ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH TRUST AUTHORITY

FULL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
May 26, 2021
8:30 a.m.
WebEx Videoconference/Teleconference

Originating at:
Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority
3745 Community Park Loop, Suite 210
Anchorage, Alaska

Trustees Present:
Chris Cooke, Chair
Brent Fisher
Verne’ Boerner
Rhonda Boyles
Anita Halterman

Trust Staff Present:
Mike Abbott
Steve Williams
Carol Howarth
Miri Smith-Coolidge
Kelda Barstad
Luke Lind
Michael Baldwin
Carrie Predeger
Katie Baldwin-Johnson
Valette Keller
Eric Boyer
Autumn Vea
Allison Biastock
Kat Roch
Travis Welch
Becky Carpenter
Josephine Stern
Michael Miller
Jimael Johnson

Trust Land Office:
Wyn Menefee
Jusdi Doucet
Marisol Miller

Also participating:
Seth Patterson; Karl Soderstrom; Loren Jones; Lisa Morely; Kristin Vandagriff; Ann Ringstad;
Clinton Lasley; Jerry Jenkins; Laura Russell; Lisa Cauble; Terri Tibbett; Don Habeger; Sheila Harris; Beverly Schoonover.

Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority 1 Full Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
May 26, 2021
CALL TO ORDER
CHAIR COOKE convened the meeting and called the roll. Trustee Sturgeon was excused. He stated that this was the first in-person meeting since the pandemic started well over a year ago. He added that the meeting has limited staff in attendance, and there was social-distancing in the conference room.

MR. ABBOTT talked about the procedure and protocol that would be followed at the meeting.

CHAIR COOKE stated that this was an open session with those attending all present in the same room and went back to the procedures described in Robert’s rules. When adopting motions, voice vote will be used; and routine matters will most likely be by unanimous consent.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
CHAIR COOKE moved to approval of the agenda. He stated that the agenda was made available to all the trustees, and he asked for any changes or additions.

There being no objections, the agenda was adopted by UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

ETHICS DISCLOSURES
CHAIR COOKE stated that the Guiding Principles were included in the packets and there is always a chance for review. He asked for any ethics disclosures. Hearing none, he moved to the approval of the minutes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
MOTION: A motion to approve the minutes of January 14, 2021, January 27, 2021, and March 30, 2021, was made by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN; seconded by TRUSTEE BOYLES.

CHAIR COOKE asked for any discussion, corrections or changes to the minutes.

There being no objections, the minutes were approved by UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

CHAIR COOKE stated that the current bylaws were included in the packet. He noted that Annette Gwalthney-Jones was not able to continue on the board. He thanked her for her service, and wished her well. He recognized Eric Boyer to present the Mission Moment.

MISSION MOMENT
MR. BOYER stated that out in the Mat-Su Valley one of the partner treatment centers is called True North Recovery, which is a treatment organization that provides inpatient and outpatient services around substance use treatment, mental health, and those combined. They are an important partner providing that care. He introduced Karl Soderstrom, the executive director.

MR. SODERSTROM stated that he is the executive director and founder of True Recovery North. First and foremost, he thanked the Trust for all the support. He continued to introduce a remarkable young man named Seth who went through the Vita Nova program and asked him to share some of his experiences with True North.
MR. PATTERSON introduced himself, and thanked all for this opportunity. He stated that he was seven months sober and was an alcohol and substance abuser since he was 13 and is currently 29. He grew up in Kodiak, Alaska, and started commercial fishing at age 14. He added that he always had an inability to process his emotions with the solution being alcohol. He had multiple opportunities to restart his life getting sober, which always only lasted a short amount of time until it caught up with him again. He finally asked for help and his mother flew up from Florida and stepped in. He ended up going into Arctic Therapy Detox in Anchorage for two weeks and was filling out applications for residential treatment therapy. True North was the only place he did not do a follow-up call with and they had a bed-to-bed transfer with no knowledge of who or what he was other than what they had heard from Arctic. He stated that it is a beautiful facility and from the time he arrived he saw the fellowship that was being offered to him. It was what he had been searching for, a family dynamic. The whole idea of loving one person until they can love themselves is very strong there. He continued that the structure offered was amazing, and he did very well with that structure. He walked the trustees through the program and stated that he was now in the sober living program and the transition was amazing. He explained that you graduate and the next day you move out into a sober living house. They help with the transportation and with treatment, but you get what you put into it. The help is there. He added that he has a couple of kids and is working towards having visitation. He has come an amazing distance in seven months and was very grateful for having TNR in his life, and he plans to continue to keep them in his life.

