

**ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH TRUST AUTHORITY
FULL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

**May 24, 2023
8:30 a.m.**

WebEx Videoconference/Teleconference

**Originating at:
Grand View Inn and Suites
2900 East Parks Highway
Wasilla, Alaska 99654**

Trustees Present:

Anita Halterman, Chair
John Sturgeon
Kevin Fimon
Agnes Moran (Virtual)

Brent Fisher
Rhonda Boyles
John Morris

Trust Staff Present:

Katie Baldwin-Johnson
Eric Boyer
Allison Biastock
Travis Welch
Jimael Johnson
Kelda Barstad
Carrie Predeger
Luke Lind
Mike Baldwin
Janie Ferguson
Autumn Vea
Kat Roach
Debbie DeLong
Mary David
Miri-Smith Coolidge

Trust Land Office Staff Present:

Jusdi Warner
Jeff Green
David MacDonald
Blain Alfonso
Marisol Miller

Also participating:

Stephanie Hopkins; Leah Van Kirk; Ty Tigner; Naomi Tigner; Tashelle Jackson; Emily Ricci; Clinton Lasley; Laura Russell; Rosa Avila; Abby Bingham; Barbara Monger; Cindy Yeager; Mark Gerry; John Rozzi; Michael Bailey; Steph King; Edra Moreledge; Lisa Cauble; Patrick Reinhart; Sandra Heffern; Graham Vert; Julie Coulumbe; Stephanie Wheeler; Barbara Schumann; Paten Corbin; Julia Luey.

PROCEEDINGS

CALL TO ORDER

CHAIR HALTERMAN called the meeting to order and called the roll. Trustee Moran was online and the new trustee, John Morris, was present after confirmations. She stated that Trustee Sturgeon had stepped out of the room, and that there was a quorum. She continued that she had a couple of announcements about some adjustments to the agenda. She stated that the Program & Planning report, Medicaid rate reimbursement contract approval was being removed from the agenda and replaced with a conversation from the Department that would talk about the rate-setting project as it would move forward. There were some adjustments because of the legislative appropriation for that particular project. That item would morph into more of a conversation as opposed to a request for funding. She stated that the other adjustment to the agenda was on Day 2 under Trust Governance Discussion to add the topic of personnel policies to the conversation over the governance work. She asked if there were any other amendments to make before the motion to approve the adjusted agenda.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: A motion to accept the agenda as amended, was made by TRUSTEE MORAN; seconded by TRUSTEE BOYLES.

CHAIR HALTERMAN noted John Sturgeon had re-entered the room, and did a roll-call vote.

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

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated that there was a review of the Guiding Principles with the packets. She stated, for the new trustee, that the mission statement, Trust budget process, flowcharts and some foundational material was available for trustees' review. She asked for any questions or conversation with regard to those materials before moving on to updates and disclosures.

ETHICS DISCLOSURES

CHAIR HALTERMAN asked for any ethics disclosures. There being none, she moved to the minutes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

CHAIR HALTERMAN continued to the minutes of January 24-25, 2023, and noted a couple of things that needed correction. On page 18 under the Staff Update, Ms. Ferguson stated that, "today is say 6." That should be "Day 6." She asked for some clarification to some references to the contractor for the governance work spelled two different ways.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON stated that the variation was communicated to Miri, who would make sure that got corrected.

CHAIR HALTERMAN moved to page 38 of the minutes under Trustee Comments where "Chair Halterman acknowledged Trustee Boerner" which went on to say, "She stated that Trustee Boerner was terming off the board and not reapplying to come on." That should read "continue

on.” She asked if there were any other corrections necessary. She asked for an approval of the amended/corrected minutes.

MOTION: A motion to approve the corrected minutes of January 24-25, 2023, was made by TRUSTEE FIMON; seconded by TRUSTEE FISHER.

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

CHAIR HALTERMAN asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the March 2, 2023, meeting.

MOTION: A motion to approve the minutes of March 2, 2023, Board of Trustees meeting was made by TRUSTEE FIMON; seconded by TRUSTEE STURGEON.

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

CHAIR HALTERMAN continued to the Mission Moment, and recognized Eric Boyer.

MISSION MOMENT

MR. BOYER stated that it was an honor and privilege to introduce a person that they had worked with in the past. They come from Presbyterian Hospitality House which is a community-based service organization for treating children, youth, transitional-age adults, and families. He added that they operated in Fairbanks and the Mat-Su, primarily, as well as other parts of the state. It was his privilege to introduce Ty Tigner, the CEO; and Naomi Tigner, a program director; and Tashelle Jackson, who was there to support them by providing some more information about the services provided.

MR. TIGNER stated good morning and thanked all for having them. He was starting his 36th year at Presbyterian Hospitality House. He began in Fairbanks while a student at university and was blessed to be working with amazing young people. He talked about the barbecue for the kids graduating high school, junior high, and promoting from grade school there. They went to Kenai to acknowledge a couple of kids there who graduated high school. He added that they would be in Fairbanks and also acknowledging all of their graduates. They were most proud about helping young people get through high school. He explained that it was a real struggle in Fairbanks, which had about 50 percent of kids that drop out. He stated that they were seeing their kids through high school and encouraged them to seek further education; whether in Job Corps, going to college, going into the trades. He added that it was exciting times for them, and all of those kids were completing. Tashelle’s brother was in the program in Fairbanks and graduated last week. It was a huge accomplishment for Eric to get through school. He stated that they serve kids from ages 3 to 23, and there were foster homes, group homes. Then they got an assisted-living type of environment for the folks over 18, and the staff do an amazing job with them. The other exciting thing they were working on was the hope to have a new riverfront village in Fairbanks. There would be a clinical staff able to meet with the kids and families to do individual, group, and family therapy. There would also be a gym for the kids which will give

them a place to go play basketball and volleyball, as well as a multipurpose area. There would also be a couple rooms for parents and families to be able to stay. He continued that it was challenging to find hotel rooms in Fairbanks, especially in the summertime. It was also difficult in the winter. The hope is to start construction next spring on this big project. He added that there was material on the back table to look at to check out what the project would look like.

MS. TIGNER thanked all for having them and stated that it was an honor and privilege to be able to be here. She especially wanted all to be able to hear Tashelle's story, because they are really proud of her and her family and working with her family over these years. She asked Tashelle Jackson to continue.

MS. JACKSON stated that it was a great program. It was her sister who came into the program first, and then her brother, and then her. She was glad to be given the opportunity especially during a hard time when she was seeking help and could not find it. They came in and changed her life around. It was uncomfortable because she was so used to chaos, and it was a good adjustment. She continued that she was able to be relaxed, feel safe and had supportive people around her. It was a blessing to be able to go through the program, have support and have them contribute to all her achievements in her life. She added that she made a lot of changes within herself and changed the bad habits that she did not know were bad, all with the support of the program. She stated that she was blessed and loves them as family for eternity and would always have a support system.

MR. TIGNER stated that she came from a program in Utah, and finished high school. That was hard. Her family came up from Katrina and that was still an issue for folks even though it was 20 years ago. It was still impactful. She was in the foster care system and then transitioned through the independence program. She wanted further training and education and completed beauty school. We all are very proud of her. She was board-certified and got through beauty school to be an esthetician. She wants more and is at Job Corps. She does not give up and continued to strive to do better and get more training and education. Tashelle is a rock star.

