

**ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH TRUST AUTHORITY
FULL BOARD MEETING
November 14, 2024
8:30 a.m.**

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

Trustees Present:

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

Trust Staff Present:

Allison Biastock
Katie Baldwin-Johnson
Miri Smith-Coolidge
Valette Keller
Julee Farley
Luke Lind
Carrie Predeger
Michael Baldwin
Eric Boyer
Kat Roch
Kelda Barstad
Debbie DeLong
Tina Voelker-Ross
Eliza Muse
Heather Phelps

Trust Land Office staff present:

Jusdi Warner
Jeff Green
Sarah Morrison
Blain Alfonso
Cole Hendrickson
Mariana Sanchez
Pam Cawley
Brittany Williams
Katie Vachris

Also participating:

Gene Hickey; Jeff Jessee; Kathy Craft; Patrick Reinhart; Jena Grafton; Tom Crafton; Stephanie Hopkins; Janie Caq'ar Ferguson; Jamael Lawson Johnson; Joel Jackson; Martin Lange; Stephanie Wheeler; Marsha Oss; Kay Papakristo; Mary Eidem; Jill Maxwell; Brittany Williams; Lisa Cauble; Don Habeger; Chrity Carmody; Karl Sodestron; Kaitlyn Hedwood; Michael Lopez; Brandy McGee; Dana Gregoire; Alison Kear; Carly Tunsu; Hannah Johnson; Troy Butner; Keeley Olson; Emily Ricci; Kaila Pfister; Matt Lawrence; Charity Lee; Chelsea burke; Joshua Arvidson; Melinda Freeman; Kelly Griffon; Matt Golden; Kim Champney; Michelle Baker.

PROCEEDINGS

CALL TO ORDER

CHAIR FISHER called the meeting to order and began with a roll call. He stated that Trustee Boyles would join the meeting at 9:30 a.m. He asked for any announcements.

TRUSTEE FEIGE requested to be excused between 10:30 and 11:15 this morning, and between noon and 12:45 this afternoon.

TRUSTEE MORRIS requested to be excused at 2:00 p.m.

STATUTORY ADVISOR UPDATE

ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH BOARD/ ADVISORY BOARD ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE

CHAIR FISHER moved to the Statutory Advisor Update and recognized Stephanie Hopkins from the Alaska Mental Health Board.

MS. HOPKINS stated that she is the executive director of the Statewide Suicide Prevention Council, the Alaska Mental Health Board, and the Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse. She added that Charity Lee, the health and social services planner was also with her. She stated that the boards met in Ketchikan and elected a new executive committee to start December 1st for ABADA. She updated the Board about the meeting and events in Ketchikan. She asked Ms. Lee to continue.

MS. LEE gave information and an update about the project focusing on youth. She moved to the stakeholder interviews that were done: residential youth care; Community Connections; Ketchikan Wellness Coalition; and the entire school social work team, which were specifically chosen because they represented different brackets of youth care in Ketchikan. She discussed the multiple analyses of those interviews and the results.

TRUSTEE HALTERMAN asked about the loss of adult services.

MS. LEE replied that the Ketchikan community had some services close. Akeela provided a lot of out-patient adult services and then they also lost their low-barrier shelter.

TRUSTEE MORAN expanded that, when Akeela closed, they lost the only drug and alcohol in-town resource and, recently, there was another organization stepping up to do that. But there was no one taking over the low-barrier shelter.

MS. LEE continued to the thematic analysis which was reading through all of the interviews and pulling out the main items showing up across multiple different interviews, which she shared. She then highlighted the housing and homelessness slide. She continued through her presentation and pointed out the concern that the State was not engaging with the communities in the interpretation of data and then resulting policy decisions. The information given does not necessarily reflect what is actually needed in the community, what the community is telling us. She summarized that there were more resources than barriers in Ketchikan. The providers say it is research rich, with most of those resources provided through a few key providers. If those services could not be accessed through those key providers then there are very limited options or no options, especially the youth with Medicaid, and no private insurance because that is more limited. Another barrier is for youth 11 and younger; super limited-service options. Another barrier in the community is housing and homelessness. She continued on to the youth panel analysis and completed her presentation.

MS. HOPKINS shared that their winter meeting will be January 21st on Zoom. In the spring the AMHB and ABADA will be meeting in Anchorage April 15 – 17. Also, on the 17th there will be a joint meeting with the Statewide Suicide Prevention Council, and, on the 18th, they will meet on their own, at the Dimond Center, and she invited the trustees to attend.

CHAIR FISHER stated appreciation for the presentation and recognized Marty Lange from the Alaska Commission on Aging.

ALASKA COMMISSION ON AGING

MR. LANGE thanked the Trust for their continued support of ACoA. He noted that their mission is to ensure the dignity and independence of all older Alaskans, and to assist them to lead useful and meaningful lives through planning, advocacy, education, and interagency cooperation. He continued that the Alaska senior population faces unique challenges such as remote geographic locations, harsh climate conditions, and difficulties in accessing essential health care services, which is particularly pronounced in the rural communities where services are often limited, impacting the quality of life for the seniors. A key shared interest of the Commission is addressing the specific needs of those living with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders and extending support to their caregivers. He talked about the recent resignation of John Haghayeghi, the former executive director, noting that they are grateful for his service and getting ACoA through preparing the State Plan for senior services, a legislative sunset audit, the annual report, and other products critical to the work of the Commission. He then introduced himself properly and talked about his family being in Alaska for 100 years. He stated that he has a communications degree with an emphasis in radio and television, and worked for 31 years with SIL Global, an international nonprofit organization. He moved back to Juneau two years ago and began working for the Alaska Commission on Aging as the rural outreach coordinator. He explained the Senior Snapshot, a document with data and trends happening with the senior population, with the goal of having the final version available for the Legislative Session each year.

CHAIR FISHER thanked Mr. Lange, and moved to Patrick Reinhart the Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education.