CHAIR COOKE asked Mr. Soderstrom for an overview description of the program.

MR. SODERSTROM stated that it was important to share that he was also a person in recovery and the peer support in their programs is very important. True North is absolutely personal for every single person, and the culture is the foundation of everything they do. It started as a Facebook page. He was doing his college internship and was a counselor at a local treatment program and was burying friends. They decided to shoot Facebook videos and start saying out loud that we got well, and you can, too. This grassroots effort just started snowballing as people and families began reaching out. Connections in communities were being made. This momentum went to building a relationship with folks at Set Free Alaska, and we were offered a contract to provide peer support services. Within a few months the first couple of sober living homes were opened, and contractual relationships with all the providers in the Mat-Su Valley were built. They were doing an absolute ton of one-on-one community-based peer support. He continued that, as a result, the Division of Behavioral Health offered an opportunity to become a treatment center. Through that partnership and relationship, True North was launched over two-and-a-half years ago. He stated that he was grateful for the amount of effort that the Trust was putting behind this Crisis Now model and thinking outside the box, increasing access to services and making access to services, because it really is life or death. He continued, that purpose drives recovery and connection drives recovery. The culture of the program is that they do not go out into the community representing True North. They go into our community representing recovery, and the options are available that best fit the individual through partnership and relationship and really learning what the community has to offer people so they can be served well. He talked about Vita Nova, the residential program that stands for “new life.”

CHAIR COOKE stated that the Mission Moment was one of the most valuable segments of the meetings. He thanked the presenters and moved to the CEO update.
CEO UPDATE
MR. ABBOTT explained that about seven months ago the Trust made a grant to True North Recovery to allow them to create that quality assurance function that was integral to them presenting to the joint commission and achieving the certification they were seeking. That allowed them to get into a lot of the government reimbursement programs that their clients can take advantage of. He moved to the ongoing state reimbursement programs going on in Juneau. The Legislature adjourned the 121st day constitutional session, but had not completed the high-priority work, primarily the passage of State budgets. He continued that the Legislature has been in special session with the State budget being on the agenda. He stated that the only Trust funds authorized for expenditure in both budgets are funds that the trustees authorized. He went through a few examples of where Trust funds were authorized in one of the budgets and not authorized in the other. He added that even if the Legislature does enact a budget, the Governor will still have the opportunity to veto items. He moved to the next topic which was the U.S. Forest Service land exchange and gave a brief background. He stated that it had taken incredible efforts and funds from the Trust in order to get the Forest Service to this place. The values of the lands have been established, and there is about a 5 percent difference, with the Forest Service’s lands more valuable. The large acreage is being equalized, and we are at the final stages of the process. He added that there was more to be done, which starts with gaining full control of the land, which is a big deal. He stated that the next topic is the commercial real estate refinancing effort that is underway. He continued that legal obstacles to the portfolio-level refinancing had been identified and the income from the assets are not taxable, which the IRS determined. More complete reports from the broker using this model will be forthcoming. He added that it will not likely generate the level of earnings improvement that had been hoped for, but will still be a net positive. More information will follow as more specific proposals are received. The next topic is the Trust Land Office executive director. He stated that they are moving forward with a search and recruiting process for a new Trust Land Office executive director. Mr. Menefee’s last day will be September 1st. He continued that the job has been posted on the State site, which is the official location. The position is also being advertised through a number of other services, as well. He encouraged all to distribute the job posting to anyone that may be a strong candidate, or to any place that may help glean a strong candidate going forward. He went through the timeline for the posting and the transition. He moved to the last item on his list and stated that the Legislature decided not to confirm Annette Gwalthney-Jones to continue as a trustee. He explained that there is a vacancy, and the Governor is required to make an appointment to fill any vacancy within 60 days. He added that the Governor’s office asked staff to initiate the trustee application, recruiting and evaluating the process that is in the Trust statute. The final decision rests with the Governor, and he can choose anyone who is qualified.

