

ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH TRUST AUTHORITY

FULL BOARD MEETING

January 3, 2014

1:00 p.m.

Taken at:

Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority
3745 Community Park Loop, Suite 200
Anchorage, Alaska 99508

OFFICIAL MINUTES

Trustees present:

Laraine Derr, Chair
Larry Norene
Russ Webb
Paula Easley
Mary Jane Michael

Trust staff present:

Jeff Jessee
Kevin Buckland
Katie Baldwin-Johnson
Nancy Burke
Bill Herman
Mike Baldwin
Marilyn McMillan
Miri Smith-Coolidge
Amanda Lofgren
Natasha Pineda

Others participating:

Kate Burkhart; Teresa Holt; Charles Boyd; Brenda Bogowith; Mary McEwen.

PROCEEDINGS

CHAIR DERR calls the meeting to order and does a roll call. She states that on the agenda is a small project application spreadsheet that needs to be approved. She asks for anything else to add to the agenda.

TRUSTEE WEBB asks to add some time at the end of the agenda just before adjournment for discussion of budget issues and potential Trust response to those issues going forward.

CHAIR DERR asks for anything else. She approves the agenda. She asks for any ethics problems with anything to be discussed. There being none, she states that the Guiding Principles are in the packet for review. She moves into the approvals of the FY14 small projects and the spreadsheet. She asks for any recommendations from the Board.

TRUSTEE WEBB makes a motion to approve the small projects outlined on the spreadsheet before the Board.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL seconds.

TRUSTEE NORENE states an objection to several: 5478, the Iliamna Village Council; 5485, City of White Mountain; 5487, Providence of Valdez; 5471 ACCA.

MR. JESSEE asks if this is a motion to remove them.

TRUSTEE NORENE replies no, that he is voicing his objections so that they can be noted in case there are no other objections. He continues: 5480, Ninilchik Community Clinic. He states that on the first page, it has not be demonstrated that there is a sufficient number of Beneficiaries, that it is not directly related to mental health issues enough for his satisfaction.

CHAIR DERR asks for other comments.

TRUSTEE EASLEY notes that there may be some people in the room who may be representing one or more of the projects.

MR. WILLIAMS explains that there is a PEC that reviews all the small-project requests, and the ones here are a selection of items that the PEC is bringing forward for approval. He states that small-project grants are up to \$10,000, and these are projects that are innovative, one-time, and are small in nature. He adds that the breadth of Beneficiaries impacted may not be the same as in some of the larger grants.

CHAIR DERR states that she is comfortable with approving the list, considering the fact that a PEC reviewed this. She asks for any other comments from the Trustees.

TRUSTEE EASLEY comments on the woman who was in the community which had had several suicides stating that she recommended a community center, a place that people could go to and do things that was not home.

CHAIR DERR moves to the motion, asking for any further discussion. She calls the vote, and all the Trustees voted in favor.

There being no objection, the motion is approved.

CHAIR DERR recognizes Russ Webb.

TRUSTEE WEBB wanted the opportunity to continue the discussion about the potential impacts of some of the decrements in the Governor's budget and further discussion of a direction the Trust can take to deal with the bigger, broader picture long term that this is important for the Trust and its Beneficiaries. He states his opinion that staff should be tasked with some very specific direction regarding identifying the impacts of the proposed decrements and reductions to the budget, and looking at how to use the information gathered to inform the public about what those impacts would be so that they understand what is happening in the budget and its potential impact for them and their families, their communities. And also that they have an opportunity to be informed in their communications with their legislators.

CHAIR DERR recognizes Mary Jane Michael.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL states that she agrees with Trustee Webb and adds that to impact the budget people need to get mad about it, and they need to be mad that Medicaid did not get expanded and that grants are getting cut. She continues that a strong message and advocacy movement in this session is needed, and maybe hiring a lobbyist to guide the way and fight it.

CHAIR DERR asks Mr. Jessee if this would be in the budget.

MR. JESSEE replies, yes, most of it is. He adds that this is the kind of thing that staff needs to be told to do.

A short discussion ensues on the subject of the budget and GF.

MR. JESSEE states that he cannot say what the actual grant reduction is going to be and should know by the January Trustee meeting.

TRUSTEE WEBB states, from his perspective, do the analysis, let the Trustees know what is going on, and give an opportunity for the Trustees to tell you where to focus the efforts on advocacy.

MR. JESSEE states that he can start the process of organizing people to go to the Capitol steps or go to their constituent meetings or contact their legislators. He continues if that is not the

strategy wanted and you want to go to the public and want that developed quickly, that also needs to be stated.

TRUSTEE WEBB asks about the money involved.

MR. JESSEE states that, on his authority, he can devote up to \$50,000 of the alcohol focus area money to a particular purpose and could do a couple of them. He states that he is just laying out the options.

The discussion continues.

CHAIR DERR states that this is the end of the discussion period. She moves back to the motion to approve the recommended FY14 small projects from the November application period.

TRUSTEE WEBB states that he believes that was his motion.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL states that she seconded it.

There being no objection, the motion is approved.

MR. JESSEE states that he believes the need for an enhanced advocacy effort this year.

TRUSTEE WEBB makes a motion to give Mr. Jessee direction, within the authority he has, to begin developing a targeted advocacy effort around the budget reduction foreseen in the Governor's budget, as well as potential for the future in the legislative process.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL seconds.

TRUSTEE EASLEY states that she would like to see Kate, Teresa and Denise, and the ABIN representatives who are working on the advocacy plan to be in on this.

MR. JESSEE replies that they will be working with the boards very heavily on this.

There being no objection, the motion is approved.

CHAIR DERR asks for a motion for adjournment.

TRUSTEE WEBB makes a motion to adjourn.

TRUSTEE NORENE seconds.

There being no objection, the motion is approved.

(Full Board meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.)