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL EDUCATION

MR. REINHART began with some recent highlights of Embracing Abilities, a disability-led craft fair at the State Fair this past August. In September they participated in the FASD breakfast

hosted by the FASD Consortium, as well as the Improving Lives Conference. October was the Disability and Aging Summit that happens yearly at the Special Olympics facility in Mountain View. He talked about the ACT Program Agency Night, an opportunity to connect with youth with disabilities from the Anchorage area. The IL Conference was two weeks ago, and November was the Employment First Conference and the Work Matters Task Force.

MS. BURKE stated that there was no Alaska-specific data for estimating the prevalence rate of individuals with developmental disabilities, a national issue. She continued that estimates used are based on widely used and accepted national prevalence rates of 1.58 percent, which is over 20 years old and is the rate that the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities recommends that all states' councils use. She added that Alaska has the highest reported prevalence of FAS in the United States, and a newly published study found the FASDs may be as common as autism, affecting one in 20 children. This is important when considering the lack of real data due to many difficulties for data collection. She stated that they are beginning their five-year State planning process, outlining what that process looks like.

TRUSTEE FEIGE asked what was being done to try to gather as much data and quality data to ensure the plan put together is aimed in the right direction and will be effective.

MS. BURKE replied that they start by looking at why there are difficulties in collecting the data, and then figure out what is working in a community and what is not.

TRUSTEE HALTERMAN asked if they knew the percentage of the DD population receiving Medicaid, and if there was a way to collect some data through diagnoses.

MR. REINHART replied that was something they could find out because they do diagnoses for Medicaid services and for the waivers.

MS. BURKE moved to the five-year plan community forums with the hope to have all the community forums and youth areas completed by this time next year.

MR. REINHART stated that employment is incredibly important for all people with disabilities. Data shows that having a job is one of the best things for health. It gives purpose, provides income, and makes a person less dependent on the available systems. He thanked the Trust for the funding to participate in the Employment First Conference, which had over 100 participants. It was featured more for employers than beneficiaries, and the idea is to have it every other year. After that conference, there was a Work Matters Task Force, which really no longer exists, but it came up with 26 recommendations a few years ago. It was a joint project between the Division of Vocational Rehab and the Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education. The Department of Administration personnel were there and had discussions about where they were with the centralized accommodation fund for State employees with disabilities. The decision was to band back together again.

CHAIR FISHER recognized the arrival of Trustee Boyles.

MR. REINHART moved through the Disability Innovation Fund Grant for \$10 million, which was received with the Trust's support of a grant writer for that program. The State Independent Living Council will do youth leadership forums, training youth to be involved in safety and emergency management work. The UAA Center for Human Development is doing Alaska

Native post-secondary transition skills. The curriculum developed is culturally appropriate from various tribal entities around the state. It was developed mainly to get youth with disabilities in rural areas interested in and involved in their community in a traditional sense.

TRUSTEE HALTERMAN asked for some data on the employment for the populations talked about.

MR. REINHART replied that they had quite a bit of specific data on employment in that regard. He moved to some upcoming events: The Reduced Recidivism Conference; the Special Education Conference. He noted that nominations were out and he gave the information to Ms. Biastock. The Key Campaign fly-in is to be March 18th and 19th, and the spring Council meeting date has not yet been determined.

CHAIR FISHER stated appreciation for the presentation. He recognized Allison Biastock for the Communication Update.

COMMUNICATION UPDATE

MS. BIASTOCK began with the communication goals and noted that the lion's share of the funds pays for media for the media campaign. She talked about the web-page, with the key takeaway being an increase in traffic in the last six months. She added that when the fall land sale was underway, a lot of traffic is driven to the website. She moved to social media and then the quarterly E-newsletter. She discussed earned media which is media for which they do not pay; being mentioned in press and publications. She moved to the stigma campaign. The latest materials were launched in the ongoing effort of educating the public around stigma experienced by the beneficiaries. The intention is to increase an understanding of the challenges faced by the beneficiaries and to positively impact attitudes and behaviors toward them. The other media campaign is about the Trust lands campaign, an effort began in the fall of 2020 following some directions from trustees to help increase the understanding of the unique role of Trust land. A 30-second spot was created in 2023 to help people understand how Trust lands generate revenue and how those revenues are used to support the work on behalf of beneficiaries. It will run this winter, and we are still working on finalizing the media plan. In addition to the paid digital, print ads were run in the paper. There was also a media release that resulted in a nice story from Wrangell. One of the highlights is that we took advantage of having many of the crisis initiative partners in Anchorage and took the opportunity to do brief interviews with them. We were able to cut a nice video that highlights the great work happening across the state to improve behavioral health crisis response. The spot debuted at the Improving Lives Conference was distributed via e-mail, on social media, through the newsletter and website. It was well received and did a great job demonstrating that this effort is making changes in communities across Alaska.

(Video played.)

MS. BIASTOCK continued through her presentation, explaining as she went along. She and Ms. Keller went through the slides regarding the Improving Lives Conference which took place at the Dena'ina Center on September 17-18, with the pre-conference workshop on the 16th. She stated that there were 382 on-site attendees, with 306 paid registrations. There were 103 comped registrations; 37 scholarships; 16 travel scholarships; and 110 folks signed up for pre-conference events. The first day keynote speaker was Stacy DiStefano, the chief executive officer of Consulting for Human Services who talked about national trends. The second day lunchtime

keynote presentation was Nathan Billy, the regional director for SAMHSA.

MS. KELLER stated that, in addition to the presentations and the main speakers, there were also three breakout rooms. Twenty-seven breakout sessions were approved, as well as eight poster presentations. There were a total of 68 presenters. There were also 18 exhibitors in the main hallway, and there was a lot of good engagement between attendees and exhibitors during breaks, as well as the networking reception. She shared more information on the happenings at the conference, and then talked about the post-conference survey which yielded a lot of overwhelming positive feedback, plus some great constructive feedback.

TRUSTEE MORRIS asked if they had corporate sponsors for this conference. He asked if they would consider inviting corporate sponsors to reduce ticket prices.

MS. BIASTOCK replied that they will consider that, and will follow up on that.

TRUSTEE HALTERMAN added that she was approached by a local business downtown that wants to contribute in some way to the work the Trust is doing, and we may be able to strike some interest with downtown businesses.