CHAIR COOKE stated that there is an advisory group or panel that reviews the applicants. Trustee Halterman is the Trust representative on that panel, and she stated that she would continue to serve in that capacity.

ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH BOARD AND ADVISORY BOARD ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE
MS. SCHOONOVER stated that she is the director of the Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse and Alaska Mental Health Board. She introduced Terri Tibbett, their advocacy coordinator, presenting with her. She began with a bit about bill and budget priorities and shared some meetings. She went over some priority bills and recognized that this presentation had to be
submitted before the motion sheets came out of the conference committee, which Ms. Tibbett would be addressing. She continued that there are 27 seats on the boards and 23 board members right now. There is a very active legislative advisory committee run by Ms. Tibbett. They read and analyze every bill for its impacts on folks with mental health and substance use disorders. This is brought forward to the committee to decide what to advocate, just watch and track and see where it goes. She shared some of the bills that were prioritized. She began with HB 172/SB 124 which was a collaborative effort between the Governor’s office, the Department of Health and Social Services, Trust staff. SB2 is about peace officers’ deescalation and misconduct, sponsored by Senator Gray-Jackson. It required that the Alaska Police Standards Council adopt regulations that require peace officers, including correctional and others, to deescalate encounters with Alaskans or use non-lethal means if it is safe to do so. She continued with HB 25, public schools, Social Emotional Learning; HB 105, Detention of Minors was passed; HB 118, access to ID, Driver’s License, Digital Technology; SB 9, the ABC board, alcohol regulations; SB 70 Opioid Overdose Drugs, which is at the top of the list and was passed with unanimous support through both sides of the Legislature and has already been signed into law.

MS. TIBBETT stated that she is the advocacy coordinator and also coordinates the joint advocacy effort that includes all the boards. She worked very closely with all the partners, advisors and Steve, Allison, and Katie at the Trust. She read through some of the budget items and updated as she went through. She added that the one Senate recommendation, the $7 million DEST, was one they supported.

CHAIR COOKE thanked both for the presentations in the very detailed and timely manner. It was appreciated. He called a break.

(Break.)

CHAIR COOKE called the meeting back into session and continued to the next presentation from the Alaska Commission on Aging, recognizing Lisa Morley.

ALASKA COMMISSION ON AGING

MS. MORLEY stated that May was Older Americans’ Month. and the theme was Celebrating Communities of Strength. She went through some of the activities that were done for that month. She continued that the Commission on Aging represents Trust beneficiaries 60 and over with Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias. Also, anyone 50 and over with other intellectual or developmental disabilities or any sort of behavioral health needs. Currently, Alaska has the fastest growing senior population in the nation. The senior population has increased 56.4 percent between 2010 and 2020. It is also projected to keep increasing and should finally start decreasing around 2050. She moved to the programs supporting beneficiaries with ADRD. A lot of the support and care provided are home- and community-based services that are paid for through grants. Older Americans Act funding goes to senior programs throughout the state. Adult day care is very important for individuals with dementia and their caregivers. The family caregiver support program provides a variety of services to caregivers caring for loved ones with dementia and is a very important program. Senior in-home grants is chore, respite, and case management. General Relief pays for adults coming out of the hospital without housing by placing them in assisted living until they can move on. The aging and disability resource centers do track beneficiaries that are using services, and they help them get connected. The
Pioneer Home is one of the largest providers of assisted living to individuals with ADRD. She continued through her presentation explaining the programs and impacts as she went along. At the May commission meeting at the Soldotna Senior Center all of the commissioners and staff that attended were vaccinated.

CHAIR COOKE thanked Ms. Morley for the presentation and asked the trustees for comments or questions.

A brief discussion ensued on different points of the presentation.

CHAIR COOKE moved to the Governor’s Council on Disabilities and Special Education and recognized Kristin Vandagriff.

