

ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH TRUST AUTHORITY

FULL BOARD MEETING

August 27, 2015
9:00 a.m.

Taken at:

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

OFFICIAL MINUTES

Trustees present:

Russ Webb, Chair
Mary Jane Michael
Paula Easley
Larry Norene
Carlton Smith

Trust staff present:

Steve Williams
Jeff Jessee
Miri Smith-Coolidge
Kevin Buckland
Carrie Predeger
Carley Lawrence
Amanda Lofgren
Mike Baldwin
Katie Baldwin-Johnson
Nancy Burke
Luke Lind
Vallette Keller
Natasha Pineda

TLO staff present:

Kathy Craft; Tawny Buck; Nelson Page; Kate Burkhart; Denise Daniello; Patrick Reinhart; Chris Cook; Lisa Cauble.

PROCEEDINGS

CHAIR WEBB calls the Board meeting of the Alaska Mental Health Board of Trustees to order and proceeds with the agenda this morning. He asks for any announcements. He moves into the budget deliberations, and recognizes Nelson Page who will lead the board through the process.

MR. PAGE states that he will take the board through the process.

TRUSTEE NORENE states that the payout calculations be acknowledged before the budget deliberations of the current financial situation and the prospect of income. He states concern that the present payout is at 4.25 percent and suggests reconsidering an adjustment of that payout figure. He explains the situation more fully.

TRUSTEE NORENE makes a motion to reduce the payout from 4-and-a-quarter percent to the Permanent Fund's projected 3.9 percent.

TRUSTEE SMITH seconds.

MR. JESSEE clarifies that the Board has never proposed spending anything out of principal or corpus.

TRUSTEE NORENE states that it is just an acknowledgement more than an impact.

A discussion ensues.

MR. PAGE states that he is heartened by the trustees' concerns and continues that he was the initial chair of the Trust and was part of the board that set up the model that is in use now. The concerns are the same, making sure that the future beneficiaries are not being harmed by what is done for the beneficiaries today. He states that it is important for the trustees to look at the model and make sure that the model still properly reflects the real world and not look at numbers or percentages of payout. He highly recommends considering getting an outside expert to look at this and work towards a projection that the trustees could live with. His advice, as an attorney, is that by hiring a competent, well-respected expert would show due diligence.

CHAIR WEBB asks what income percent the TLO is generating that is factored into the payout.

MR. PAGE replies that the annual payout disbursement calculation for this year is \$10,885,500 from the Permanent Fund, which is a four-year average. He continues that the TLO spendable income is \$4,466,800, which is about 20 percent of the total spent.

MR. BUCKLAND explains this more fully.

TRUSTEE DERR states that there is a motion on the floor.

CHAIR WEBB calls the vote: Paula Easley, no; Carlton Smith, no; Laraine Derr, no; Larry Norene, yes; Mary Jane Michael, no; Chair Webb, yes. The motion is not approved.

CHAIR WEBB states that, based on the discussion and the advice, We need to get some good advice from experts to look at all of the Trust assets, the Permanent Fund and the real property, and help the trustees to understand how all are allocated; help figure out whether the current model works; whether the payout is appropriate; whether change is needed to be made given the projects from the Permanent Fund; and any other information. He asks Mr. Jessee if a motion with a dollar amount attached is needed. He adds that a good and clear definition of what inflation is and what inflation-proofing means in the context, not just of the Permanent Fund, but the entire corpus of the Trust.

MR. PAGE states that the finance chair, Trustee Michael, will be assisting him. He begins with the payout sheet for FY16 and the preliminary payout estimates for FY17.

MR. JESSEE asks Kevin Buckland to reintroduce Kat.

MR. BUCKLAND introduces Kat Rock, the budget controller. He continues that Marilyn McMillan retired after many years of service.

MR. PAGE states that the process is three-fold and explains in detail. He continues that all the pages would be gone through, stopping when there is a discussion needed, and making changes where needed. Mr. Buckland will keep track of any changes. At the end of the process there will be a final spreadsheet which the trustees will be asked to approve; and that will be the approval of the budget recommendations for FY17. He begins with the FY16 issues first and the comprehensive plan. He asks Mr. Williams to talk about the funding issues for FY16 regarding the comprehensive plan.

MR. WILLIAMS provides the context for why this is being run in FY16. He begins with consultive services, strategic planning and explains that the trustees approved \$85,000 in FY16 for that line item. He continues that the funding for the purposes of forwarding, at the direction of the Planning Committee, an assessment, information, or paying someone to do a contract on something that would forward its agenda.