MS. KELLER shared some of the great social media activity that showed the excitement that a lot of the attendees felt during the conference.

CHAIR FISHER stated appreciation for all the information and looked forward to the next conference and more participation. He called a break.

(Break.)

CHAIR FISHER called the meeting to order, and recognized Katie Baldwin-Johnson for a Crisis Now Update.

CRISIS NOW UPDATE

COO BALDWIN-JOHNSON stated that she and Eric Boyer would provide an update on the statewide implementation of the Crisis Now Initiative, which includes broader implementation of improved crisis response and services across Alaska. They were pleased to provide an update on the progress and where they are in terms of all of the community-based partners that have been leaning into this work.

MR. BOYER stated that this took engagement, implementation, and a lot of planning. Trustees should be aware that this is not only increasing those services in the crisis behavioral health realm, but the access. The need is there. He referenced some of the evaluations in the reports that validate and solidify the need.

TRUSTEE MORAN asked about the 988 calls and also a 907 area code. A lot of people do not have a 907 area code, and if calling within the state and from a 907 area code, she asked how was that routed.

MR. BOYER replied that the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and FCC are working with the contractor called Vibrant. There would be some complications whenever something new was started. He has a lot of acquaintances in the state of Alaska that come with their cell phones

from other states with other three-digit codes. They recognize the challenge, and they just got FCC approval to do the geo locate, which will allow for calling from any area in the State of Alaska and the systems would recognize that. He stated that was just approved at the Federal level and the telecom companies have to work with the FCC to actually implement that geo location. With the growth, they had to expand. The workforce in Fairbanks, where their home is, is finite, and they opened a second office in Wasilla, reaching a greater workforce. That is now implemented.

TRUSTEE MORRIS asked if there was a need to do any advertising to get the word out, or if there was adequate penetration that people know about 988.

MR. BOYER replied that the partnership with the Department of Health and Division of Behavioral Health is doing the advertising for that. He added that it is critical when working with the partners to see where the greatest need is because that gives the State time to work with the Legislature and OMB to find the right operational amount for the call center and being able to do that into the future.

COO BALDWIN-JOHNSON stated that Deputy Commissioner Ricci was online.

CHAIR FISHER recognized Deputy Commissioner Ricci.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER RICCI talked about working closely with Bartlett Regional Hospital. She stated that they had opened their crisis services for a brief period of time, but closed it. They are working with the City and Borough of Juneau to offer ways to partner with them to make sure those needs are met. A considerable number of entities provided funding to support the construction of that crisis stabilization and service building. We want to make sure those investments are resolved, and the outcomes are what we were looking for.

COO BALDWIN-JOHNSON stated that there are plenty of activities occurring around policy. The Department has several things in progress. There are proposed changes to regulations that support standing up these new prices, the subacute-level facilities that are partner organizations that are steeped in this work and have provided comment to the State. It is currently under consideration and review. The Department of Family Community Services recently released proposed regulations and amendments to the regulations around civil commitment facility designation. That specifically enables the Department and application process to designate a crisis stabilization subacute facility to serve the population that is involuntary, where the facility could actually conduct the evaluations necessary to determine if an involuntary placement is needed. She continued that there are key legislative and policy areas that they would provide in writing. She added that they have a data monitoring plan that is quite comprehensive that was worked with the partners, plus the data evaluation folks at the Trust. That is a key priority for this initiative.

MR. BOYER stated that they meet monthly with the community and the Department of Health and the Department of Family and Community Services to keep the accountability and integration of the rollout.

COO BALDWIN-JOHNSON gave a shout-out to the team at Agnew::Beck. Trustees supported the staff requests for the project management support several years ago, and we would not be here without that.

TRUSTEE BOYLES stated her commitment to Crisis Now and noted how far we have come. This must continue because the State is economically challenged, and when that happens our dependents feel it very deeply economically, financially and psychologically.

CHAIR FISHER thanked both Mr. Boyer and COO Baldwin-Johnson for the update and called a lunch break.

(Lunch break.)

CHAIR FISHER called the Board of Trustees back to order and moved to the approvals for grant requests.

APPROVALS

FOCUS AREA ALLOCATIONS

AK BEHAVIORAL HEALTH/FY25 MOBILE CRISIS TEAM - FAIRBANKS

MOTION: A motion that the Board of Trustees approve an \$850,000 FY25 Mental Health & Addiction Intervention Authority Grant allocation to Anchorage Community Mental Health Services, Inc., doing business as Alaska Behavioral Health of the Fairbanks Mobile Crisis Team. These funds will come from the Crisis Continuum of Care line of the FY25 budget. The motion was made by TRUSTEE MORAN; seconded by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN.

MR. BOYER explained that this is the fourth of a five-year plan of funding for the Mobile Crisis Team. It is a very collaborative work that Alaska Behavioral Health does with their partners, including all of the jurisdictions there, fire and EMS, law enforcement, Fairbanks Memorial Hospital, and tribal providers. He felt that the work they are doing is proving invaluable. He stated that Sarah Koogle, the director of Adult Behavioral Health Services in the Fairbanks region, and their chief operating officer, Josh Arvidson, were both in the room.

CHAIR FISHER asked for any questions from the trustees.

TRUSTEE MORAN stated that they were saying that the program sustainability was highly contingent upon the availability of grant funding, and this is the final year of the four-year grant. She asked about the plan going forward.

MR. ARVIDSON stated that they have been in discussions with the State Department of Health that the reimbursement rates for Mobile Crisis do not take into account the fact that a Mobile Crisis Team is being operated. The team needs to be on standby 24 hours a day. The response time is less than 20 minutes, on average, in the Fairbanks community, which is pretty remarkable. The current rate does not come close to covering the cost of operating that service. The State is looking at the rate as part of the rate process. He continued that they are also having discussions with local community and other potential funding sources. He believes that mobile crisis services are in many ways an essential service, just like fire and police, and that the State should be looking at the rates and addressing that.

TRUSTEE MORAN asked if they had a Plan B if the rates do not get increased.