CHAIR HALTERMAN thanked Ms. Jackson for sharing her story. She asked Ms. Jackson what she was doing with Job Corps.

MS. JACKSON replied that she is doing clinical medical assistant and then would go to advanced training for MRI. The timeframe is one year and some change for completing the clinical medical assistant program. Then she would go on to advanced training and would try to get into community college for MRI.

CHAIR HALTERMAN congratulated her for that path and wished her well. She asked the Board for any questions.

TRUSTEE BOYLES stated that Mr. Tigner had made a statement about the retention rate in Fairbanks high school at 50 percent. Without compromising professional information or ethics, she asked for an idea about what might or might not be happening up there.

MR. TIGNER replied that was a hard question, and that it was a combination of things. The cold, dark winters made it hard for young people to want to go to school. There is also the alcohol and drug issues that are true in Fairbanks. Teachers and administrators are doing their

best to get those numbers up, but it has been a problem for a while.

TRUSTEE BOYLES was proud to hear Tashelle Jackson's story. Mr. Tigner found a motivated person because anyone can be taught anything, but they cannot be taught motivation. Somewhere in her heart, Ms. Jackson is motivated to succeed, and she is doing it. She was touched by that.

TRUSTEE FIMON thanked all for the presentation and commended them for that 36-year commitment. That is incredible, and he thanked them for that. He told Ms. Jackson that she exuded a lot of positiveness and was a great example and inspiration.

MR. TIGNER thanked all for having them and stated appreciation for their time, energy, meeting, and learning about the program.

CHAIR HALTERMAN thanked them for their public service. She congratulated Ms. Jackson for finding a good home and place to grow, and looked forward to hearing from her in the future about the successes. She continued to the CEO update.

CEO UPDATE

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON stated that she was filling in for the CEO. She began with a few updates related to the legislative session and the budget. She highlighted a couple of bills that had passed and moved to some highlights at the Land Office. She continued that she was pleased to report that most of the General Fund/Mental Health recommendations were included in the budget. All of the MHTAAR funds were included, and all of the trustee recommendations made it into the final budget, which was excellent. She reported that Trust staff attended the City of Fairbanks' symposium on opioids, homelessness, reentry, and Crisis Now. It was hosted by the City and attended by beneficiaries, stakeholders, partners. Trustee Rhonda Boyles, along with Steve Williams, provided a keynote presentation to highlight a little bit about the Trust, which was very well received. There was a lot of support from the City and partners in Fairbanks focused on seeing the continuum of care enhanced in Fairbanks. She talked about the particular focus on establishing the No Wrong Door crisis stabilization program. With the support of Trustee Boyles and the City, there was a call to action and renewed interest in trying to come together and figure out some potential solutions to that, up to and including contracting with an expert organization that knows how to operate crisis stabilization. She noted that the Trust beneficiary related policy and regulations were being monitored as they were currently out for public comment. The regulation change packages relate to behavioral health and the SUD 1115 Medicaid waiver. Staff had been very engaged with the partners around review and discussion and understanding the impact of what was proposed. She continued that they had been working with the Alaska Behavioral Health Association and all those partners to understand the positives and opportunities to address and provide constructive feedback. They are particularly focused on the aspect of the regulation that relates to the crisis continuum of care. It is very important that those regulations support how those services are intended to be provided. She moved to the 2023 Message of Hope which was the Alaska Suicide Prevention Conference and stated that Eric Boyer was a facilitator. It was a wonderful event, and it shared the updated statewide suicide prevention plan. She stated that occasionally the Trust was able to provide opportunities for academic internships and shared a bit about Mary David who was wrapping up an internship that she has had since January of 2022. She continued that Mary David was the executive vice president of Kawerak, Inc. and began pursuit of a master's degree in social work

during COVID through remote learning at the University of Denver. A social work degree required an internship as part of the coursework, and Ms. David selected the Trust for her internship and was gladly accepted. Her work focused on the administrative components of social work, reducing stigma, and building awareness of mental health services and the Mental Health Trust in the Bering Straits region. As part of the work, Ms. David helped to coordinate Trust participation on a local podcast and provided information about the Trust and the grant programs and information to individuals in her community. She will be graduating in June this year. Ms. Baldwin-Johnson highlighted that work and expressed, on the record, how we greatly appreciated the exchange of knowledge and the work she had done on the Trust's behalf and on behalf of the beneficiaries in the community. She moved to the highlights from the Trust Land Office and talked about Mr. Sam Romey of Wolf Creek Boatworks, Inc., who applied to purchase 40 acres of Trust land that had recently been acquired in the United States Forest Service land exchange near Hollis. That area was slated to be utilized first for timber harvest, as that was the highest value. The Land Office considered his offer and subsequently denied his offer to purchase those 40 acres. They did provide a means for him to get landowner permission for improvements existing on the land. Once the best-interest decision was affirmed and issued, he applied to the TLO for reconsideration. The TLO accepted his request and deemed it timely. His request for reconsideration was subsequently denied based on principles employed by the Trust to ensure the Trust and its beneficiaries' best interest was upheld. She continued that his next step would be filing in Superior Court, and Ms. Warner will have a more in-depth update during the July Resource Management Committee meeting. She moved through the Icy Cape Field season. She confirmed that Carol Howarth had left the Trust, and that she would be missed. We enjoyed working with her. She promised to stay connected and in touch. She also stated appreciation for Ms. Roch and her support as acting CFO during the transition time. She mentioned that Heather Carpenter, policy advisor at the Department of Health was transitioning to the Department of Insurance. The Trust would continue to maintain a relationship with her. She asked for any questions.

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated her concerns about the lack of GF funding for the ADRCs and asked about the impact of not having that funding on those MPTs.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON stated that her understanding was that the additional GF was for expansion. The impact would be they would not be expanding, but will still maintain the existing ADRCs in the State.

CHAIR HALTERMAN asked where the planned expansion would be.

MS. BARSTAD replied that one difficulty the Department had in identifying an expansion site was inconsistent GF/MH funding. The pairing between MHTAAR and GF/MH on a consistent basis is necessary in order to solicit a grantee for the multiple years necessary to support a future community. She continued, that solicitation would be for a community or region that does not have a current aging and disability resource center, which would likely be in Western or Northern Alaska.

TRUSTEE FIMON commented on Mary David from Nome and stated that it was a great program that allowed the Trust to get some of the knowledge of the Trust out into the rural area. She was a great selection. It sounded like it worked out well, and was a good internship.

CHAIR HALTERMAN also thanked Mary David for her internship and suspected that it would add value to the region that she represented. She hoped to, at some point, hear from her. She congratulated her and was honored to have had her as part of the team. She also wished Carol Howarth good luck with her venture and was sorry to see her go. She asked for any further comments or questions. There being nothing further, she moved to the Resource Management Committee report and asked Ms. Warner to introduce the topics.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT/UPDATE

MS. WARNER asked that the motion be read for Consultation A.

MOTION: The Resource Management Committee recommends that the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Board of Trustees concur with the Executive Director of the Trust Land (TLO) decision to lease parcels SM-1162-01 and SM-1162-04, two negotiated term leases. The motion was made by TRUSTEE STURGEON; seconded by TRUSTEE FIMON.