MR. BALDWIN states that it is money that has been budgeted which would allow jump-starting that process with the behavioral health assessment results and move forward.

MR. WILLIAMS states that there is \$100,000 recommended by staff for that same line item, which is a starting point.

MR. PAGE points out that is the proposal for how to use the funding for the comprehensive plan, and no changes are being proposed at this point.

MR. WILLIAMS states that is correct.

A discussion ensues.

MR. PAGE states that staff will come back to the trustees if additional funds are needed to fully get the comprehensive planning process started in FY16. He moves to the behavioral system assessment, which is another expenditure for FY16 that the trustees needed to discuss.

MR. BALDWIN explains that the first phase of the behavioral systems assessment is in the process of being completed and gives a snapshot of what is going on for this assessment period.

TRUSTEE EASLEY asks for Kate Burkhart's views on that report.

MS. BURKHART states that she is from the Alaska Mental Health Board and Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse. She continues that part of her concern is that the goal is to have a robust source of information for data mining and analysis. She states that, instead of digging through the sources in the assessment, encourage behavioral health providers to participate in the Alaska E-Health Network where the data in is high-quality, as well as the data out. She continues that this is a very valuable tool and is concerned that it has not yet been used. She adds that it is technically not out yet, but in the grand scheme of things, there are ways to achieve the goal of having ready and efficient access to information to answer the questions that are less labor-intensive. She continues that this project is almost four years old.

CHAIR WEBB asks Ms. Burkhart to write down her suggestions about how to operate more efficiently and provide them to Mr. Baldwin.

MR. PAGE asks about the funding for FY16.

MR. BALDWIN requests that the trustees approve an expenditure of up to \$250,000 FY16 which would come out of currently unallocated funds.

CHAIR WEBB makes a motion to allocate \$200,000 to this effort.

TRUSTEE EASLEY seconds.

There being no objection, the motion is approved.

MR. PAGE states that Mr. Buckland will factor that in, and moves on.

MR. WILLIAMS asks if the fiscal year and the fund type as authority grant versus MHTAAR is needed in that motion.

CHAIR WEBB makes a motion to approve \$200,000 as an authority grant for the purposes of pursuing continuation of the behavioral health assessment, building the process, and continuing the assessment.

TRUSTEE EASLEY seconds.

There being no objection, the motion is approved.

MR. BUCKLAND states, for the record, that this will require booking additional funds in FY16 for when this goes through OMB.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL makes a motion that the Full Board of Trustees increase the FY16 authorization previously approved for workforce development amount by \$45,000 to the core competency supervisor toolkit, bringing a total funding authorized in FY16 to \$135,000.

TRUSTEE EASLEY seconds.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL states that her reason for this request is so they can complete the core competency supervisor toolkit and then can eliminate the FY17 from it.

TRUSTEE DERR asks if she wants to make it \$65,000.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL replies yes.

There being no objection, the motion is approved.

MR. PAGE asks for anything else for FY16. Hearing nothing, he asks Mr. Buckland to move those changes down to the bottom line and moves to the FY2017 preliminary payout estimate. He states that the ones for action purposes are at the bottom, and the base subtotal is \$28,965,500. He continues, that is added to the current unobligated prior-year FY16 funds and asks Mr. Buckland to continue.

MR. BUCKLAND states that the revised current unobligated prior-year FY16 funds, after making the \$245,000 adjustment, is \$834,889; leaving a bottom line for total funding available for FY17 of \$29,800,489.

TRUSTEE DERR makes a motion that \$29,800,489 is the bottom line for the FY17 budget.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL seconds.

There being no objection, the motion is approved.

MR. PAGE moves to the large spreadsheet, explaining it as he goes along. He states that he will go through them in order. He continues that the Trustees have three options: do nothing and the previously approved FY2017 actions that were taken in September of last year will go forward; accept the staff-recommended changes; or do something else. He starts with nonfocus area allocations, and the first is the Trust Land Office and Long-Term Care Ombudsman's budget.

MR. WILLIAMS asks to confirm that this amount reflects the \$70,000 that was approved by trustees for the new microphone system.

MR. BUCKLAND states yes.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL makes a motion that the Full Board of Trustees authorizes \$3,612,000 MHTAAR admin for the Trust Authority administrative budget for FY2017.