MR. ARVIDSON replied no.

TRUSTEE MORAN stated that the \$850,000 would be a big hole to have to fill in year 5. She asked if there is a plan for that.

MR. BOYER stated that there is no question about the value and the need. It is just finding how to sustain that, whether it is a combination of State dollars, insurance dollars, and philanthropy. He continued that Director Dompeling with the Division of Behavioral Health is aware of where this could go if there is not a real funding mechanism for that.

TRUSTEE MORAN stated concern because this is a critical resource, and she is sure that Fairbanks has become dependent upon it.

COO BALDWIN-JOHNSON stated that they know that the Trust is not in a position to fund ongoing operations indefinitely. This is demonstrating the value and validating the importance of the services and the cost savings across different parts of the service. In the FY26 budget, the original recommendation was to work on the path towards transition of including some General Fund dollars which would have been utilized by the Department of Health to make grants available and to continue to bridge this while everyone works together sustaining the changes. With the adjustment, that is not an option at this point, but may be a consideration for the trustees to consider.

TRUSTEE BOYLES stated that if they did not fund this, and there is not a Plan B, then Crisis Now as we built in Fairbanks would not exist.

The discussion continued.

CHAIR FISHER asked for any other comments or questions. There being none, he called the vote.

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

CHAIR FISHER stated that Deputy Commissioner Ricci was working with a contractor to come up with some rate modeling, and he encouraged staff to work hard to get that done.

TRUE NORTH RECOVERY/FY25 MOBILE CRISIS TEAM – MAT-SU

COO BALDWIN-JOHNSON stated that Heather Phelps would present this, and asked that the motion be read.

MOTION: A motion that the Board of Trustees approve \$850,000 FY25 Mental Health & Addiction Intervention allocation to True North Recovery, Inc. for the Mobile Crisis Team Year 3 project. These funds will come from the Crisis Continuum of Care line of the FY25 budget. The motion was made by TRUSTEE MORAN; seconded by TRUSTEE MORRIS.

MS. PHELPS stated that this is a similar request to the previous one. This is year three out of five. True North Recovery has identified Mat-Su Health Foundation funding, as well as Medicaid reimbursement for some sustainability. They have run into the same issues previously

discussed. With year three they plan to enhance services and broaden reach by expanding to two MCT teams. They will have 24/7 coverage, an added benefit. They are also working with strengthening response capacity through relationships with key partners. The Mobile Crisis Team provides immediate support to Trust beneficiaries experiencing mental health and substance use crises in the Mat-Su area. She continued that Karl Soderstrom, the chief executive officer, Kaitlyn Hedwood, the chief clinical officer, and Lieutenant Michael Lopez from the Wasilla Police Department are available to answer any questions.

TRUSTEE MORAN pointed out that on Page 183 there is a section about engaging in advocacy services. She wanted to ensure that they know that Trust funds could not be used to lobby. She raised that because they were talking about educating legislators and community stakeholders. She stated appreciation for the importance of advocacy, but noted that we have to adhere to the structures.

MR. SODERSTROM agreed and stated that their efforts were to raise awareness that this is a needed service, and that the entire responsibility could not be laid at the feet of the Trust. He continued that there are many different ways that they are attempting to fund this program, and are really active in pursuing local, borough, state, other funding opportunities while working with the State to address the shortfalls in the Medicaid reimbursement rate. He added that they are absolutely not engaging in any lobbying activities. He then briefly described the partnership with the Hope team that occurred here in Anchorage with the camp abatement.

TRUSTEE FEIGE asked if they were doing that type of camp abatement work in the Valley with either trespass, or on the State lands. She noted that troopers get called for that frequently.

MR. SODERSTROM replied that they had not had that opportunity or discussion yet, but are open and willing to participate in it. This project set the stage for being able to do that in the Mat-Su, and we recently partnered with the Park Rangers. The number of partnerships built have given them an opportunity that is unique to respond with multiple different agencies. By “partnership,” he means a willingness to co-respond or to engage with the Mobile Crisis Team. They are also developing a partnership with 9-8-8 so that they would be able to dispatch them.

CHAIR FISHER stated that when this type of a crisis team was funded the expectation was there would be less resources used by the police, troopers, rangers and Mat-Su Borough EMS. He asked about any discussions with those organizations as to how they might help fund the services being provided.

MR. SODERSTROM replied that there are opportunities to partner with those government agencies as potential funding sources through the City or Borough.

LIEUTENANT LOPEZ stated that he is the patrol lieutenant for the Wasilla Police Department. He was asked here from a law enforcement and partner organization and pointed out, from an organizational standpoint, that they have seen an extreme reduction in recidivism from repeat clients of the Crisis Team. Those clients were engaging with the Crisis Team and we have seen reduced calls from the police department because of the services of the Crisis Team that those people segue into. It is reducing call volume for the Wasilla Police Department, specifically. What they learned in the three-year relationship is that this is the best and strongest tool that his officers deploy in response to many of their calls. He suggested that the Board consider examining Anchorage’s model. Anchorage incorporated their Crisis Now model within the

police department and have mental health responders employed by the Municipality and within the police department. They partnered internally. He is not sure that would work for Wasilla because they have a much smaller jurisdiction, but it could be something for future funding at either the State or Borough level. He was there to advocate for all the benefits seen and was happy to answer any questions.

CHAIR FISHER asked if the police department had considered how they could help fund Crisis Now.

LIEUTENANT LOPEZ replied that they had not conducted any discussion at the City Council level or within the police department. From the perspective of the police department, they would advocate for that.

CHAIR FISHER stated that they were at a point where there is enough data and anecdotal evidence to say that there have been significant advantages to having these Mobile Crisis Teams and they should be able to put something together soon. He called the question.

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

ALASKA IMPACT ALLIANCE/FY25 REIMAGINING CHILD WELFARE

COO BALDWIN-JOHNSON stated that Tina Voelker-Ross was at the table for the Alaska Impact Alliance for the FY25 Reimagining Child Welfare Project.