MS. WARNER stated that there was an extensive explanation in the committee meeting and gave a short overview as a reminder. She continued that Renewable Independent Power Producers was the applicant, and they develop and construct utility-scale solar farms in Alaska. The structure of the negotiation was a phased approach for a larger parcel down near Nikiski. The project anticipated developing 28.5 megawatts for the Kenai Peninsula solar farm. The model used an escalating royalty percentage with an option for a second phase of development. Two parcels of Trust land, about 680 acres, would be leased over the two phases. She added that, over the initial 30-year operations term, about a \$3.33 million return to the Trust was expected, with no allowable deductions in that lease. Phase 2 would look pretty similar to Phase 1, with an increased feasibility time. Insurance and the appropriate performance guarantees, bonding, would all be in place for the life of the project to ensure performance, and the property decommissioning would occur once the projects were completed.

TRUSTEE BOYLES asked if there were a lot of projects that could be used for comparative analysis on this project.

MS. WARNER replied that there were two other projects that this company had in the state of Alaska, and we also compared projects in the Lower 48. The property was also appraised and compared to subdivision and some residential land sales. It was determined that feasibility was the best route to go at this time.

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated that Trustee Moran would be leaving the meeting shortly and would rejoin after her conflicting meeting was completed.

TRUSTEE MORAN stated that this was consistent with what was presented at the committee meeting, and she was good with it.

CHAIR HALTERMAN asked for a roll-call vote.

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

TRUSTEE STURGEON moved to Consultation B, Motion 1.

MOTION: The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Board of Trustees concurs with the Executive Director of the Trust Land Office's decision to dispose all or a portion of the Trust parcels FM-1551-01, FM-1514, FM-1515, FM-1516, FM-1517, FM-1520, FM-1521, and FM-1522 for a negotiated term lease. The motion was made by TRUSTEE STURGEON; seconded by TRUSTEE FIMON.

MS. WARNER noted that FM stands for Fairbanks Meridian and was a way to determine or designate a geographic area, and it is important. She stated that there were two wind projects: this motion regarding a lease to Alaska Renewables, a renewable energy company based out of Fairbanks. She continued that both wind projects would begin with the feasibility study phase and would be a large area. Once the projects get to a construction phase, that area would significantly shrink. There will be a five-year initial negotiated authorization for the feasibility and data collection. She added that the projects would also need to be approved by the Regulatory Commission of Alaska.

TRUSTEE BOYLES stated that this was an interesting project and asked for an update and report on this project in 12 months. She added that the concern was financing, and the finances of the group.

MS. WARNER agreed, and added that she could give an update at her executive director report each time at the Resource Committee.

CHAIR HALTERMAN called a roll-call vote.

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

TRUSTEE STURGEON moved to the consultation Item D, Motion No. 2.

MOTION: The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Board of Trustees concurs with the Executive Director of the Trust Land Office's decision to dispose all or a portion of trust parcel FM-1551-01, FM 1514, FM-1515, FM-1516, FM-1517, FM-1520, FM-1521, and FM-1522 through negotiated term easement support in the support of Mental Health Trust 9400761. The motion made by TRUSTEE STURGEON; seconded by TRUSTEE FIMON.

MS. WARNER stated that those were the easements associated with the projects and would coincide with the 30-year term.

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

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

CHAIR HALTERMAN moved to the consultation on Item C, Motion 1.

MOTION: The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Board of Trustees concurs with the Executive Director of the Trust Land Office’s decision to dispose of all or a portion of Trust parcels SM-1507, SM-1508, SM-1509, SM-1510, SM-1506-01, SM-1506-A01, SM-1530-D01, and S70437 through a negotiated term lease. The motion was made by TRUSTEE STURGEON; seconded by TRUSTEE FIMON.

MS. WARNER stated that everything she said before applied to this motion, as well. She continued that SM was the Seward Meridian, in Southcentral Alaska. This was 800 acres, up to 90 turbines, and would produce 100 to 172 megawatts of power. It would generate \$50 to \$85 million as a return to the Trust.

CHAIR HALTERMAN asked for any questions.

TRUSTEE MORRIS stated that he sensed that the wind projects would not be successful, and there was a chance they would achieve some degree of construction and then not continue on. He asked if there were provisions for them to disassemble things constructed in these leases at their expense, and how that would work for the Trust.

MS. WARNER replied that it would be done through bonding and insurance. She explained that at the beginning of the lease when that contract was signed, the Trust was named as an additionally insured party, and we also hold their bond. That is sufficient to cover.

TRUSTEE BOYLES commented that it was a lot of land and a lot of turbines. All the wonderful people coming through Alaska would be able to see how advanced the state of Alaska was with alternative energy projects.

CHAIR HALTERMAN commented that she looked forward to seeing the return on investment on these particular projects over time, and looked forward to hearing about their success. 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 Morris, yes; Trustee Moran, excused; Chair Halterman, yes.)

TRUSTEE STURGEON moved to Consultation Item C, Motion 2.

MOTION: The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Board of Trustees concurs with the Executive Director of the Trust Land Office’s decisions to dispose of all or a portion of Trust parcels SM-1507; SM-1508, SM-1509, SM-1510, SM-1506-01, SM-1506-A01, SM-1530-D01, S70437 through negotiated term easements in support of MHT9200838. The motion was made by TRUSTEE STURGEON; seconded by TRUSTEE FIMON.

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

TRUSTEE STURGEON moved to Consultation Item D.

MOTION: The Resource Management Committee recommends that the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Board of Trustees concurs with the Executive Director of the Trust Land Office's (TLO) decision to dispose of Trust parcel CRM-0923 through negotiated sale for subsequent disposal. The motion was made by TRUSTEE STURGEON; seconded by TRUSTEE FIMON.

MS. WARNER stated that this was a potential negotiated sale to Glacial Property Development, LLC. It is a local business and he applied to purchase this 386-acre parcel for \$3.9 million, which is 44 percent above the appraised fair market value of \$2.7 million. During the committee, the challenges with developing the parcel for the TLO, including very steep topography and zoning for any development was discussed. For residential land sales, it is challenging and not very cost effective. She added that Chandler Long did the negotiation on this land sale. She also recognized Jeff Green in this land sale, as well. He holds a pretty high standard for these negotiated sales.

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

CHAIR HALTERMAN thanked Ms. Warner and Trustee Sturgeon for their work on the committee. She called a five-minute break.

(Break.)

PROGRAM & PLANNING REPORT/UPDATE

CHAIR HALTERMAN called the meeting back to order and continued to the Medicaid rate rebasement. She noted that some members from the Department were online, and asked Katie Baldwin-Johnson to introduce the panelists and the conversation.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON pointed out that the Program & Planning Committee summary report was in the packet, and it summarized the last Program & Planning meeting. Also in the packet was the proposed approval for the Alaska Medicaid rate-setting methodology for the contract funding which had been withdrawn. She introduced Deputy Commissioner Emily Ricci to speak about the increment in the budget and some thoughts about how the Department and Division would move forward.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER RICCI thanked the Trust and the trustees for considering the ask. She talked about the rescinding of the funding associated with a rate RFP for contracts specific to reviewing the rate setting. Not just the methodology, but also the tools needed to make sure that the rates aligned with the system outcomes they want to achieve and the knowledge that supported that. She continued that they remain highly focused on some behavioral-health rates, as well as home- and community-based waiver services rates because of the acute needs there. The intent is to move forward with the same timeline and same collaboration with the Trust that had been envisioned when initially asking for financial support for this project. She talked about the recent opportunity of looking at all of the rates within the Medicaid program which was

associated with about \$5 million in funding. With that budget increment, they want to make sure they are very thoughtful about asking for additional funding and support. She added that the \$5 million was sufficient to cover the initial financial need, which is why the request was rescinded.

