

ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH TRUST AUTHORITY

SPECIAL FULL BOARD MEETING

**January 6, 2022
4:00 p.m.**

WebEx Videoconference/Teleconference

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

Trustees Present:

Chris Cooke, Chair
Verne' Boerner
Brent Fisher
Anita Halterman
John Sturgeon
Rhonda Boyles
Kevin Fimon

Trust Staff Present:

Mike Abbott
Steve Williams
Carol Howarth
Miri Smith-Coolidge
Kelda Barstad
Luke Lind
Michael Baldwin
Katie Baldwin-Johnson
Jimael Johnson
Valette Keller
Allison Biastock
Kat Roch
Eric Boyer
Carrie Predeger

Trust Land Office Staff Present:

Jusdi Warner
Sarah Morrison
David MacDonald
Marisol Miller
Hollie Chalup
Jeff Green
Becky Carpenter
Chandler Long

Also participating: Beverly Schoonover; Stephanie Hopkins; Brenda Moore; Josephine Stern; Laraine Derr.

PROCEEDINGS

CALL TO ORDER

CHAIR COOKE called the meeting of the Special Full Board meeting to order, and began with a roll call. All the trustees were present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

CHAIR COOKE asked for any announcements. There being none, he moved to the agenda, asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

MOTION: A motion that the board approve the agenda was made by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN; seconded by TRUSTEE STURGEON.

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

ETHICS DISCLOSURES

CHAIR COOKE asked for any ethics disclosures. There being none, he moved to the topic for the meeting, the CEO transition. He summarized that since Mike Abbott gave notice last summer that he was leaving, the board engaged a search firm and also advertised the availability of the position. The board went through an extensive search process, received a large number of applicants, and a screening of them. At the end of that process, the board made a recommendation which was not made public because approval by the Governor's Office is required for this hire. He continued, that request was submitted, and we have received approval from the Governor's Office for that recommendation. In response to that, and to formally conclude the CEO selection, he asked for a motion.

MOTION: A motion that the Alaska Mental Health Authority Board of Trustees approve and confirm the selection of Steven Williams as Chief Executive Officer of the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority. The effective date of this appointment shall be January 15, 2022, and his starting salary shall be \$196,000, with all standard State employee benefits, was made by TRUSTEE STURGEON; seconded by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN.

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

CHAIR COOKE stated that he had indicated several months ago that it was his intent that once a new CEO was selected that he would be relinquishing the position of Chair and handing that over to the Vice Chair, pending the next board meeting, and an election at that board meeting as called for in the bylaws; and it was his intent to do so. It will be effective at the close of business on Friday, the 7th. He continued that he would remain on the board for as long as his term lasts. It technically ends March 1st, but it will end whenever a successor is named by the Governor and confirmed by the Legislature. He stated that it was a distinct honor and privilege to serve as Chair of this board, and he appreciated the opportunity. He thanked everyone very much.

TRUSTEE BOERNER thanked Chair Cooke for his service as Chair and his willingness to step up and serve in that position. She also thanked Trustee Halterman for her willingness to step up and serve in that role, as well.

TRUSTEE STURGEON said Hear! Hear!

TRUSTEE HALTERMAN thanked Chair Cooke for his leadership.

MS. DERR said “Amen” to everything that was said. She stated that she was talking about Mr. Abbott, Mr. Williams, and to Chair Cooke.

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

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

CHAIR COOKE adjourned the meeting.

(Special Full Board meeting adjourned at 4:12 p.m.)