MOTION: A motion that the Board of Trustees approve a \$400,000 fiscal year '25 Early Childhood Intervention and Prevention Authority Grant allocation for the Alaska Impact Alliance for the fiscal year '25 Reimagining Child Welfare Projects. The funds will come from the foster care and child welfare systems improvements line of the fiscal year '25 budget. The motion was made by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN; seconded by TRUSTEE MORRIS.

MS. VOELKER-ROSS stated that this request was for year 2 funding to continue Alaska Impact Alliance's work to implement statewide strategies that strengthen families and reduce involvement in the child welfare system. She continued that the outcomes of year 1 funding led to the implementation of the Alaska Family Resource Center network and the establishment of four resource centers located in Fairbanks, Anchorage, and Mat-Su. The distribution of grant funding was directly to 99 unlicensed relative caregivers to support the care of children in their custody, and respite, the initiation of the development of the 907 Navigation App, and the completion of three community-led action plans in Kenai, Juneau, and Metlakatla to build strong communities that support families. FY25 funding would advance the programs developed in year 1 and focus on key areas that have the most direct impact on Trust beneficiary families. That would be the URecares Stipend & Respite Program, further developing the Alaska Family Resource Network and its member centers, and completing and implementing the 907 Navigation App. She stated that Alaska children are exposed to trauma early, with one in three reported to child welfare before their seventh birthday. Trust staff recommended this funding to be approved to continue this critical work related to improving the child welfare and foster care system. She added that AIA Executive Director Charity Carmody was there to answer any questions.

TRUSTEE MORAN stated that when this grant was funded a year ago they did not have a 501(c)(3) and asked if they had succeeded in getting that.

MS. CARMODY replied that they have had it since November of 2022.

TRUSTEE MORAN asked if there was data showing the results of the first-year grant and how that performed.

MS. CARMODY replied that the last quarterly report had been done. It ended at the end of October, so the final report has not been done, but she had submitted all the others.

The question-and-answer discussion continued.

TRUSTEE MORAN asked to have the final grant reports from the first \$400,000 before committing another \$400,00 to this endeavor.

MOTION: A motion to table this grant until the January 2025 meeting was made by TRUSTEE MORAN; seconded by TRUSTEE MORRIS.

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

CHAIR FISHER stated that the motion was tabled until January.

COO BALDWIN-JOHNSON asked to work with the designated trustee to define the information and questions in addition to any others besides the report that could be pulled together in advance of February.

TRUSTEE MORAN agreed.

CEO BIASTOCK noted that the next time the Full Board would come together would be February. January would be committee meetings.

COO BALDWIN-JOHNSON moved to the Kenai Peninsula Housing Initiative, Rainbow Flats and Eagle Heights project, and noted that Kelda Barstad was at the table.

KENAI PENINSULA HOUSING INITIATIVES/EAGLE HEIGHTS & RAINBOW FLATS

MOTION: The Board of Trustees approve a \$350,000 fiscal year '25 Housing & Home- and Community-Based Services Focus Area Allocation to Kenai Peninsula Housing Initiatives, Inc. for the Rainbow Flats and Eagle Heights project. These funds will come from the Supportive Housing Projects line of the fiscal year '25 budget. The motion was made by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN; seconded by TRUSTEE MORRIS.

MS. BARSTAD stated that this project would be operated and constructed by the Kenai Peninsula Housing Initiative. She added that she was joined online with Brandy McGee, the executive director, and Dana Gregoire, finance director. She explained that the project is part of

the housing focus area and was the first exploration into supportive housing that was not specifically permanent supportive housing. Kenai Peninsula Housing Initiative is a private, nonprofit organization that came from a community-based need on the Peninsula for affordable housing. They have a number of affordable housing properties, and these 12 additional units, one property in Homer, and one property in Kenai, will have set-asides for Trust beneficiaries, which is a bit unusual for affordable housing properties. It makes a good investment for the Trust to have dedicated units for affordable housing for Trust beneficiaries. Additionally, KPHI works to maintain housing stability and works with local service providers to prevent eviction and to insure that people are connected with housing vouchers and stable income to continue tenancy. She recommended this project.

TRUSTEE MORAN complimented these folks on bringing together such a comprehensive funding package for this project. They have numerous partners involved in a mixture of private, Federal, and State funding.

TRUSTEE FIMON also stated appreciation for the mix of information and the other partners.

CHAIR FISHER called the vote.

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

COVENANT HOUSE/BUILDING CAPACITY FOR CRISIS SUPPORT

MOTION: The Board of Trustees approve a \$136,000 fiscal year '25 Mental Health & Addiction Intervention allocation to Covenant House Alaska for the Building Capacity for Crisis Intervention and Behavioral Health Support project. These funds will come from the Treatment Access and Recovery Supports line of the fiscal year '25 budget. The motion was made by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN; seconded by TRUSTEE MORAN.

MS. BARSTAD stated that Alison Kear, CEO from Covenant House Alaska, was online. This project is an evolution from a project that was started last year to bring more behavioral health services into the Covenant House Alaska campus to make sure that residents and staff were supported with behavioral health services. They have taken on the work of the transitional-aged youth contract from the City who are not a suitable population for the general single adult shelters often. It depends on the person and can get more support services through the youth shelter system. This year's proposal not only looks at providing some of those behavioral health services and training in-house and focusing on getting all of the Covenant House Alaska staff trained, it supports an administrative position to initiate that into Covenant House so they can hire and train staff.

TRUSTEE MORRIS asked for clarification on this, whether this is for two persons to provide training to staff at Covenant House to help address the problems.

MS. KEAR stated that this investment has improved the ability to retain a workforce. This investment not only helps for some critical support to staff, but also the ability for staff to manage really critical situations. She continued that the hope is to gain one more year of this investment and then, as an organization, think about how this can be sustained through partners. Southcentral Foundation is one partner who applied for them to be a federally health-qualified

center which will bring some additional access to behavioral health resources. This request is for one more year of supporting a partnership that happens with Volunteers of America who brings a clinical team member to the organization. It is in support of staff in working for a really complex behavioral health situation.

A brief discussion ensued.

CHAIR FISHER called the vote.