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated that she had looked at the motion before it was withdrawn and shared some concerns and observations with Ms. Baldwin-Johnson before the meeting. She continued that she did a quick search on the Kaiser Family Foundation site and discovered that there were only five states that remain fee-for-service for their Medicaid reimbursement. She wanted to make sure that there was a need to think outside the box with regard to the rate-setting analysis projects and to look for contractors that may have some exposure to some case management or a hybrid kind of managed care for certain populations. She continued that the concern in looking for someone that had fee-for-service experience with this kind of contract was limiting prospective contractors that could think outside the box about some different methodologies that could be explored that might lead to more meaningful reform. She talked about some concerns in looking at rate changes that need to be thought about. There is also a need to understand the history of where the rate-setting is, what failures may have been experienced in the past, so they are not repeated.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER RICCI stated that they envisioned continuing to move forward on an initial contract focused on behavioral health and home- and community-based waiver rates. To move forward with the same kind of process and scope tweaked based on really good recommendations and feedback. She added that part of what they are seeking is getting ideas about how to do things differently and better and more efficiently than right now.

CHAIR HALTERMAN appreciated the fact that it was going to be potentially multiple contracts and would be more meaningful. She looked forward to hearing more about where the project goes in the future.

TRUSTEE MORRIS thanked Deputy Commissioner Ricci for taking the time to present that, even though the funding request was withdrawn. As a physician, he stated that he is very conscious of Medicaid rates and felt that was the primary driver of healthcare in Alaska, particularly for the most vulnerable folks. It is a very powerful lever. He was heartened to hear that there was funding and interest in making that a broad, encompassing research of the topic. He asked if the Department of Health had a perspective on having enough of any healthcare provider types in Alaska.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER RICCI stated that was a good question. We need to take that and come back with a more educated response. She added that all of their focus was on propensity of the problems and the gap areas.

TRUSTEE MORRIS stated that he did not require any follow-up since they were leading the effort of revisiting Medicaid rates, to think about the powerful lever to affect how many people were working in each of the different fields, and to be conscious of being able to set the census for the entire spectrum of healthcare in Alaska.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER RICCI stated that the recognition that the system is made up of multiple care streams, and that when making a change to one that it is important to make sure that the other care streams are aligned and appropriate.

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated appreciation for the insight and looked forward to hearing more on how the project progresses over time. It will impact the populations and the beneficiaries, as well. She thanked the deputy commissioner, and called a break.

(Break.)

CHAIR HALTERMAN called the meeting back to order and moved to the COMP Plan update, Scorecard conversation.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON turned the meeting over to Autumn Vea to provide the introduction.

COMP PLAN UPDATE/SCORECARD

MS. VEA introduced Laura Russell with the Department of Health. She is a policy advisor for the Office of the Commissioner and was also the acting deputy division director for the Division of Behavioral Health. She continued that on the line was Rosa Avila, the acting section chief of health and analytics, who would be co-presenting.

MS. RUSSELL introduced the COMP Plan. Strengthening the System represents years of collaboration between the Trust, DHSS, now the Department of Family and Community Services and the Department of Health, as well as input and collaboration with stakeholders and advisory boards. It came from a statutory directive to cooperatively plan for integrated, comprehensive mental health programs in conjunction with the Trust. The duty, as defined in statute, is between the Department of Family and Consumer Services and the Department of Health to prepare this plan, with the support and collaboration of the Trust. She continued that the COMP Plan intentionally was trying to avoid siloing services; having a division according to where it was placed in the government. It was more interested in how these intersect with the beneficiaries. It has a list of services that have to be included according to statute: 24-hour emergency services; screening and evaluation for involuntary commitment; inpatient care; crisis stabilization; treatment services; case management; daily structure and support; residential services; vocational services; outpatient screening diagnosis and treatment; prevention and education; and administrative services. The plan that you see was coordinated and informed by intensive stakeholder outreach. It took into account incorporating many existing State and Tribal planning efforts. She emphasized the iterative and complicated process that resulted in the current plan, with over 300 versions of the COMP Plan before the final version. The goals were developed with the understanding that there is also a statutory requirement to leverage federal funds when possible. She stated appreciation for the work that the Trust put into ensuring the continued viability, relevance, and importance of the COMP Plan. We work very hard to ensure that it reflects the current landscape as it changes.

MS. VEA moved on to the Alaska Scorecard. She explained that the Alaska scorecard is the measurement tool that has been used since 2008 by policymakers, advocates, grant writers, Trust staff to measure the outcomes of the COMP Plan. This data measurement tool examines population health, outcomes of Alaskans receiving care and services as described in Strengthening the System's version of the COMP Plan. She stated that the Scorecard was developed by a multidisciplinary team of folks from Public Health, epidemiology, the commissioner's office staff, as well as representatives from Trust advisory boards and Trust staff. She pointed out that the Scorecard has 30 indicators that align with the goals and

objectives in the COMP Plan. The indicators were selected because they did the best job at demonstrating the population health results, which are the conditions of well-being for children, adults, and families. She passed it to Rosa Avila to talk a little bit on baseline data.

MS. AVILA explained that three years of baseline data was collected looking at trends and utilizing a year zero. That was the latest data available in 2020 when the Scorecard came out. The COMP Plan was released in July 2020. Once that was released the Scorecard estimates for all of the indicators that were identified were put together. She continued that there were a lot of indicators to choose from, but some of the potential data sources looked at in the inventory process were just too narrow in scope and focus. Some of them quantified and provided quality measures for specific programs of clinical aspects of specific systems.

MS. VEA continued that the current slide helped to indicate how the COMP Plan goals and objectives were measured by the Alaska scorecard indicators, and then line up with the story behind the baseline and What Works section.

MS. RUSSELL highlighted that the Alaska Legislature passed SB58, approved by the Governor, which extended Medicaid coverage for new mothers from two months to one year. That includes new mothers with a live birth, and also a pregnancy that ended without a live birth. She continued that it was more technically correct to say that it extended postpartum coverage for women eligible for and receiving pregnant women category Medicaid coverage. The importance of that coverage is very high. One in three pregnancy-related deaths occur between one week and one year after childbirth. 34 states had extended this postpartum coverage, and Alaska will be joining them. They look forward to seeing how this change impacts the measures over the coming years.

MS. AVILA highlighted some data on the Scorecard that looked at a percentage of population without health insurance and stated that it was important to see the trends and if they continue or were just a fluctuation of the impact of the pandemic.

MS. RUSSELL stated that the trends are very useful to view. The information about health insurance is useful and used as a rough proxy for access to care. It is also important to note that it is not exhaustive. All the factors need to be analyzed and are important for measuring access to care. The trend of health insurance is a very useful indicator. She moved on to the utilization of the home- and community-based services, HCBS waivers, that allow the State to offer those services to certain members and groups of enrollees as an alternative to institutional care. The level of service provided is intended to correspond to the level of need.