GOVERNOR’S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL EDUCATION

MS. VANDAGRIFF began with a legislative activity recap and stated that they were able to meet with all but ten of the Alaska state legislators, which was a large lift on the staff side of the house in providing support. Staff monitored and ran the technology for every single meeting. She talked about some of the positives from this adapted way of delivering virtual visits. The focus was on special education services, agency reauthorization, and she added that the Governor’s Council is the majority governing board for SESA with a heavy focus on home- and community-based services. She touched on workforce and the great challenges going on in that regard and continues to pick up tools that actually help support members. She briefly went over some of the bills and budget items that are followed and are the core areas. She talked about the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, IDEA, which if not passed then SESA would be sunsetting at the end of June. She reported that SESA passed the House and the Senate, and was passed on to the Governor. She explained that home- and community-based services are considered optional services under Medicaid, while in-home essential care is required. This challenges folks being able to live the life they want in America to go from state to state and have a baseline level of care in their community that is not just an institution. This will be monitored and will be brought forward with any updates. Staff transitioned, and we are rehiring for the planner position, and we are very close to making an announcement about who the new planner will be. She recognized Anne Applegate, who’s last day was June 1st, and stated appreciation for her being an excellent planner. She added that she will still be really engaged in the community. The Disability Pride celebration will take place in July because it is the anniversary month for the Americans with Disability Act. Due to COVID, planning this one will still be virtual and we hope for an in-person next year. She moved to the goals of the comprehensive five-year plan. Three goals had been selected: Goal 1 is community inclusion, supports, and services; Goal 2 is self-advocacy and leadership; and Goal 3 is employment. She talked about the Alaska Work Matters Task Force which has been initiated and explained how it was moving along. It is still a work in progress, and would be refined at the June meeting.

CHAIR COOKE stated appreciation for the work of the Governor’s Council on Disabilities and Special Education and for the valuable information shared in the presentation. He call a break for lunch.

(Lunch break.)
CHAIR COOKE resumed the meeting and moved to the communications update. He recognized Allison Biastock.

**COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE**

MS. BIASTOCK provided an update on the Trust communications program. She also acknowledged the staff at the Trust and the Trust Land Office, and to Valette Keller, who supported most of the work talked about today. She moved to the main communication goals for the Trust. One is to reduce the stigma related to Trust beneficiaries. There is also a goal about increasing the understanding of and the positive impact in perceptions of the Trust. She added that that included the folks at the Trust Authority, the work of the Trust Land Office and the mission of the Trust. There is also a goal to increase the awareness of issues that are critical to the beneficiaries which touches on much of the work done at the Trust. She talked about how the message was communicated in impactful ways to Alaskans. She highlighted some of the specific tools recently employed and began with the successful initiative; working with the Anchorage Daily News. She explained this in detail and stated that the cost for this initiative was about $37,000, which included writing six-full page print articles, as well as the boosted social media. She briefly covered the annual reports and talked about the new resource for grantees where a grant recognition guideline webpage was created. She also stated that the website, alaskamentalhealthtrust.org, remains a very important communication tool and talked about the total number of visits to the site. She noted that there is typically an increase in the web traffic that coincides with the media campaigns, both the beneficiary stigma campaign and the lands campaign. She added that social media is a very powerful tool and some time and resources to cultivate it were done and will continue. Posting on social media is done frequently, and they are planned in advance. Design posts, where an image is cut and a Trust-branded font over the top are done for awareness events. She continued to the two media campaigns. The first was launched last fall and was called the Trust Lands Media Campaign. The prime message was to communicate how revenues earned on Trust land support Trust beneficiaries.

(A recording and video were played for the trustees.)

MS. BIASTOCK moved to the continuation of the beneficiary stigma media campaign. This campaign was built upon many years of public education and outreach efforts of the Trust and works to increase awareness around the challenges faced by the beneficiaries. The main component was a TV PSA. This was launched in the summer of 2019, and the tone of the video hit a few important notes. It was serious but positive, with a connection to real Alaskans facing real challenges. She continued talking about the plan to develop new stigma materials with the use of the results from the most recent survey. She stated that the Trust Authority invests in the communications effort and media outreach to help meet the communications goals. A significant component of that is the work to address stigma and Alaska Survey Research was contracted to do a survey, and she shared some of the survey information and how it would be used. She added that the cost of the survey was around $35,000, and the plan is to go out again in the spring of 2023.

CHAIR COOKE thanked Ms. Biastock and moved to the finance section.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT**

MR. ABBOTT stated that Carol Howarth would be joining on the report of the Finance Committee’s recommendations. He moved to Motion No. 1.
CHAIR COOKE asked for a trustee to get the motion on the floor.