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

RurAL CAP/FY25 MENTAL HEALTH CONSULTATION PROJECT

MOTION: The Board of Trustees approve a \$55,353.48 FY25 Early Childhood Intervention and Prevention Authority Grant allocation to the Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Incorporated, for the FY25 Mental Health Consultation Project. These funds will come from the Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health Capacity Building line of the FY25 budget. The motion was made by TRUSTEE MORAN; seconded by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN.

MS. VOELKER-ROSS stated that this request is for year 2 funding to continue to expand mental health consultation services in support across RurAL CAP employees. In FY25, Mental Health Consultation Services will continue to be implemented in their child development center. The services will also be added to their Little Haven drop-in childcare program housed at the Safe Harbor transitional housing facility and will also support the Parents as Teachers home visiting program in Toksook and Haines. She recommended this funding be approved to continue building capacity in early childhood mental health consultation. This is in alignment with COMP plan goals related to accurate identification and treatment of children and workforce competencies. She added that RurAL CAP Operational Manager Carly Tunsa was there, and Hannah Johnson, the executive director, was online.

TRUSTEE MORAN asked how long the Trust has funded this project.

MS. VOELKER-ROSS replied that funding this year started in February. They have a mental health consultant through Alaska Behavioral Health. Due to workforce issues, Alaska Behavioral Health had to bow out of providing that. It was decided to end the previous grant early and come back with this so the project could start new.

CHAIR FISHER called the vote.

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

NEW LIFE DEVELOPMENT INC./SAFE FAMILIES PROJECT

MOTION: The Board of Trustees approve a \$49,000 FY25 Early Childhood Intervention and Prevention Authority Grant allocation to New Life Development, Incorporated, for the Safe Families Project. These funds will come from the Improve

Social Determinants of Health for Families and Young Children line of the FY25 budget. The motion was made by TRUSTEE MORAN; seconded by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN.

MS. VOELKER-ROSS stated that this funding request is focused on supporting homeless mothers with young children or expectant mothers. The Safe Families Project provides temporary safe housing, food security, supportive services, and case management to help the mothers stabilize in the community and gain new life skills that carry forward. The Safe Families Project directly impacts Trust beneficiary mothers and their children who are affected by the parents' living situation and are at risk of ACEs and becoming Trust beneficiaries themselves. Since inception in 2023, 100 percent of program participants have been Trust beneficiaries. She recommended this funding. She added that Troy Butner, executive director of New Life Development, and his operations director were there to answer any questions.

TRUSTEE MORAN stated that she appreciated that multiple funding sources were there before coming and asking for Trust partnership in this. She commented that the wide variety of mothers who came forward during the public comment were taking advantage of the comprehensive services offered through this program. That moves these families forward that has a lasting impact when they graduate from it.

CHAIR FISHER echoed Trustee Moran's sentiments and the fact there were so many mothers talking about their experiences. We want to have good outcomes. He called the vote.

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

PARTNERSHIP GRANT REQUESTS

ANCHORAGE PROJECT ACCESS/MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING PROGRAM

COO BALDWIN-JOHNSON stated that this was for Christian Health Associates for the Anchorage Project Access Pro Bono Counseling Program. She asked for the motion.

MOTION: The Board of Trustees approve a \$100,000 FY25 partnership grant to Christian Health Associates for the Anchorage Project Access Pro Bono Counseling Program. These funds will come from the Partnerships/Designated Grants line of the FY25 budget. The motion was made by TRUSTEE MORAN; seconded by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN.

MS. BARSTAD stated that the Anchorage Project Access is well known for its donated health care program for the Anchorage area and beyond. It provides a number of services to individuals who currently do not have insurance. This project would expand the work for a pro bono counseling program. It will operate in a similar way, but for behavioral health services, and is still in its very beginning stages.

MS. FREEMAN stated that their program expanded into mental health because it is an obvious expansion when they were providing whole-person comprehensive care and addressing the unmet needs in Alaska for mental health care.

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

Trustee Boyles, yes; Chair Fisher, yes.)

MAPHABIT, INC./MAPHABIT PILOT PROJECT

MOTION: The Board of Trustees approve a \$75,000 fiscal year '25 partnership grant to MapHabit, Inc. for the Expanded MapHabit Pilot Project. These funds will come from the Partnerships/Designated Grants line of the fiscal year '25 budget. The motion was made by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN; seconded by TRUSTEE MORAN.

MS. BARSTAD stated that the Expanded MapHabit Pilot Project is to offer the opportunity to participate in this assistive technology platform for the Trust beneficiary populations who have a traumatic brain injury, Alzheimer's disease or related dementias, or intellectual and developmental disabilities. This form of assistive technology helps with behavior prompts to complete activities of daily living or instrumental activities of daily living. This small pilot project with the Alaska Association on Developmental Disabilities was built specific to that population. There are an increased number of requests coming through the mini grants for this project. She added that Kelly Griffon from MapHabit, the director of business development and contracting, was online, as well as Matt Golden, CEO, who may be in travel status.

TRUSTEE HALTERMAN asked how many mini-grant requests were received for this particular application.

MS. PREDEGER replied probably seven to ten in the last fiscal year.

TRUSTEE MORRIS asked about the funded pilot project results.

MS. GRIFFON replied that in the first pilot they noted a decrease in caregiver burden, as well as an increase in independent living skills for individuals. She stated that the first pilot was pretty small, about 28, and they are looking at a larger group of 20 with IDD, 10 with traumatic brain injury, and 20 with Alzheimer's and related dementia disorders.

A discussion continued.

CHAIR FISHER asked for any other questions. He stated that Trustee Morris left and was no longer in the meeting. Hearing no questions, he called the question.

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

UNITED NONPROFITS, LLC/UNP BOILER REPLACEMENT

MOTION: The Board of Trustees approve a \$67,000 FY25 partnership grant to United Nonprofits, LLC, for the United Nonprofits Boiler Replacement Project. These funds will come from the Partnership/Designated Grants line of the FY25 budget. The motion was made by TRUSTEE MORAN; seconded by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN.