MS. AVILA moved to the percentage of all Juvenile Justice referrals that were diverted from criminal court action. The data is from the Alaska Division of Juvenile Justice.

MS. RUSSELL stated that the increase is a positive trend and encompassed juvenile referrals to the Division of Juvenile Justice. She moved to the COMP Plan coordinator position located in the Division of Public Health; the Trust shares in the funding for this position. She continued that it is absolutely essential for this work. The position works collaboratively with the Trust staff to build capacity within the two departments, DOH and DFCS, to facilitate, manage, and coordinate resources needed to ensure the ongoing implementation, evaluation, and monitoring of the COMP Plan. She introduced Steph Kings, the new COMP Plan coordinator, who will start

on June 1st.

MS. VEA stated that revising the COMP Plan will begin this year and will be rolled out in July of 2024, which is fiscal year '25. The Trust, along with the Department of Health and the Department of Family Services, are meeting and continuing to look at lessons learned from the last COMP planning process, and will begin to form workgroups of stakeholders and subject-matter experts to move forward on revising the new COMP Plan, and to continue making it a viable and useful document for both Departments and the Trust moving forward. She added that the process will also have a public-comment period likely to occur sometime in the winter. She thanked Laura Russell and Rosa Avila for their participation.

TRUSTEE STURGEON asked about the percentage of Alaskans that have healthcare, and if the western Native community having healthcare is assumed.

MS. RUSSELL replied that it accounts for Alaska Natives who have insurance, including Medicaid, but does not include services received through IHS.

TRUSTEE FISHER stated that, in looking at the Scorecard and the information, it does not give information about what “without health insurance” means. IHS is a staff model HMO, and people disagree about whether that counts as health insurance or not. He continued that a definition would be helpful in understanding what the stats actually mean. He encouraged having, in future documents, definitions to help understand.

CHAIR HALTERMAN agreed that it would be helpful if they had the federal definition of what health insurance is, because Tribal systems are not health insurance. That clarity coming from federal law would be helpful for the board to understand the difference between the two.

TRUSTEE FIMON asked about the alarming increase in the suicide prevention category and asked if it was fair to just see what could be done.

MR. BOYER explained that part of the issue as a state and as a nation is that the data is lagging about a year to a year and a half. Over the last 20 years, nationally there has been a 30 percent increase in the rate of suicide. Not only in Alaska, but nationwide. He added that they are partnering with early intervention with school districts, realizing the need for early intervention, screening, assessment, working with families.

CHAIR HALTERMAN asked for any other questions or comments. She thanked Rosa, Laura, and Autumn for the informative presentation. She stated that next on the agenda was the fiscal year '24 budget amendment.

FY24 BUDGET AMENDMENT

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON began with a bit of background for the new trustee on the budget approval process and how it worked.

CHAIR HALTERMAN asked for a trustee to read the motion.

MOTION: The Board of Trustees approves amending the Fiscal Year '24 budget to update the following budget areas: No. 1, Non-Focus Area Allocations: Allocate the

Fiscal Year '24 Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Mini-Grant Funds to Information Insights and the Fiscal Year '24 Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias Mini-Grant Funds to the Alzheimer's Resource of Alaska; No. 2, Housing and Home- and Community-Based Services: Increase the Youth Brain Injury Program Coordinator project by \$85,000 using funds from the Disability Justice Focus Area; No. 3, Other Priority Areas: Workforce Development. Update the fund source for the Alaska Psychology Internship Consortium to move from MHTAAR to Authority Grants. The Fiscal Year '24 total MHTAAR budget will decrease by \$22,500 to \$19,446,600. The Fiscal Year '24 total Authority Grant budget will increase by \$22,500 to \$19,746,000. No. 4, Modify the project title for the Children's Mental Health Conference's budget line. These modifications do not alter the total amount of the Fiscal Year '24 budget. The motion was made by TRUSTEE FIMON; seconded by TRUSTEE STURGEON.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON stated that the memo with the requested motion outlined the three categories of the technical changes. The majority of the changes were technical in nature, with two minor budget adjustments that do not have an impact on the overall total of the FY24 budget. The first technical change was designating the recipient as Alzheimer's Resource Agency and administer the grants for ADRD. The second adjustment designated Information Insights as the contractor that manages the mini-grants, the Mental Health mini-grants, as well as the developmental disability mini-grants. This was designated because the contract was awarded, and we were able to identify them in the budget. She added that the amendment reflects a decrease which is the true cost of the awarded contract. The administrative portion of that was decreased by \$6,000. The next adjustment was a reduction to the Disability Justice support funding line of \$85,000. That reduction was moved to the housing and home- and community-based services focus area. The Authority Grant would increase in the amount of \$85,000; bringing the total to \$255,000.

MS. JOHNSON explained that they were proposing to move funds launched this current year, FY23, and it had been embraced and was showing great results. The project is a youth brain injury program coordinator and is a partnership with the Division of Public Health. There was technical assistance through the University of Oregon that has a special center for brain injury. The work involves supporting students with brain injuries that were also involved with the Division of Juvenile Justice and helping them transition back into their home communities and into education services. The first year of the project has been really successful, and the goal would be to expand it starting in FY24.

MR. WELCH explained the disability justice reduction which was there to support initiatives for those individuals who were Trust beneficiaries and were in custody. This budget line was identified as being the most appropriate place to take that funding from and move it over to support the project described by Ms. Johnson.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON continued explaining the rest of the changes.

CHAIR HALTERMAN asked for any questions. There being none, she 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 Morris, yes; Trustee Moran, excused; Chair Halterman, yes.)

CHAIR HALTERMAN thanked the staff for the update, and called a break for lunch.

(Lunch.)

CHAIR HALTERMAN called the meeting back to order and stated that this was the time set aside for public comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated that the public comment period allows for individuals to inform and advise the Board of Trustees about issues, problems, or concerns. It is not a hearing. Individuals who would like to give public comment were invited to speak for up to three minutes. She continued with the rules and stated that she had a list of individuals interested in public comment. For the record, she stated that Trustee Moran had rejoined the meeting and was online. She added that there was a quorum. She recognized Barbara Monger from Valley Charities, Inc.

MS. MONGER stated that she is the coordinator for the Mat-Su Reentry Coalition. She continued that the program she would like to discuss was the Mat-Su Reentry Housing Program which they were able to provide with funding received from the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority. The program is used to offer housing assistance to Trust beneficiaries that had been released from incarceration within the past three years. She added that one of the biggest barriers for individuals that had been involved in the justice system was obtaining safe and affordable housing. She went through the numbers of individuals that were assisted through the program, and the average cost of funds spent on each person. She also talked about some of the other activities that the Mat-Su Reentry Coalition conducts to help awareness of the importance of reentry service being available. She thanked the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority for supporting the Mat-Su Reentry Coalition and the different programs and events they provide.

CHAIR HALTERMAN asked what the statewide recidivism number was.

MS. MONGER replied that it was about 59 percent. It had gone down in the last four or five years.

TRUSTEE MORRIS thanked Ms. Monger for her presentation, and appreciated the good work she did. He asked where else they got their funding.

MS. MONGER replied that they go to the Mat-Su Health Foundation for funding.

CHAIR HALTERMAN thanked Ms. Monger, and recognized Cindy Yeager from Valley Charities.