TRUSTEE NORENE seconds.

MR. JESSEE asks if that is just MHTAAR.

MR. BUCKLAND replies that it is MHTAAR, and we will use the motion that was approved yesterday.

MR. PAGE states that there needs to be a clear record. If anyone wants to go back and question, the motion needs to be accurate.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL makes a motion to amend her initial motion on the Land Office budget by removing “admin” from the previous motion.

TRUSTEE NORENE seconds.

There being no objection, the motion is approved.

MR. PAGE states that takes care of the TLO and the Long-Term Care Ombudsman’s budgets. He moves to other nonfocus area allocations and begins with grant-making programs.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL makes a motion that the Full Board of Trustees appropriate \$1,850,000 MHTAAR and Authority Grants for the nonfocus area allocation grant-making programs during FY2017 consisting of \$1,850,000 in Authority Grants.

TRUSTEE DERR seconds.

There being no objection, the motion is approved.

MR. PAGE moves to mini-grants and dental projects.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL makes a motion that the Full Board of Trustees appropriate \$1,790,000 MHTAAR and Authority Grants for the nonfocus area allocation mini-grants and dental projects during FY2017 consisting of \$1,790,000 Authority Grants.

TRUSTEE SMITH seconds.

There being no objection, the motion is approved.

MR. PAGE moves to the segment regarding Trust statutory advisory boards.

TRUSTEE EASLEY makes a motion to approve Trust statutory advisory board funds for FY17 in the amount of \$712,000 MHTAAR funds.

TRUSTEE DERR seconds.

There being no objection, the motion is approved.

CHAIR WEBB calls a break.

(Break.)

CHAIR WEBB calls the Board of Trustees back into session.

MR. PAGE moves to traumatic brain injury efforts.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL makes a motion that the Full Board of Trustees appropriate \$468,500 in MHTAAR and Authority Grants for the nonfocus area allocation traumatic brain injury efforts during FY2017 consisting of \$138,500 MHTAAR and \$330,000 Authority Grants.

TRUSTEE EASLEY seconds.

There being no objection, the motion is approved.

MR. PAGE moves to rural outreach and rural technical assistance.

TRUSTEE EASLEY makes a motion that the Full Board of Trustees appropriate \$70,000 in MHTAAR and Authority Grants for the nonfocus area allocation rural outreach and rural technical assistance during FY2017 consisting of zero MHTAAR and \$70,000 Authority Grant.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL seconds.

There being no objection, the motion is approved.

MR. PAGE moves to the Bring the Kids Home Maintenance/Monitoring.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL makes a motion that the Full Board of Trustees appropriate \$85,000 in MHTAAR and Authority Grants for the nonfocus area allocation Bring the Kids Home Maintenance/Monitoring during FY17 consisting of \$85,000 Authority Grants.

TRUSTEE NORENE seconds.

A discussion ensues.

There being no objection, the motion is approved.

MR. PAGE states that next is consultive and technical assistance services.

TRUSTEE NORENE asks if the predevelopment to Foraker is still busy and functioning.

MR. JESSEE replies that there are still projects coming through and asks Ms. Burke to continue.

MS. BURKE states that there are still projects coming through that had already done a fair amount of their fundraising for capital funds; and the program also took on the domestic violence shelter assessment and the project that was reviewed in Finance Committee.

TRUSTEE CARLTON asks for more information on what this category really does.

MR. JESSEE gives a brief overview.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL makes a motion that the Full Board of Trustees appropriate \$1,215,000 in MHTAAR and Authority Grants for the nonfocus area allocation consultive and technical assistance services during FY2017 consisting of \$1,215,000 Authority Grants. She further moves that the Full Board of Trustees recommend \$750,000 of other funds for the nonfocus area allocation consultive and technical assistance services for FY2017.

TRUSTEE NORENE seconds.

CHAIR WEBB asks what the “other funds” are.

MR. JESSEE replies that it is Rasmuson, Mat-Su Health Foundation, and the Denali Commission.

A discussion ensues about keeping the trustees abreast of articles circulating the state, especially the issues on Medicaid.

There being no objection, the motion is approved.

MR. PAGE moves on.

TRUSTEE EASLEY makes a motion that the Full Board of Trustees appropriate \$290,000 in MHTAAR and Authority Grants for the nonfocus area allocation “other” during FY17, consisting of \$115,000 MHTAAR and \$75,000 Authority Grants.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL seconds.