MR. BOYER stated that United Nonprofits is an umbrella nonprofit organization. They have a building on Fireweed, near Spenard, with eight nonprofits in it. The nonprofit is co-owned by STAR, Standing Together Against Rape, and the Alaska AIDS Assistance Association. They manage and run the nonprofit. They offer below-market lease rate for eight nonprofits; two of

the eight are in that building. They have a building fund, and part of each tenant's lease goes into it. That fund was maintained at \$150,000. They are dealing with some roof issues which put a drain on their \$150,000, and they are not able to do the boiler. They put a band aid on that boiler a few years ago, but their contractor said there was nothing more to do to keep it going. The expense of the boiler and the controls to put it all in is significant, which is why they are asking for Trust support. Keely Olson, the executive director for STAR will be here later.

TRUSTEE MORAN stated that she is a partner organization with STAR. We do not have any financial ties with one another other than being a member of one organization. She is aware of the work they do. She added that she could not believe they are going to be able to do a boiler for that price.

TRUSTEE FEIGE asked if there were other funding sources beyond the Trust that they can go to.

MR. BOYER replied that Rasmuson is a partner, and they have pending requests into them. These are tough items to get grants for.

The discussion continued.

CEO BIASTOCK suggested a break to give the representative from this grant requestor an opportunity to arrive.

CHAIR FISHER called a break.

(Break.)

CHAIR FISHER stated they were back from break, and Keeley Olson was there to answer some questions about the grant they were discussing.

MS. OLSON stated that she was there on behalf of United Nonprofits, a limited liability corporation, and is the volunteer manager for that nonprofit. She continued that the Federation of Community Councils does not serve any beneficiaries. Their primary role is to empower people to be engaged in decisions impacting their part of the community throughout Anchorage. They primarily use the conference space and have the smallest footprint in the building. She reached out to Mara Kimmel, the ACLU director, when writing the grant to find out if they served beneficiaries. She said that the easiest number she could pull was that they operate a prison project that provides services to people within the Trust purview. She mentioned a data point that 80 percent of incarcerated Alaskans have a mental health issue, and the Department of Corrections is the State's largest mental health service provider. They have also worked with ACLU on the prison project that also involved PREA, the Prison Rape Elimination Act. She added that she is not an expert on all of the nonprofits in the building.

A brief discussion continued.

CHAIR FISHER asked for any other questions. There being none, he called the question.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Morris, excused; Trustee Moran, yes; Trustee Halterman, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Feige, yes;

Trustee Boyles, yes; Chair Fisher, yes.)

MS. OLSON thanked the trustees.

JAMHI HEALTH & WELLNESS/SHARP CONTRACTS AT JAMHI

MOTION: The Board of Trustees approve a \$46,000 FY25 partnership grant to JAMHI Health & Wellness, Incorporated, for the SHARP Contracts at JAMHI, continued project. These funds will come from the Partnerships/Designated Grants line of the FY25 budget. The motion was made by TRUSTEE MORAN; seconded by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN.

MR. BOYER stated that SHARP is a student loan repayment program for people in the healthcare field. It is a federally run program but goes through the Division of Public Health. JAMHI is the community behavioral health provider in the Juneau region with the struggle of maintaining licensed practitioners. He explained that he served on the SHARP Council for the Department of Health and saw practitioners coming in with \$100,000 of debt and saw as high as \$750,000 in student loan debt. The need is real and is a great way to bring in practitioners. Over the years, the Division had facilitated and secured over 700 contracts and thought that rural Alaska was the original intent. He noted this is the last year of their three-year grant.

A discussion ensued.

MOTION: A motion to table this motion until the February meeting was made by TRUSTEE MORAN; seconded by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN.

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

ALASKA ASSOCIATION ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES/KEY CAMPAIGN

MOTION: The Board of Trustees approve a \$25,000 FY25 partnership grant to the Alaska Association on Developmental Disabilities for the Strengthening Services by Sharing Stories of Lived Experience project. These funds will come from the Partnerships/Designated Grants line of the FY25 budget. The motion was made by TRUSTEE MORAN; seconded by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN.

MS. VOELKER-ROSS stated that this funding request is for individuals with developmental disabilities or intellectual developmental disabilities to travel to Juneau to learn advocacy skills, tell officials about their personal experiences with home- and community-based services, build their confidence and advocacy, and improve access to and the quality of Alaska's home- and community-based services. This gives these Trust beneficiaries the opportunity to share their stories, which has the secondary benefits of making them feel empowered and allowing them to carry these skills forward to improve their lives. Trust staff recommends this funding in support of Trust beneficiaries with DD and IDD and their families, and the COMP plan objective which focuses on increasing access to effective person-centered services and supports. She added that Kim Champney, the Alaska Association of Developmental Disabilities executive director, was online for any questions.

TRUSTEE MORAN stated concerns about this grant as far as lobbying since they go to Juneau and talk to legislators.

COO BALDWIN-JOHNSON replied that Ms. Voelker-Ross had conversations with Kim Champney about those concerns, and she is fully aware of the restrictions of Trust funds. She has a thoughtful approach on how to get those guardrails in place if the grant is approved.

MS. CHAMPNEY stated that she has been part of Key for over 20 years. The beneficiary involvement with Key is very focused on sharing what it is like to live with a disability and to access services. Key focuses on general education about living with disabilities, and there is a separate effort that happens that may be focused on a very specific item that is not part of the Key Campaign. The Key Campaign is a community coming together. The policy leaders are invited to a kickoff event, and people meet with each legislator, and beneficiaries get a chance to share their stories. They generally make the legislators aware of the existence of the waitlist. She suggested doing an orientation with a video that says upfront that their point was to share their stories and not to advocate for a specific bill or tell a legislator specifically how to vote. That is how she was thinking about moving forward with this.

CHAIR FISHER asked for any questions. There being none, he called the vote.

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

ALASKA CHILDREN'S TRUST/ALASKA OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME CONFERENCE

MOTION: The Board of Trustees approve a \$2,500 FY25 partnership grant to the Alaska Children's Trust for the Alaska Out-of-School Time Conference. These funds will come from the Partnerships/Designated Grants line of the FY25 budget. The motion was made by TRUSTEE MORAN; seconded by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN.