MS. YEAGER stated that she is the program coordinator for the Mat-Su Reentry Program. She brought two testimonials for individuals that were in the Mat-Su Coalition Housing Program to give an idea of the impact. The first one was from an individual named Christopher Sherk, and he stated: "Hi. My name is Christopher Sherk, and I'm a grateful recovering addict. When I was getting out of long-term treatment, I had a lot of hope but, unfortunately, no money to be able to afford sober living. I reached out to the reentry program, and they were able to help me with the

first few months of rent. Honestly, without their assistance I would have had a much higher mountain to climb to regain my independence. Life is hard out here. And starting with nothing, looking at a monthly bill of \$400 to remain in a safe environment, is defeating. I was not prepared for the amount of responsibility of becoming a functioning adult one day out of a year-long treatment. Reentry gave me room to breathe, to prepare, to focus. I had time to find a job that wasn't going to bring me down or put my recovery in jeopardy instead of running to the first thing I could find. They even offered to help supply me with essential tools I needed for said job. Unfortunately, they can only do so much. But they had helped me as much as the State could or would let them, and it was enough for me. I'm now a counselor technician at the treatment program I graduated from. But without that room to breathe and the rental assistance from them, I may have failed; I may have ran; I may be homeless. But they gave me the comfort in knowing, if even for a moment, I had a safe place to remain while I put in the footwork to ensure a better future. This program is important, and, in my opinion, should be bigger and more utilized. Sincerely, Christopher Sherk.” She stated that she had a second one from an individual named Amy Sprouse. She says, “Dear Trustees, Members, Staff, and Attendees. First, I would like to thank you-all for helping myself and countless others who reached out their hand in times of need. I am unable to be here today due to the help I received. Right now, I am at work, earning a livable wage. In about two months, it will have been a year since I was incarcerated. Without the help of the reentry program, especially the housing funds, I could easily be homeless, unemployed, and possibly relapsed. This program is essential in aiding its participants in becoming healthy, happy, and productive members of society again. The housing program is the biggest help. And as a human being, we have several primal needs, and one is shelter. This program helped shelter my children and I, which took many stressors off the table, aiding me to become fully independent shortly after incarceration. My only concern is the inflation in the housing market and hope that all of the housing programs in the state change their limits with the housing cost trends. Thank you for helping my family and I. We are forever grateful. Respectfully, Amy Sprouse.”

CHAIR HALTERMAN thanked Ms. Yeager for sharing those testimonials, and recognized Mark Gerry, a community member.

MR. GERRY stated that he is a recovering addict. He continued that he has had two years clean. He spent the better part of 20 years in active addiction. Without this program, when he got out of jail, he would not have had any place to go. He added that he had full custody of his children. They live at home and are doing well. He stated that he was into his second year of college, studying to become a substance counselor. He added that this program really helped him to succeed and be on the right side of the law.

CHAIR HALTERMAN thanked Mr. Gerry for his public comments, and recognized John Rozzi, Valley Charities.

MR. ROZZI stated that he is the executive director for Valley Charities. He handed out a packet, the medical equipment lending program they had going on in the Valley. He continued that the significance about that is, for the past 60 years, this has been done out of the thrift store in Wasilla. Recently, they received a huge grant from the Mat-Su Health Foundation to do it in a standalone location. They have been in the new location since February, and the amount of donation and the amount of traffic has been amazing. He added that they started collecting data on Trust beneficiaries in March and April. They were gifted with \$15,500 from the Trust to

collect data. Because of that data, they were able to get a major grant from the Mat-Su Health Foundation for an 18-month trial program. The program is not self-sustaining, and it needs to be funded. He added that the medical equipment is loaned free for the folks in the Valley.

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated that the Legislature passed a durable medical equipment bill that allowed for the resale of durable medical equipment. She asked if he found that legislation made it difficult to fund donations.

MR. ROZZI replied that, in the last two months, they received \$10,000 of medical equipment donated to the program. He stated that it has been extremely successful.

TRUSTEE FIMON thanked him for his presentation and for the information provided. He asked if he was aware of Alaska Medical Missions in Anchorage. They also collect a lot of medical equipment and supplies that were donated. He asked if there was any way of trading or getting things that they may be short on.

MR. ROZZI replied that he was not aware of that organization, but did have a relationship with Access Alaska.

CHAIR HALTERMAN thanked Mr. Rozzi and recognized Michael Bailey.

MR. BAILEY stated that he works as the deputy executive director for Hope Community Resources, and also served on the board of the Alaska Association on Developmental Disabilities for over a decade. He continued that he was there to give the Mental Health Trust a heartfelt thank you for the support throughout the years for the home- and community-based services to people in community-based settings. The Trust has been a tremendous champion of getting the message to help people live meaningful lives in their communities with professional staff. He was also grateful for the Trust's support in the professionalization of the workforce. He thanked them for all the support given to those trying to work out on the front lines to make the Trust mission and their mission to support the beneficiaries become real.

CHAIR HALTERMAN thanked Mr. Bailey, and recognized Abby Bingham.

MS. BINGHAM stated that she is the owner and operator of Alpenglow Care Coordination. She echoed Mr. Bailey's sentiments. She continued that she works with people who experience disabilities through the home- and community-based waiver system. In the past few years, the Trust funded some things that streamlined her workflow. The care coordination study really helped find where all the care coordinators went. It helped the State of Alaska see what needed to be put into place to keep care coordinators and to train new ones. It also helped get a liaison with Senior and Disability Services, a contact person for answers to questions. That simple position funded by the Trust has made it so her clients and Trust beneficiaries can get their services faster and more efficiently.

CHAIR HALTERMAN thanked Ms. Bingham, and recognized Barbara Schumann, online.

MS. SCHUMANN stated that she lived in Fairbanks, Alaska, and was a retired attorney. She thanked them for their service and stated appreciation for the public service donated by people like you. She talked about another important duty and responsibility that the trustees have -- to

protect the corpus of the Mental Health Trust and invest wisely, be good stewards of the lands entrusted to you, and develop them wisely. She urged them to take a hard look at the Fort Knox gold mine north of Fairbanks. It has a current plan to bring acid-generated ore to the Fairbanks watershed, process it there, and dump the tailings. If they start developing acid drainage, that could go on perpetually. It would mean that the Trust could be jointly and severally liable for a Superfund kind of cleanup at some point in the future. Her research into acid generation was that it goes on forever. She urged them to protect the Trust from liabilities that could exist in the future.

TRUSTEE BOYLES complimented Ms. Schumann for the public service she was doing on this project. She suspected that the lands division would come back with some information on this. She asked when this started and how far into it are they.

MS. SCHUMANN replied that it started as long as two years ago. Kinross was trying to use existing infrastructure and the permits it already had. It is a concern and a problem.

CHAIR HALTERMAN thanked Ms. Schumann, and recognized Julia Luey.

