

**ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH TRUST AUTHORITY
AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE MEETING**

January 9, 2025

10:00 a.m.

Originating at:

**Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority
3745 Community Park Loop, Suite 210
Anchorage, Alaska 99508**

Trustees Present:

Kevin Fimon, Chair
Anita Halterman
Corri Feige

Other Trustees Present:

Agnes Moran
John Morris
Rhonda Boyles (virtual)
Brent Fisher

Trust Staff Present:

Valette Keller
Allison Biastock
Shannon Cochran
Katie Baldwin-Johnson
Julee Farley
Carrie Predeger
Lucas Lind
Josie Stern
Eliza Muse
Michael Baldwin

Trust Land Office staff present:

Jusdi Warner
Jeff Green
Sarah Morrison
Tracy Salinas
Katie Vachris
Brittany Williams

Department of Law:

Gene Hickey

Also participating:

Steph Hopkins; Christopher Orman; Mary Wilson; Teri Tibbet.

PROCEEDINGS

CALL TO ORDER

CHAIR FIMON called the meeting to order and began with a roll call. He asked for any announcements. There being none, he moved to the approval of the agenda.

CHAIR FIMON entertained a motion for the approval of the agenda.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: A motion to approve the agenda was made by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN; seconded by TRUSTEE FEIGE.

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

ETHICS DISCLOSURE

CHAIR FIMON asked for any ethics disclosures. Hearing and seeing none, he moved to the approval of the minutes of October 16, 2024.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: A motion was made to approve the minutes of October 16, 2024. The motion was made by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN; seconded by TRUSTEE FEIGE.

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

CHAIR FIMON introduced Lucas Lind, the grants administrator, and Carrie Predeger, the grants accountability manager, to discuss the grant process.

GRANT COMPLIANCE

MR. LIND began with an overview, and then moved to the grants agreements, which are created with all of the different requirements. He talked about the ways that grants come before the trustees, how the budget is negotiated, and the performance measures.

MS. PREDEGER stated that a framework was established at the Trust for developing the performance measures which allow reviewing the project's outcomes and accomplishments, and then the impacts on the beneficiaries and the community as a whole.

TRUSTEE MORAN asked if each project performance measures are individual for each grant.

COO BALDWIN-JOHNSON replied that the partnership grants that come forward fall in line with Trust priorities. She added that the individual project performance measures do reflect the results-based accountability structure. She continued that the goal in looking at how the overall impact of a focus area or a priority area is measured includes strategies that can show a clear picture of the impact of an area.

CEO BIASTOCK stated that the focus was more conversation around the grant process, with an

emphasis on the monitoring and compliance piece. She recognized that there was going to be dialogue around grant performance and impact, and thought it would be appropriate for the committee to look at the compliance and monitoring aspect of the grant making. She added that Mr. Lind and Ms. Predeger would walk through the many stages that take place from the moment the grant is approved to the closeout.

MS. PREDEGER stated that the majority of the Trust grants use the results-based accountability framework which works best for the direct-service outreach, education, and the capacity-building projects. It does not work for building projects, conferences, or things that occur which have an end result.

MR. HICKEY asked under a results-based accountability requirement, from the performance standard, there are minimum thresholds with which the grantee must comply. For example, if the board approves a grant and those measures are not quantified, he asked how that performance is measured.

MR. LIND explains that performance measures are included in every grant approval.

TRUSTEE FEIGE asked if there is a set breakdown for what would be accepted as a ceiling for what goes to administration and grant administration.

MR. LIND replied that 15 percent is the target. There is no set ceiling because different parts of the state have different needs. He noted that is spelled out in every grant memo to the trustees.

TRUSTEE HALTERMAN asked what the threshold for unreasonable would be.

MR. LIND replied that over 15 percent starts raising hackles, and there has been up to 100 percent before, which was listed as their federally negotiated indirect. That was a \$10,000 grant which was not approved.

MS. PREDEGER stated that along with the project's category, they also take into account the individual aspects of each grant and incorporate input from the Trust program staff and the grantee. She added that she has been enjoying the new process which gets the feedback on the performance measures written with communication from the program officers and the grantees. It has been more valuable, and the program performance measures are better because of that.

COO BALDWIN-JOHNSON added that at the approval of the FY26 and FY27 budgets, the trustees considered a change that was implemented to provide the budget narrative document that follows each line in the budget. Staff is striving to put in as much available relevant information.

TRUSTEE HALTERMAN thanked staff for being very responsive for the commentary that allowed making recommendations that were considered for the last budget process.

MR. LIND talked about the individual budgets for each of the grant agreements.

TRUSTEE MORAN asked Mr. Hickey about the grant agreements.

MR. HICKEY replied that as long as it was in the grant agreement, it did not have to come back

to the board.

MR. LIND completed the budget detail and moved to the payment provisions. He explained that this differs according to grant type, and specific grants.

MS. PREDEGER moved to reporting requirements, and stated that all of the grants would have at least one final status report. The longer and more complex grants would usually have an additional interim report.

MR. LIND stated that every grantee is required to submit their report which has general components: an executive summary, responses to the performance measures as outlined, number of beneficiaries served, and how the money was spent.

MS. PREDEGER stated that all of the grants are evaluated individually for compliance with the grant agreement, which includes the responses to the performance measures. Those are scored for compliance only based on the timeliness of the report, the completeness of the executive summary, the responses to all of the performance measures, as well as compliance with the financial requirements. Those reports go into the budget narrative. She then explained the compliance scoring.

MR. LIND stated that all of the grant records are on the State server.

TRUSTEE FEIGE commented on the detail and the closer examination of administering of the grants, and stated appreciation for the report.

CHAIR FIMON appreciated the help through the process, and thanked Mr. Lind and Ms. Predeger for the information and the presentation. He moved to the Audit Update, and asked for a motion.

AUDIT UPDATE

MOTION: A motion was made that the Audit & Risk Committee for the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Board of Trustees enter Executive Session to obtain an update on the LB&A legislative audit of the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority. This Executive Session is permitted under the Open Meetings Act, AS 44.62.310(c)(2), as the matters to be discussed concern matters which, by law, are required to be confidential. The motion was made by TRUSTEE FEIGE; seconded by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN.

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

(Executive Session from 11:01 a.m. until 11:32 a.m.)

TRUSTEE FIEGE stated that she, her fellow trustees, and members of the Trust Authority returned to the Audit & Risk Committee meeting from the Executive Session. During the Executive Session, the trustees only discussed the items identified in the motion to move into Executive Session. The Audit & Risk Committee did not take any action while in Executive Session.

CHAIR FIMON entertained a motion to adjourn.

MOTION: A motion to adjourn the Audit & Risk Committee meeting was made by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN; seconded by TRUSTEE FEIGE.

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

(The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Audit & Risk Committee meeting adjourned at 11:33 a.m.)