There being no objection, the motion is approved.

MR. PAGE states that that completes the nonfocus area allocations segment of the spreadsheet. He adds that there were no changes from the FY17 recommendations that will affect the bottom line at this part of the spreadsheet.

TRUSTEE NORENE asks for an explanation for line 66, the health insurance.

MR. BUCKLAND explains that is a carryover from an older spreadsheet. There have been some differences of approach over the years on how to handle the health insurance increases related to the Trust Authority and the Trust Land Office. He explains more fully.

A discussion ensues.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL makes a motion that the Full Board of Trustees appropriate \$4,155,100 in MHTAAR and Authority Grants for the Housing and Long-Term Services and Supports focus area during FY2017 consisting of \$2,880,100 MHTAAR and \$1,275,000 Authority Grants. She further moves the Full Board of Trustees recommend the appropriation of \$3, 200,000 in GF/MH funding and \$8,350,000 of other funds for the focus area for FY2017.

TRUSTEE EASLEY seconds.

There being no objection, the motion is approved.

A discussion on the Cadillac tax ensues and continues into the housing area.

MR. PAGE moves to the Beneficiary Employment and Engagement Focus area.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL makes a motion that the Full Board of Trustees appropriate \$3,310,000 in MHTAAR and Authority Grants for the Beneficiary Employment & Engagement focus area during FY2017 consisting of \$640,000 MHTAAR and \$2,670,000 Authority Grants.

TRUSTEE DERR seconds.

There being no objection, the motion is approved.

MR. PAGE moves to Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL makes a motion that the Full Board of Trustees appropriate \$1,375,000 in MHTAAR and Authority Grants for the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Focus area during FY2017 consisting of \$10,000 MHTAAR and \$1,365,000 Authority Grants.

TRUSTEE NORENE seconds.

A discussion ensues.

There being no objection, the motion is approved.

MR. PAGE moves to the disability justice focus area.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL makes a motion that the Full Board of Trustees appropriate \$3,018,600 MHTAAR and Authority Grants for the disability justice focus area during FY2017 consisting of \$2,216,600 MHTAAR and \$802,000 Authority Grants.

TRUSTEE DERR seconds.

MR. WILLIAMS clarifies the motion, and a discussion ensues.

There being no objection, the motion is approved.

MR. PAGE moves to workforce development focus area.

TRUSTEE EASLEY makes a motion that the Full Board of Trustees appropriate \$1,723,100 in MHTAAR and Authority Grants for the workforce development focus area during FY17, consisting of \$1,470,100 MHTAAR and \$255,000 in Authority Grants.

TRUSTEE DERR seconds.

CHAIR WEBB states that it is lunchtime, and the meeting is recessed until 1:00 o'clock.

(Lunch break.)

CHAIR WEBB calls the meeting back to order and states that there is a motion on the floor regarding workforce development.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL states that there is a motion on the floor and she has a proposed motion.

CHAIR WEBB asks if it is an amendment or an alternative motion.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL replies that it is a substitute motion.

CHAIR WEBB asks Trustee Derr for parliamentary advice.

TRUSTEE DERR replies that this one may be amended.

TRUSTEE NORENE asks that Trustee Michael state her motion.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL makes a motion that the Full Board of Trustees discontinue workforce development as a focus area upon the close of FY16. She further moves that the FY17 budget items formerly residing in the workforce development focus area, other than the core competency supervisory toolkit, the workforce director, and the administrative costs, be reallocated to other continuing focus areas and/or the nonfocus area allocations at the discretion of the CEO. She further moves that during FY16 the remaining workforce development strategies be refocused on Medicaid expansion and re-entry workforce needs and to direct staff to provide periodic updates regarding project status, staffing or support needs required for FY17 and beyond.

TRUSTEE NORENE seconds.

CHAIR WEBB states that there is a substitute motion on the floor, and asks Trustee Michael to explain.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL states that she is proposing this because she participated in the focus area discussions in FY2013 and at that time discussed either phasing out workforce development or putting some of those items at a maintenance level. She continues that the second reason is because of the economic times. She explains more fully.

TRUSTEE NORENE states that he has not been pleased with the progress or the results, and this may promote some change.

TRUSTEE EASLEY states that the focus area has had accomplishments through their action plan, and workforce development is still needed to continue these accomplishments. She states that she will be voting against the substitute motion and would like a roll-call vote.