MS. LUEY stated that she is the president and CEO of VOA Alaska. She continued that they are a behavioral health organization with over 40 years' experience, specializing in therapeutic services for supports for young Alaskans and their families. They exist to end the suffering of young people, especially that which was exacerbated by substance abuse and mental health challenges. The Mental Health Trust Authority has been a vital partner in their efforts, and thanks to the incredible support, they had implemented new home-based services. They expanded critical community-based substance abuse and mental health services, and had the opportunity to be at the table as part of critical discussions about solutions to the needs of youth in Alaska. She talked about the data and findings and the three critical areas she implored the Trust to prioritize for future investment: No. 1, continuum of care expansion for behavioral health providers serving young Alaskans and their families; No. 2, school-based services promoting integration as community behavioral health providers in school districts throughout the state to create one place of support to go directly where kids are in schools; No. 3, community-based services connecting the rural/urban gap for innovative strategies to support transition navigation from existing behavioral health and tribal partners. She appreciated all and thanked them for the opportunity to provide testimony.

CHAIR HALTERMAN thanked Ms. Luey, and asked for anyone interested in giving public comment. She recognized Sandra Heffern.

MS. HEFFERN stated that she is with Effective Health Design. She has a Ph.D. in healthcare administration, and over 30 years of experience in health and human services in Alaska. Last year she worked with the Alaska Association on Developmental Disabilities to assess the rate-setting methodology that is currently in place. The work focused on the review of the methodology; regulatory changes since the methodology was implemented in 2011; what other states had done around rate setting; the impacts on providers and recommendations. What she found was that the current methodology in place is not followed. One of the recommendations was to update the rate-setting methodology to include components that could take the service delivery system into the future. She strongly feels that the methodology update is critical for the continued health of the service delivery system. She applauded the awareness and financial

support that the Trust was willing to provide. She encouraged the trustees to consider, when looking at funding or just additional advocacy support, the need for some type of structure in place for ongoing monitoring. She thanked all and appreciated the ability to provide comment.

CHAIR HALTERMAN thanked Ms. Heffern, and asked for anyone in the room or online to give public testimony. She noted that written comments are always welcome, and could be submitted to the trustees at any time. She gave the email and mailing addresses, and concluded the public comment period. She moved to the Finance Committee report.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

CHAIR HALTERMAN asked for the motion.

MOTION: The Board of Trustees approves the following asset allocation for budget reserves managed by the State of Alaska Department of Revenue, effective July 1, 2023: The asset allocation of Broad U.S. Equity for target holding percentage is 39, and the target range is plus or minus 5 percent of that; asset allocation for international equity, target holding of 28 percent, with a target range of plus or minus 5 percent from that percentage; core U.S. fixed income asset allocation, target holding of 32 percent, with a target range plus or minus 5 percent of that percentage; cash equivalents as an asset allocation, target holding 1 percent, with the target range on that being anywhere from minus 1 percent to plus 2 percent. The motion was made by TRUSTEE FIMON; seconded by TRUSTEE FISHER.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON stated that at the Finance Committee meeting there was the recommendation approved by the committee to the Full Board to approve the Department of Revenue Treasury Division's recommended 2024 asset allocation for Department of Revenue managed budget reserves. She continued that the action the Full Board would take was approval of the motion.

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated that there was a more detailed conversation at the last meeting, and it is an item that had been in front of the board before. Action had not been taken because it needed to move forward to the Full Board. 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 Morris, yes; Trustee Moran, yes; Chair Halterman, yes.)

TRUSTEE FISHER asked to make a statement because of a change with the CFO. He had some discussions with the CEO and the CFO at the time over the last few months about preparation of the budgets. He wanted to make sure that it was clear and recorded that he had given them instruction that as the budgets were prepared, that there was the need to have more transparency in the line items. He continued that those line items should not just have a dollar amount on how much was to be approved for the budget, but that there was a need to understand that line item was committed funds. It was already projects identified, organizations identified to which that money would be going to, and also the need to understand how much of that money was uncommitted, not designated for a specific general purpose or a specific organization to use. He added, that created a lot more clarity for the trustees to understand what was being approved, committed versus uncommitted funds.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON asked for clarification on the list of organizations that were committed in the budget and if that would be separate from the budget spreadsheet.

TRUSTEE FISHER replied yes, just so it was easily available to trustees if they want to look at more detail.

COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

CHAIR HALTERMAN moved to the communication update, and recognized Allison Biastock.

MS. BIASTOCK stated that she appreciated the opportunity to update the communications work and to talk about some updates on the program, and what was forecasted on the horizon. She acknowledged her colleagues, the great team at the Trust Authority and the Land Office, who help give the Trust very meaningful things to communicate about. She also thanked Valette Keller who supported much of the work they would hear about. She went through the communication goals, and added that, in addition to the beneficiary-related goals, they consistently work on increasing understanding of the unique organization, the assets and how those resources are earned, managed and deployed. She moved to the communication tools and tactics and stated that a lot of tools were used to communicate the work of the Trust and the priorities. Most of them cross-pollinate one another and worked collectively to increase visibility, positively promote the Trust brand, and help the stakeholders understand who we are and what we do. She talked about their unique position in supporting beneficiary-serving organizations, and how we use resources and staff expertise to advance policy and systems change. She covered the primary standing tools, earned media, website and social media, and the two media campaigns. She also stated that the webpages received around 30,000 visitors in the last year. Trustee Fisher had asked about the ratio of positive to negative media coverage. “Negative” were stories related to the diversity of opinions that could accompany some of the land resource development projects. Press about Trust-support work and Trust Land was significantly more frequent than press about Trust activities that had generated interest in communities. That trend of those positive mentions currently continued. She talked about the media monitoring service from Meltwater which shows mentions of the Trust in the media and is a good visual tool. She added that the trustees get a Meltwater report every weekday in their inbox. She moved to social media and stated that that is a low-cost way to message in a space with a known audience.

TRUSTEE FISHER asked about how many messages come through Facebook and who answers them. He was also interested in knowing the statistics on it.

MS. BIASTOCK replied that she gets the comments and monitors the emails. She stated that if someone says something that is in violation of the State social media policy, she will remove it. She added that there were different ways to interact with a post. She also liked cross-posting content from the Trust Authority and Trust Land Office pages to help the respective audiences understand both where the funds come from and where they go. The Trust Land Office land sale Facebook page is really used when marketing the fall land sale or over-the-counter land sale parcels. There is a big uptick in activity when that is done. She added that she also manages the Trust Land Office Facebook page in collaboration with the TLO.

TRUSTEE FISHER asked about the positive/negative comments on the TLO side.

MS. BIASTOCK replied that she would see what additional information she could find and would provide that. She moved to the media campaigns and started with the stigma campaign. The campaign intended to increase the understanding of challenges faced by the beneficiaries and positively change attitudes and behaviors towards them. The target audience is the public at large, and this campaign is focused on connecting the audience to the beneficiaries as individuals, and to increase awareness of the negative impacts of stigma. She explained what a digital programmatic ad is and played a campaign video. She continued that the audience for that campaign is also the general public. The ad buy is currently underway and focused on social media, programmatic ads, and YouTube. The budget for the ad buy is around \$110,000. Since the campaign is still underway, there are no complete analytics to share. She planned to share more information next time once all the analytics were in, and we have had a chance to review them. She also addressed Trustee Moran's comment about creating campaign materials in additional languages. It was discussed internally; and while targeting specific audiences with content in specific languages was incredibly important, Trust materials like this were not essential in the way that messaging related to something like Medicaid or a public health measure would be, and we opted not to pursue additional languages at this time. She appreciated the question and the dialogue they had.