**MOTION:** A motion that the Board of Trustees approve the incremental building expenditures, totaling $12,256,035, budgeted for the fiscal year 2022 to be paid by the property manager from rents and other income collected from the properties was made by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN; seconded by TRUSTEE BOYLES.

MS. HOWARTH explained that in April the TLO went through its annual budget process to present their fiscal year ’22 budget for both the commercial real estate investments and the program-related investments rented by the beneficiary-serving organizations. This first motion is asking for approval of the expenditures that will be incurred during the fiscal year which needs approval by the Board of Trustees.

MR. ABBOTT stated that nothing had changed in this since the Finance Committee reviewed it a month ago and unanimously endorsed the recommendation.

TRUSTEE HALTERMAN called the vote.

*After the roll-call vote, the MOTION WAS APPROVED. (Trustee Halterman, yes; Trustee Boyles, yes; Trustee Boerner, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Cooke, yes.)*

CHAIR COOKE moved to Motion No. 2.

**MOTION:** A motion that the Board of Trustees approve funding and instruct the CEO to transfer up to $269,442 for the third-party property manager, as requested by the TLO, for operating expenses and capital expenses to the Non-Investment/Program Related Real Estate and REMP Real Estate properties from the Central Facility Fund for the fiscal year 2022, which appropriation shall not lapse was made by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN; seconded by TRUSTEE BOERNER.

MS. HOWARTH explained that this motion is related to the Trust Authority Building which does not incur enough revenue to cover its expenses. This is partially the annual shortfall. The second part of this is to support some additional capital expenditure and lease buildouts, potentially for Amber Oaks, an asset in the commercial real estate.

TRUSTEE HALTERMAN called the vote.

*After the roll-call vote, the MOTION WAS APPROVED. (Trustee Halterman, yes; Trustee Boyles, yes; Trustee Boerner, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Cooke, yes.)*

CHAIR COOKE moved to proposed Motion No. 3

**MOTION:** A motion that the Board of Trustees authorize spending $173,083.33 from the Central Facility Fund in the November 2021 through June 2022 portion of Real Estate Advisor’s contract was made by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN; seconded by TRUSTEE FISHER.
MS. HOWARTH stated that this motion is a true-up of the fiscal year for the Harvest Capital contract, which is crossing fiscal years. This way there is a budget authorized through fiscal year 2022. She continued that the team that was involved in the commercial real estate refinancing is a lot of work by the TLO mortgage broker that was recruited and the Harvest Capital folks. She recognized all the folks working on that and added it was greatly appreciated.

TRUSTEE HALTERMAN called the question.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION WAS APPROVED. (Trustee Halterman, yes; Trustee Boyles, yes; Trustee Boerner, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Cooke, yes.)

CHAIR COOKE moved to the Resource Management Committee report.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

MR. MENEFEE stated that he would walk through the report in Trustee Sturgeon’s absence. He continued that there was one approval item and then four consultations, and the Resource Management Committee recommended that the board approve each one.

CHAIR COOKE stated that there is a series of five motions and asked for the first one to be put on the floor for further consideration.

MOTION: A motion that the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Board of Trustees direct the TLO to consider the use of some Trust lands at Community Park Loop for beneficiary-oriented uses with below-market rents and/or other revenues. Specific lease arrangements will still require trustee approval at a later date as described in 20 AAC 40.710 and 11 AAC 99 was made by TRUSTEE BOERNER; seconded by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN.

MR. MENEFEE explained that this is for Community Park Loop and the planning process on how that will be developed. This was targeting the properties with existing leases below-market rent. The recommendation was to allow below-market rent leases on the three existing leases that are going to be expiring.

TRUSTEE HALTERMAN called for the question after some discussion.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION WAS APPROVED. (Trustee Halterman, yes; Trustee Boyles, yes; Trustee Boerner, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Cooke, yes.)

CHAIR COOKE moved to Motion No. 2.

MOTION: A motion that the Mental Health Trust Authority Board of Trustees concur with the changes proposed by the Resource Management Strategy, 4th Edition, was made by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN; seconded by TRUSTEE BOERNER.