The discussion continues, stating the pros and cons

MR. JESSEE states that, as he understands the substitute motion, it would not necessarily end some of these strategies; they would just be someplace else in the budget.

The discussion continues.

MR. PAGE states that one of his jobs is to make sure the record is clear on what is being done. He continues that there is some ambiguity about what is being proposed. As he understands the motion, the funds that are allocated to FY16 for workforce development will now be to put emphasis on workforce needs for Medicaid expansion and re-entry workforce.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL clarifies that the items in the budget would continue exactly as they are. The Trust Training Cooperative would simply be transferred under one of the other program staff. She states that every line item would remain the same, because there are commitments.

The discussion continues.

CHAIR WEBB states that his goal would be to spend some time seriously retooling and figuring out where to really go and what is needed in the future. He continues that there is a suggested approach, a substitute motion and the original motion. He asks where the Board would like to start.

TRUSTEE NORENE states that the substitute motion comes first.

TRUSTEE SMITH asks that the motion be repeated.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL makes a motion that the Full Board of Trustees discontinue workforce development as a focus area upon the close of FY16. She further moves that in FY17, budget items formerly residing in the workforce development focus area, other than the workforce director and administrative costs and the Core Competencies Supervisory Toolkit be reallocated

to other continuing focus areas and/or the nonfocus area allocations at the discretion of the CEO. She further moves that during FY16, the remaining workforce development strategies be refocused on Medicaid expansion and re-entry workforce needs and to direct staff to provide periodic updates regarding project status, staffing or support needs required for FY17 and beyond.

TRUSTEE EASLEY calls the question.

CHAIR WEBB calls the roll call vote: *Paula Easley, no; Carlton Smith, no; Laraine Derr, no; Larry Norene, yes; Mary Jane Michael, yes; Russ Webb, no. The motion is not approved.*

CHAIR WEBB states that the intention is to phase this out as a focus area in FY16. The major portion would be to figure out what is needed. What new strategies, what different approaches are needed to retool the efforts towards workforce development to focus on developing the workforce needed to serve the Beneficiaries under Medicaid expansion and associated with the recidivism and re-entry initiatives that are being pursued along the other part of this. He continues that during that process, at some point staff will come back and tell what staffing needs are, and will make a proposal on how these needs will be met.

MS. PINEDA asks that when speaking about Medicaid expansion, if reforms may be included as well. She wants it clear with how workforce can support the reforms that are underway.

CHAIR WEBB asks Trustee Michael to reread the original motion.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL makes a motion that the Full Board of Trustees appropriate \$1,660,100 in MHTAAR and Authority Grants for the workforce development focus area during FY2017, consisting of \$1,470,100 MHTAAR and \$190,000 Authority Grants.

CHAIR WEBB states that it is the same original motion with new amended numbers.

There being no objection, the motion is approved.

TRUSTEE DERR thanks Trustee Michael for bring up the discussion.

CHAIR WEBB agrees that it was an excellent discussion, and there will be a lot more of them.

MR. PAGE moves to the advisory board requests, and asks for a motion.

TRUSTEE DERR makes a motion that the Full Board of Trustees appropriate \$550,000 in MHTAAR and Authority Grants for various advisory board recommendations and capital requests for the FY2017 budget consisting of \$500,000 MHTAAR. She further moves that the Full Board of Trustees recommend the appropriation of \$1,250,000 GF/MH for advisory board recommendations for FY17.

TRUSTEE EASLEY seconds.

CHAIR WEBB recognizes Denise Daniello.

MS. DANIELLO states that she is the executive director on the Alaska Commission on Aging and continues that the Commission wants to bring attention to the fact that one of their capital budget recommendations is not mentioned on here. She states that it is the one for assistive technology that was discussed yesterday. She continues that it is funding to provide assistive technology for Trust beneficiaries with hearing and vision impairments. She adds that it has had tremendous success and high satisfaction. The amount was \$500,000 GF/MH.

TRUSTEE NORENE talks about the possibility of approaching communication carriers with the proposal to produce something, and asks if staff could look into finding something less than \$500,000.

MS. BURKHART states that much of the assistive technology is low tech and likes the idea of looking at what is available and whether it is less expensive to subsidize someone's use of a smart phone with an app rather than a massive piece of technology.

CHAIR WEBB asks for a basis for the determination of the \$500,000.

MS. BURKHART replies that, according to the contractor, it averages about \$350 per person.