TRUSTEE MORAN stated that she thought they were being a bit short-sighted and believes there is a significant percentage of the population that would benefit, especially in the rural areas where they speak languages other than English.

MS. BIASTOCK appreciated the comment and planned to follow up. She shared a few highlights of recent activities and some of the great mentions from partners on social media. She stated that the Trust team had an opportunity to record episodes of a few different local podcasts which could be a great way to share information with the community. More time could be spent on topics. She talked about some of the podcasts staff had done. She thanked Mary David, the intern from Nome, for helping organize participation in this program; and all the Trust folks did a great job. Last year the Trust awarded a grant to the Concussion Legacy Foundation for a patient services project which included a public awareness component and developed two PSAs for Alaska about concussion, brain injury and available resources. The first PSA featured Musher DeeDee Jonrowe, and she showed that spot. She highlighted the Trust and partner advisory boards' joint advocacy network. The purpose of the network is to help ensure the beneficiaries and organizations that serve them are aware of bills and budget items that could impact them and they have the information needed to participate in the public process, if they choose to do so. She stated that the final highlight was from the TLO which participated in spring outdoor shows to promote Trust land sales and other revenue-generating activities. She acknowledged Brit Williams with the Land Office who led this effort, and all of the TLO staff that participated in the various sports shows this spring. She added that they are planning on starting an e-newsletter and are currently developing a template for launching this summer. She continued that they would be working closely with the TLO in doing a marketing push for the upcoming fall land sale in September.

CHAIR HALTERMAN asked if they used Public Radio as an outlet in Rural Alaska for any of the outreach or communication.

MS. BIASTOCK replied that, in the past, they had done paid radio placement through Public

Radio. She stated that, currently, they were not doing radio in any of the current campaigns; but are emphasizing digital.

CHAIR HALTERMAN thanked Ms. Biastock, and recognized Carrie Predeger and Luke Lind for the performance summary.

FY22 MHTAAR PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

MS. PREDEGER stated that she would be reviewing the FY23 MHTAAR performance summary. She explained that the Trust Authority issues grants from two different fund sources: the Authority Grants, which go to the community organizations around Alaska; and the Mental Health Trust Authority Authorized Receipts, MHTAAR funds, which go to State agencies and for specific operating and capital projects. The grants department currently is managing 225 active grants; 173 are Authority Grants, and 52 are FY23 MHTAAR projects. She added that they would be looking at FY22, which is a summary that provides an overview of all the MHTAAR projects that began July 1, 2021, and ended June 30, 2022. This is a project rollup with performance summaries provided to the trustees annually. She went through a lot of numbers beginning with the total of \$8,134,500 awarded in FY22 for 53 MHTAAR awarded grants. She noted that the Department of Health and Social Services received the greatest amount of funding, and was the entity with the most grant projects this year. When grantees complete their annual MHTAAR status reports, we provide the number of unduplicated individuals in each of the four categories. Those categories were primary beneficiaries, secondary beneficiaries, the number of people served, and the professionals trained as a result of the project.

TRUSTEE FISHER asked what primary and secondary beneficiaries are.

MS. PREDEGER replied that a primary beneficiary is a Trust beneficiary; and a secondary beneficiary was a caregiver or a family member. She continued through project impact, compliance and also project performance. She included the descriptions of all the ratings and the performance-related scores, and then moved to project impacts and reports of direct beneficiary improvements in quality of life. She stated that the one project that did not report quality of life improvements was the Department of Health and Social Services mental health professional offsite evals. The project did produce positive impacts as it funded 96 beneficiaries to be evaluated, all of which had a Title 47 ex parte order from the Department of Corrections. Due to the nature of the project, the data demonstrating that was not collected. That was the only one that did not have specific information about quality-of-life improvements. She thanked all of the grantees and the Trust staff for their dedication to the beneficiaries during a somewhat challenging but better year.

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated that COVID hit midstream in the middle of capturing information. She asked if they have the ability to pivot the goals when there was a change in circumstances midstream. Was it something with the need to rededicate resources to another area, and were all resources expired for the beneficiary population and we could not reach new people.

MS. PREDEGER replied that they were able to change a performance measure, if needed. In relation to the pandemic, that happened in March, and that was too late to change performance measures. They were usually able to adjust performance measures up until the midyear mark.

She asked Ms. Barstad to address the housing initiative.

MS. BARSTAD stated that there were two rural housing positions identified in the budget. One was implemented in Kotzebue, and the second was not able to be implemented for a couple of years. She explained that local governments received a large amount of funds for both COVID and for ARPA. Despite the best sale pitches, they were not able to get a second community implemented until very recently. That position remained vacant, which is why it was not reported in the outcomes quotient.

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated that there was not enough data in the performance summary for trustees to have known that. It appeared to be a colossal failure.

MS. BARSTAD stated that there were some pretty substantial narrative reports that went along with the spreadsheet, and she was not sure when those were distributed to the trustees. She continued that she recalled completing write-ups for each of the projects, and she knows that they exist as part of the documentation process.

CHAIR HALTERMAN asked for help in connecting the dots for the trustees to see the commentary that went along with the grant report for a better understanding. It almost looked like some resources were wasted and, without that narrative, we are missing part of the information.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON stated appreciation for the feedback and noted that there was a comment section of the spreadsheet. They could look at incorporating additional information in there. She continued that staff would respond and provide explanations to any projects with questions.

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated that a little more detail on the reports in the future would make them more meaningful.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON commented that they also complete a fairly comprehensive staff analysis of the projects. That information was compiled and included in the budget development section of the website. In the discussions about FY25 budget, information would be provided on the projects with more detail about the project and how it performed or did not perform and why.

CHAIR HALTERMAN thanked Ms. Baldwin-Johnson and asked for any questions or comments from the trustees about the presentation.

TRUSTEE MORAN was interested in knowing the percentage of rural versus urban.

TRUSTEE MORRIS pointed out that there were only three grants out of 53 that scored as 1s or 2s, which was a pretty low percentage. He asked about the ramifications of suboptimal scores.

MS. PREDEGER replied that, typically, Trust staff assigned to that project would work with them with the midyear report in March. If something was amiss in the performance measure, they would be worked with earlier. She explained that seven Trust staff scores all of the projects, and everyone does a good job of following the framework for the three scoring categories. She added that they would work with the Trust staff assigned to the project.

TRUSTEE FIMON asked if there was any mechanism in place to go back and note that on the year that program improved or scored higher.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON replied that, in terms of the spreadsheet, there was no real way to come back into it. When the comprehensive analysis of the projects was done, they work right up to the most current information. The analysis that staff provides is a summary of that entire perspective, and a recommendation would be included. She added that they would be able to look back and compare the projects to the summaries staff does for each project.

TRUSTEE MORRIS stated that the Scorecard is abysmal on suicide. He asked what steps could be taken to get some metrics on moving the needle on the suicide Scorecard.

MR. BOYER stated that the Zero Suicide is a best-practice framework for looking at a system of care to try to bring a coherent continuum together. He added that Leah Van Kirk oversees that program and will speak to that tomorrow. He stated that the Division and the Department have a long-range plan in working with the data analytics.

CHAIR HALTERMAN stated appreciation for the presentation and thanked them for the opportunity to learn more about the grants. She recessed the meeting.

(Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Full Board meeting recessed at 2:30 p.m.)