MR. MENEFEE stated that the Resource Management Strategy is the policy guidance document for the Trust Land Office to make sure it is consistent with AMPS, which is the board’s policy document. This helps guide in how the Trust lands are managed. He added that the committee recommended that the board approve this motion.
TRUSTEE HALTERMAN called the question.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION WAS APPROVED. (Trustee Halterman, yes; Trustee Boyles, yes; Trustee Boerner, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Cooke, yes.)

CHAIR COOKE stated that the next item is the Golden Summit Expansion, a motion referred from the Resource Management Committee.

**MOTION:** A motion that the Mental Health Trust Authority Board of Trustees concur with the discussion to issue a negotiated mineral lease for exploration and development at the Golden Summit Project near Fairbanks, Alaska, on parcel F70015 was made by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN; seconded by TRUSTEE BOYLES.

MR. MENEFEE stated that this is the Golden Summit Project, and it is a mineral exploration project near Cleary Summit. He continued that Freegold is looking to understand what is in the ground there. The best benefit for the Trust is getting exploration data for the land that we do not have. He added that these leases can eventually facilitate production. There are clauses in these leases that allow them to continue with production, if they go into production. At this point, because it is early in the game for royalty, we are looking at rent income which is up to $250,000. The duration of the lease is nine years.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION WAS APPROVED. (Trustee Halterman, yes; Trustee Boyles, yes; Trustee Boerner, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Cooke, yes.)

CHAIR COOKE moved to the fourth motion to consider regarding the Ester Dome Project.

**MOTION:** A motion that the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Board of Trustees concurs with the decision to issue a negotiated mineral lease for exploration and development at the Ester Dome Project and Trust lands described and attached hereto in Exhibit D surrounding Fox, Pedro Dome, and Cleary Summit was made by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN; seconded by TRUSTEE FISHER.

MR. MENEFEE stated that the Ester Dome Project includes several different areas, and there were maps attached in the consultation during the Resource Management Committee meeting. This is also a term of up to nine years with a potential for production-based extensions. There is a probability of gaining about $360,000 of income from rent. If it goes into production, there would be royalty received. One of the primary benefits would be the exploration data from this.

CHAIR COOKE asked for any questions or comments, and called the question.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION WAS APPROVED. (Trustee Halterman, yes; Trustee Boyles, yes; Trustee Boerner, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Cooke, yes.)

CHAIR COOKE moved to the West Naukati young-growth timber sale.

**MOTION:** A motion that the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Board of Trustees concurs with the disposal of the young growth timber in the West Naukati area, through
competitive timber sale on Trust Land on Prince of Wales Island was made by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN; seconded by TRUSTEE BOYLES.

MR. MENEFEE stated that this was exciting because it has actual potential to gain revenues off of the land exchange land that was received from the Forest Service. Old growth revenues are already being received, and this is the first young growth, which is around 65-years-old. The timber sale will be for ten years and is a competitive sale. It is about 20-million board feet. Some of this land in West Naukati has already been received, and some of it is yet to come through the finishing of the exchange.

CHAIR COOKE called the question.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION WAS APPROVED. (Trustee Halterman, yes; Trustee Boyles, yes; Trustee Boerner, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Cooke, yes.)

MR. MENEFEE thanked his staff for doing such a great job during the Resource Management Committee in presenting this because he had not been there.

TRUSTEE BOERNER stated that she was exceptionally fortunate and thankful for the time she shared with Mr. Menefee at the helm of the TLO. She appreciated the willingness to take the time with her questions. She continued that they are stewards of this land and stewards of the resources of the Trust, and they need to take the long view. She stated that in a recent news report put out about Arctic Biotech Oath, a company started by a young Yupik man named Michael Martinez won an international entrepreneur award for extracting metals without creating toxic byproducts. One of the points that she had raised in the past is looking for advancing technology for the development of the natural resources, for the development of the Trust’s assets themselves in a way that respects the lands and helps to contribute to the overall well-being. She hoped that, at a future Resource Management Committee meeting, to invite Mr. Martinez to come and present about his new technology.

CHAIR COOKE thanked her for that information and asked if there was any follow-up to the information about Mr. Martinez. He also thanked Mr. Menefee for the presentation and his continuing presence through August. He moved to the next item, which was an approval matter.