TRUSTEE DERR, for discussion purposes, makes a motion to add the \$350,000 GF into a line titled "assistive technology."

TRUSTEE EASLEY seconds.

A discussion ensues.

MR. WILLIAMS clarifies that it is GF/MH.

CHAIR WEBB states the correction to the amendment would be the fund source, and it would be GF/MH.

There being no objection, the motion is approved.

MR. PAGE asks Mr. Buckland to make sure that everything is lined up and asks for a five-minute break.

(Break.)

MR. PAGE asks Mr. Buckland to summarize the numbers for the advisory boards and make sure they are correct.

MR. BUCKLAND adds the \$350,000 GF/MH recommendation for assistive technology and states that the net effect of that for advisory board totals are \$550,000 MHTAAR; and there is a

total of \$1,600,000 in GF/MH recommendations on behalf of the advisory boards' capital requests for FY17.

MR. PAGE recommends another motion to approve the numbers just received.

TRUSTEE DERR makes a motion that the Full Board of Trustees approve \$550,000 in MHTAAR and Authority Grants for various advisory board recommendations and capital requests during FY17, consisting of \$550,000 MHTAAR. She further moves that the Full Board of Trustees recommend the appropriation of \$1,600,000 of GF/MH funds for advisory board recommendations for FY17.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL seconds.

There being no objection, the motion is approved.

MR. PAGE moves to the summary sheet which is posted on the screen. He recommends a motion for final approval.

TRUSTEE DERR makes a motion that the Full Board of Trustees approve the FY17 budget recommendations in the amount of \$28,458,800 for MHTAAR, admin and AG; \$16,741,800 of MHTAAR admin; \$11,717,000 for Authority Grants; \$4,800,000 for GF/MH , and \$9,100,000 for other fund sources.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL seconds.

There being no objection, the motion is approved.

MR. PAGE states that the amount remaining unobligated for FY2017 is \$1,341,700. He continues that includes a carryover from last year, FY16, plus an additional amount that has not yet been obligated for FY17.

CHAIR WEBB thanks Mr. Page and states that he received an e-mail from Commissioner Davidson. He asks Mr. Jessee to read it into the record.

MR. JESSEE reads: "Good afternoon Trustees. Please accept my sincerest apologies for my absence at today's meeting. As you know, the initial court hearing on the legislative council suit against us regarding Medicaid expansion has been scheduled for 2:30 this afternoon. We are hearing that there is a possibility that the judge may rule from the bench today, so getting over to see you at 3:30 may be more challenging than originally anticipated. As we move forward in approving the goal of improving the health of Alaskans, I would also want to offer my sincere appreciation to the trustees and Trust staff. I've known for some time that the partnership between the Trust and Department is crucial to best serve Alaskans. However, since becoming Commissioner, I've come to realize that your support of Department programs is even more impressive than I was previously aware. Jeff has been an incredible adviser to me in my capacity as Commissioner, and I'm so grateful for his wise counsel and advice. In this fiscal year alone, the Trust has contributed funding for 15 DHSS projects covering a spectrum of need across

many sectors of the Department. This includes the Medicaid redesign and technical assistance contracts and the Medicaid expansion administrative costs, which are so important to getting our beneficiaries enrolled in health coverage. Despite claims to the contrary, we know many Trust beneficiaries will have their health and lives greatly improved by their ability to access health services, including mental health and substance abuse treatment. About 3500 people currently being served by our behavioral health grantees will be eligible for Medicaid through expansion. Medicaid expansion will provide the funds necessary to build capacity and enhance the behavioral health system. Alaskans who have access to a full array of health services, including mental health and substance abuse treatment, are less likely to recidivate. Healthier Alaskans help us to build a healthier Alaska. You have been critical to our ability to successfully expand Medicaid. We could not have made the progress we have made without you. I hope at the next meeting I will be able to advise you more fully about the other good work the Department is doing, building on your partnerships with tribes and the federal government, transforming our child welfare system, continued strengthening of the behavioral health, senior and disability, public health, and all the systems that support our shared beneficiaries. Qu yana, thank you very much, for your incredible work and support. Val Davidson, Commissioner.”

CHAIR WEBB asks for a motion to adjourn.

TRUSTEE DERR makes a motion to adjourn the meeting.

TRUSTEE NORENE seconds.

There being no objection, the meeting is adjourned.

(Full Board meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.)