MS. VOELKER-ROSS stated that this funding request is for conference sponsorship for the 2024 Alaska Out-of-School Time Conference which will be held November 20-22, 2024. This conference provides essential training to a broad range of staff from communities statewide who work within the before school, after school, and summer programs for school-age children and youth. This sponsorship is recommended to support the COMP plan objective of improving workforce competencies. It aligns with the Trust commitment of enhancing services for beneficiaries to improve staff training and development. She added that Kaila Pfister from the Alaska Children's Trust was available to answer questions.

MS. PFISTER stated that Alaska Children's Trust is the umbrella organization, and the network is one of the programs. That connects back to their mission of preventing child neglect being a really important part of that and ensures kids have a safe space to go after school. It ties back into their broader mission. She added that last year in Anchorage they had 168 people in attendance. This year it is in Fairbanks next week, and they already have 175 registered.

CHAIR FISHER asked for any other questions. There being none, he called the vote.

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

OTHER APPROVALS

DD SYSTEMS CAPACITY ASSESSMENT

MOTION: The Board of Trustees approve an amount not to exceed \$250,000 for a contract for the evaluation of operations of Alaskan Intellectual and Developmental Disability provider organizations. These funds will come from the FY25 Comprehensive Program Planning and Consultative Services budget line of the Non-Focus Area section of the budget. The motion was made by TRUSTEE MORAN; seconded by TRUSTEE FEIGE.

MR. BALDWIN stated that at the board meeting in August, trustees heard feedback from stakeholders and key partners that there was a need for a capacity systems assessment for the organizations providing care to beneficiaries experiencing intellectual and developmental disabilities. Following trustees' direction, a group came together and met with Commissioner Hedberg of the Department of Health, and her leadership staff, the director of AADD, Kim Champney, and Patrick Reinhart, and looked at what the organizational capacity assessment need might be. The memo under consideration is for a not-to-exceed amount of \$250,000 to secure contractors to fulfill this assessment. He added that the focus is solely on services.

A discussion ensued.

CHAIR FISHER asked for any questions. There being none, he called the vote.

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

SOUTHCENTRAL FOUNDATION/AMENDMENT

MOTION: The Board of Trustees approve a change of project description for the fiscal year '21 Crisis Stabilization project with Southcentral Foundation. The project scope will be updated to allow Southcentral Foundation to use the funds approved for design work for the new behavioral health expansion building. The motion was made by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN; seconded by TRUSTEE FEIGE.

MR. BOYER explained that the Board approved this funding in FY21 to look at the design, planning, and the implementation of the crisis stabilization center on the Southcentral Foundation campus. They were looking at redesigning the dental space there off the hospital, just shy of 7,000 square feet. They are now in the process at a new location still on campus, but with a much larger facility that would provide a wider assortment of integrated services. This is twice the size of what they originally looked at. He stated that the original grant amount had not changed, but the grant amendment shows a change to do it at a different location.

MS. BAKER spoke on the crisis stabilization design modification request. That has been a priority of Southcentral Foundation for a long time, and they are grateful for the partnership in not only in funding, but also in planning.

A discussion ensued.

CHAIR FISHER called the vote.

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

COPPER RIVER NATIVE ASSOCIATION/AMENDMENT

MOTION: The Board of Trustees approve a budget amendment for the FY23 Mobile Integrated Village Health grant with the Copper River Native Association. The motion was made by TRUSTEE MORAN; seconded by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN.

MR. BOYER stated that this was at the end of the lifespan of the grant, and they did not expend some of their travel dollars and some of their other line items, but their personnel expenses were higher than projected due to some turnover. They asked for an amendment to move around \$42,000 into personnel at the final closeout of the grant. This is fairly typical. He stated that Matt Lawrence, the manager of that program from Copper River, was online for any questions.

CHAIR FISHER asked for any comments or questions. There being none, he called the vote.

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

TRUSTEE COMMENTS

CHAIR FISHER stated that they were at Trustee Comments and asked for anyone on the board to make a comment.

TRUSTEE HALTERMAN thanked staff for preparing the packets and materials. It was helpful and there was some good dialogue. The change in process is painful sometimes, but is working well. She thought the meetings were moving along quickly. She thanked all that made them all look so brilliant as the Board of Trustees. She thanked the people that came in and gave public testimony. The mission moments and public comments were her favorite part of the meetings because we get to interact with the beneficiary populations and the people the grants impact. She thanked them from the bottom of her heart for sharing their personal stories.

TRUSTEE FEIGE echoed that and thanked all of the beneficiaries for coming forward and sharing their stories. It makes the work we do real and makes us realize that we not only impact lives, but that we still have a lot of good work out there to do. She thanked staff for the rigor and work putting these together. She also stated appreciation for the sideboard conversations and the contact time with those fine folks.

TRUSTEE MORAN thanked the staff and stated appreciation for staff's patience moving through this new process and hoped the Program & Planning Committee could take a bigger role in getting questions answered.

TRUSTEE BOYLES stated that everything was fine.

TRUSTEE FIMON stated appreciation to all the partners and representatives coming or calling in, and the willingness in providing feedback on how the programs were going. He thanked the staff for coming through with great information and to be able to call in and still have all the information. He also thanked his fellow trustees and the Chair for the pacing of the meeting. It

was done efficiently. He continued that the biggest impact was getting a different view of the public comment usage. Most of the comments were positive and they come across very professional and positive. He thanked everybody for the opportunity to allow people to come in and share their views.

CHAIR FISHER echoed what everyone said and appreciated staff working with him ahead of the meeting so he can keep everyone involved that needed to be involved. He stated appreciation for all of the public comments. It is very important to see their faces and hear their voices in person. He also appreciated all the other staff that do things behind the scenes to help and make sure we are organized and have the discussions needed. Even though some things were tabled, those are great learning experiences when the trustees ask questions and decide to put something off until there is more information. He thanked everyone for participating, and asked for a motion to adjourn.

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

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

(Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Board of Trustees meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.)