MR. ABBOTT recommended that Mr. Williams briefly introduce the topic and then for the trustees to make the motion and discuss it.

MR. WILLIAMS stated that this type of request does not often come before the trustees. It has been a few years since a change-of-intent request has come before the board. These are funds that were already approved for a particular project. Because of circumstances with the project, the funds were not fully expended, and it is not anticipated to be fully expended. The grantee has reached out to the Trust to alert to that and offered another opportunity or proposal for using the balance of those funds. The Department of Health and Social Services made a request related to funds that were approved to be used by API.

MOTION: A motion that the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Board of Trustees would like to approve a change of intent to allow $299,482 of FY21 Mental Health Trust Authority account authorized reserves, funds originally approved for the Mental Health
Professionals Off-Site Evaluations project to be used for API Capital Improvements was made by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN; seconded by TRUSTEE BOERNER.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON stated that the original purpose of these funds was to perform clinical reviews of the ex parte evaluations for individuals that were waiting to transfer to designated evaluation treatment centers or designated evaluation and stabilization centers. Those are the locations where the evaluations are performed. At the time, it was part of the negotiations of the settlement with the Disability Law Center. The Department had been in an in-between phase where there was a need to project the needs for the volume of re-evaluations they were predicting. She continued that this was seen as an effective way to support API on some smaller-scale capital projects that are needed that, overall, will help get to the goal of expanding the capacity at API and still focus on the safety and wellness of both the folks served at API and the staff that are providing those services. She added that Deputy Commissioner Clinton Lasley and Scott York, CEO with API, are both online to answer any questions.

CHAIR COOKE recognized Deputy Commission Lasley and asked him to introduce himself and give any comments.

DEPUTY COMMISSION LASLEY stated he was with the Department of Health and Social Services and appreciated the trustees hearing this proposal. He added that the number of reevaluations were reduced as part of the effort for the other item that the trustees funded; which was the DESCT coordinator, which did a fantastic job of putting those new individuals through this system. He continued that Scott York would speak to the three projects that have been put forward and added that they were very important to the hospital.

MR. YORK stated that he was the CEO for API and highlighted the improvements that are contemplated. The first project is the isolation unit, which is currently in the Denali Unit. Right now, it is ten beds that are being used for COVID-positive patients. Currently, vaccines are being provided for the patients, but not all of them want it. As of last week, 60 percent of the patients were vaccinated. The isolation unit will take four rooms with air scrubbers and have double doors. When there are no COVID patients, those rooms would be available to regular admissions, and if there is a COVID-positive patient, the patients from those rooms will be redistributed. This would meet the needs of the community for that unit. Some funding was allotted for two of the rooms, and funding is needed for the other two.

A short discussion ensued.

TRUSTEE HALTERMAN called the question.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION WAS APPROVED. (Trustee Halterman, yes; Trustee Boyles, yes; Trustee Boerner, yes; Trustee Fisher, yes; Trustee Cooke, yes.)

CHAIR COOKE stated that public comments are scheduled and called for a break.

(Break.)

CHAIR COOKE reconvened the meeting and stated that it was time for Public Comment.
PUBLIC COMMENT
CHAIR COOKE briefly went through the public comment guidelines and he recognized Dr. Hirschfeld.

DR. HIRSCHFELD thanked the trustees and the Trust for the opportunity to address during public comment. He stated that he is a pediatrician working at Alaska Native Medical Center and is also on the board of the All Alaska Pediatric Partnership. The purpose of his call was to thank the trustees for the funding received a couple of years ago for A2P2, the All Alaska Pediatric Partnership. They designed a statewide system that would work for all the kids with chronic healthcare needs and their families, and have it work better than the old system. On behalf of all the families this will help, he thanked the trustees for supporting this project, allowing it to happen, and for all the work for all the kids that are Trust beneficiaries.

CHAIR COOKE thanked Dr. Hirschfeld and asked if there was anyone else for public comment. There being no one, he closed the public comment portion of the meeting, and entertained a motion to adjourn.

MOTION: A motion to adjourn was made by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN; seconded by TRUSTEE BOERNER.

There being no objection, the MEETING WAS ADJOURNED.

(Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Full Board meeting adjourned at 2:37 p.m.)