

ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH TRUST AUTHORITY

FULL BOARD MEETING

January 29, 2015

11:30 a.m.

Taken at:

Permanent Fund Corporation
3745 Community Park Loop, Suite 200
Juneau, Alaska 99801

OFFICIAL MINUTES

Trustees present:

Mike Barton, Chair
Laraine Derr
John McClellan
Russ Webb

Trust staff present:

Jeff Jessee
Steve Williams
Nancy Burke (via speakerphone)
Miri Smith-Coolidge
Kevin Buckland
Carrie Predeger (via speakerphone)
Carley Lawrence
Valette Keller (via speakerphone)
Amanda Lofgren
Katie Baldwin-Johnson
Mike Baldwin

TLO staff present:

Marcie Menefee
John Morrison
Paul Slenkamp

Others participating:

Kate Burkhart; Denise Daniello; Kathy Craft.

PROCEEDINGS

CHAIR BARTON reconvenes the meeting. He states that Trustee Paula Easley was ill this morning, and she may join us later. He continues that the video that was seen was excellent.

TRUSTEE WEBB asks who did the video.

MR. JESSEE replies Northwest Strategies.

CHAIR BARTON recognizes Denise Daniello.

ALASKA COMMISSION ON AGING

MS. DANIELLO begins with a review of FY16 budget impacts for senior Trust Beneficiaries and older Alaskans. She adds that the numbers are based on the budget that was released in December and does not include Governor Walker's new budget, which has not yet been released. She talks about the legislative priorities with regard to budget and policy. She states that there are two budget recommendations that will be advocated for and thanks the Trust for including the Commission on Aging's priorities in their recommendations for the Mental Health Bill. She continues that the first priority is a budget increase for the National Family Caregiver Grant Program, and goes through this in great detail.

TRUSTEE DERR asks how Alaska compares to other states in regard to senior benefits.

MS. DANIELLO replies that Alaska definitely stands out as a state that provides a lot for its residents: Permanent Fund Dividend and senior benefits. She continues that there is a really good foundation of these home- and community-based services. She states that on the other hand, coming here from out of state means leaving behind friends, which is very disruptive. She adds that there is a lack of senior housing and sometimes it is difficult to get a primary-care provider if insured by Medicare; and the cost of health care is significantly higher. She moves on to the second budget recommendation, which is a recommendation for the senior in-home services program in the amount of \$350,000. This program serves people age 60 years and older; provides care coordination, homemaker services, supplemental supports; respite for family caregivers; and also covers eyeglasses and hearing aids not covered by Medicare. She continues her presentation, covering the budget priorities and policies. Some ideas regarding ways to pursue budget efficiencies to serve senior Trust Beneficiaries that have been discussed are: leverage protective services; primary care and behavioral health care needs to be together; greater utilization of the Complex Behavior Collaborative for seniors with challenging behaviors, their caregivers and providers; and to improve access to community residential placement options. She adds that also included as a recommendation is the road map to increase GR rates, general relief rates, for assisted living homes to take on these vulnerable seniors and service them. She then moves on to Medicaid expansion and what that means for Alaska Seniors. She states that the Commission has provided both in-person and written testimony to the Medicaid Reform Advisory Group. She continues that recommendations were provided that are also from the road map. They are measures that made good sense; are cost-effective; provide more person-centered care and intensive case management; implementing a tiered rate system; increase GR rates for providers who are serving high-needs populations; increasing needs of local public

health nurses to do community assessment; and to allow Medicaid income recipients on a fixed income to forgo the need to resubmit their annual recertification paperwork. She states that this year the Department will be working on the recertification package that will be submitted to Centers for Medicare/Medicaid in 2016. She explains what Medicaid expansion means for Alaskan seniors. She moves to some of the secondary benefits for Alaskan seniors. She states that the Commission is advocating for the 1915(k) and (i) being done together for the new State plan amendments. She continues that Alaska has one of the strictest definitions for eligibility for the waiver program, and we would like to take a look at the definition of eligibility for the current 1915(c). She gives a quick update on where the Alaska's road map is to address Alzheimer's disease and related dementia. She states that it has been finalized and is in the process of being published and distributed to providers and stakeholders. A copy will also be shared with legislators when the Commissioner meets with them, the Governor's Office, as well as Alaska's Congressional delegation. She continues that there are 95 strategies in this road map which were prioritized as to importance in getting everything started. She adds that presentations about the road map have been given, and there will be one tomorrow for the Medical Care Advisory Committee. She ends with some of the findings from the needs assessment activities for developing the next State plan for senior services. She states that there are three types of needs assessment activities: a senior survey, which was conducted gathering 2,263 responses from Alaskans age 55 years and older; six Elder/Senior listening sessions; and finished up on the provider surveys.

A short discussion on the survey ensues.

MS. DANIELLO concludes her presentation, and thanks all.

CHAIR BARTON states his appreciation and thanks Ms. Daniello. He moves on to other business, beginning with the location and the date of the May meeting. Trustee Michael requested it being earlier in the week on the 5th or 6th.

A discussion ensues.

MR. WILLIAMS states that it would be a two-day meeting and connecting up with Ionia and trying to do a site visit.

MR. JESSEE states that the integration of the mental health center and the hospital were funded by the Trust, and there are some opportunities there.

CHAIR BARTON asks if that and May 5, 6, and 7 is acceptable to the Trustees. He asks if there is any other business to discuss.

TRUSTEE DERR states that this is Chair Barton's last meeting and thanks him for his service.

CHAIR BARTON states appreciation for all the support and for the opportunity to work with everyone. He thanks all very much.

TRUSTEE WEBB states that he has been a great chairman and is appreciated.

MR. JESSEE states, from the staff perspective, Chair Barton has always been available and is appreciated for all the work done.

CHAIR BARTON asks for anything else to come before the Board. There being none, he adjourns the Board meeting to move on to the site visits.

(Full Board meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.)