The tuberculosis epidemic of the late 1930s impacted the local population. The community has had a post office since 1947, and a store since 1948. The city was incorporated in 1975.

Kwethluk is predominantly a Yup'ik village that practices a subsistence lifestyle.

Municipal Government

- City of Kwethluk

Tribal Government

- Organized Village of Kwethluk

Native Corporations

- ANCSA Regional Corporation: Calista Corporation
- ANCSA Non-Profit: Association of Village Council Presidents
- Village Corporation: Kwethluk Inc.

Transportation

Kwethluk is dependent on air transportation for year-round movement of freight and passengers. A state-owned gravel airstrip and seaplane base are available. Barge services deliver cargo during the summer. There are no docking facilities. Snow machines, ATVs, and skiffs are used for local travel, and the river becomes an ice road during winter. Winter trails are marked to Eek (45 mi), Three Step Mountain (55 mi), and Columbia Creek (49 mi).

School

"Here in Kwethluk, Ket'acik & Aapalluk Memorial School is where students are taught to be educated. Our mascot is the Kwethluk Kings. This K-12 school hosts 15 teachers and about 250 students, ages ranging from 5-20 years of age. The school is across from the Kwethluk Inc., the IRA building & the Post Office. Our school sports and activities are Basketball, Volleyball, Cross-Country, Wrestling, Native Youth Olympics, Robotics, Lego League, Eskimo Dancing, Sunday Tutoring, Halloween Carnival, All-Nighters, Spirit Week, & the end of school year games."

https://kwethluk.lksd.org/about/ket_acik_aapalluk_memorial_school

Title 4 Status

The sale and importation of alcohol is banned in Kwethluk.

Healthcare Facilities

- Betty Guy Memorial Clinic, YKHC: Community Health Aide/Practitioner Site, Behavioral Health Aide
- Kwethluk Public Health Nursing - Bethel Itinerant Nursing: Provides Public Health Nursing

Kwethluk

Total Population*	890
Workforce (population over 16 years)	466
Percent in workforce	57.4%
Median Household Income*	\$41,250.00
Per Capita Income	\$39,326.00
Percent Living in Poverty	27%
Percent Alaska Native*	93%
Percent White	3%
Other Races	4%

** From the City of Kwethluk's own count and surveys.*

Sources: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey: 2017-2021 ACS 5-year estimates

More information and maps can be found online at:

<https://dced.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapJournal/index.html?appid=9042b49ef8ce475396e7976c1bf5b869>

Napakiak

Yup'ik have lived in this region since 1000 AD. The village was first reported in 1878 by E.W. Nelson, although at the time it was downriver, at the mouth of the Johnson River. In 1884, Moravian explorers mentioned Napakiak as being close to Napaskiak, which suggests that the new village site may have been occupied by that time. By 1910, the village had a population of 166. In 1926, the Moravian Church had a lay worker in the village who began constructing a chapel; funds were raised for construction by the Ohio Moravian Association. It took three years to complete the work, and in August 1929 people came from many villages in the area to attend the dedication ceremony. In 1939 a BIA school began operating, and in 1946 an indigenous Alaska Native-owned village cooperative store was opened. A post office was established in 1951. A National Guard Armory was built in 1960. The city was incorporated in 1970. The first airstrip was completed in 1973, enabling year-round access. The city's primary priority in 2009 was to relocate all public facilities and homes to a bluff across Johnson's Slough. The sandbar on which the city was built is severely eroding.

Napakiak is predominantly Yup'ik who maintain a fishing and subsistence lifestyle.

Municipal Government

- City of Napakiak

Tribal Government

- Native Village of Napakiak

Native Corporations:

- ANCSA Regional Corporation: Calista Corporation
- ANCSA Non-Profit: Association of Village Council Presidents
- Village Corporation: Napakiak Corporation

Transportation

Napakiak has a State-owned lighted gravel runway that is centrally located. The first airstrip was completed in 1973, enabling year-round access. There are also seaplane landing areas on the Kuskokwim River and Johnson Slough that provide air transportation for passengers, mail, and cargo. A hovercraft is used year-round to bring cargo and mail to the community. There are currently no docking facilities at the landing. The Kuskokwim River provides water transportation in the summer months (June-October) and an ice road in the winter months. For safety the ice road is marked with trail markers. In addition to the ice road there is a winter trail marking the way to Bethel, 9 miles overland. Many residents have fishing boats, and skiffs are used in the summer for subsistence fishing and travel to Bethel and other nearby villages. Snow machines and ATVs are used in winter. Barges deliver goods from Bethel during the summer months.

School

“William N. Miller Memorial School has 96 students enrolled, ranging from preschool students up through twelfth graders.”

https://napakiak.lksd.org/about/william_n_miller_memorial_school

Title 4 Status

The sale, importation, and possession of alcohol is banned in Napakiak.

Healthcare Facilities

- Napakiak Clinic, YKHC: Community Health Aide/Practitioner Site, Behavioral Health Aide, Itinerant, Dental Health Aide Therapist
- Napakiak Public Health Nursing - Bethel Itinerant Nursing: Provides Public Health Nursing

Napakiak

Total Population	358
Workforce (population over 16 years)	206
Percent in workforce	57.5%
Median Household Income	\$20,982.00
Per Capita Income	\$6,874.00
Percent Living in Poverty	Data not available
Percent Alaska Native	99.1%
Percent White	0.9%
Other Races	0%

Sources: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey: 2017-2021 ACS 5-year estimates

More information and maps can be found online at:

<https://dced.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapJournal/index.html?appid=045b6ce49648499db0ee821ba98f203d>

Notes

Trust

Alaska Mental Health
Trust Authority