

ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH TRUST AUTHORITY  
PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

February 23, 2016  
1:32 p.m.

Taken at:

Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority  
3745 Community Park Loop  
First Floor Conference Room  
Anchorage, Alaska

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**OFFICIAL MINUTES**

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Trustees present:

Mary Jane Michael, Chair  
Russ Webb  
Carlton Smith  
Laraine Derr (via telephone)  
Larry Norene  
Paula Easley  
Jerome Selby (via telephone)

Trust staff present:

Steve Williams  
Jeff Jessee  
Miri Smith-Coolidge  
Kevin Buckland  
Mike Baldwin  
Katie Baldwin-Johnson  
Amanda Lofgren  
Carrie Predeger  
Heidi Wailand  
Valette Keller  
Carley Lawrence  
Luke Lind

Others participating:

Monique Martin; Chris Aschenbrenner; Verdie Bowen (via telephone).

## PROCEEDINGS

CHAIR MICHAEL calls the Planning Committee meeting to order and begins with the roll call. She welcomes Trustee Jerome Selby and begins with announcements. She asks Mr. Jessee for his comments.

MR. JESSEE begins by introducing Heidi Wailand who will ultimately be in the new position created around data analysis and planning.

MS. WAILAND thanks all and is excited to be here. She states that she came from Agnew::Beck Consulting, which has a long history of working with the Trust. Prior to that, she explains that she worked for the City of New York doing systems change, large-scale operations projects. She adds that she is looking forward to digging in and helping accomplish the priorities that are being set.

CHAIR MICHAEL welcomes her and asks Mr. Jessee to continue.

MR. JESSEE states that he asked the Department to give a list of all the potential ideas they have, and then for FY17, '18, and '19, which would carry the Trust through the next two-year budget cycle. He continues that the other thing that staff is doing is going back to all of the prior-year allocations for the focus areas and other areas trying to find any funds that are not absolutely necessary for their intended purposes to be able to cobble together as much resource to work with out of what has already been allocated in the past. He adds that there is a balance to that because many times those older allocations are relied on when issues come up that need to be addressed that were not part of the current plan.

A short discussion ensues.

CHAIR MICHAEL asks for any other announcements. There being none, she asks for any additions or changes to the agenda.

TRUSTEE NORENE makes a motion to approve the agenda.

TRUSTEE SMITH seconds.

CHAIR MICHAEL moves to the approval of the minutes for December 15, 2015.

TRUSTEE WEBB makes a motion to approve the minutes for the Planning Committee of December 15, 2015.

TRUSTEE NORENE seconds.

CHAIR MICHAEL moves to the minutes of January 5, 2016.

TRUSTEE WEBB makes a motion to approve the minutes of January 5, 2016.

TRUSTEE NORENE seconds.

TRUSTEE DERR states that at the bottom of the page on the right-hand side it says "Finance Committee." That should be corrected.

CHAIR MICHAEL thanks Trustee Derr.

MR. JESSEE states that there were motions and seconds, but no action on the motions.

CHAIR MICHAEL asks for any objections to the minutes of January 5, 2016.

*There being no objection, the motion is approved.*

CHAIR MICHAEL asks for any objections to the minutes of December 15, 2015.

*There being no objection, the motion is approved.*

CHAIR MICHAEL states that the first item is the Authority Grant list, FY15 and '16. She asks Mr. Williams to continue.

MR. WILLIAMS states that this is following up on a request from the trustees from the January board meeting. He continues that it is an outline of all the grants, MHTAAR and Authority Grants. These are, for the most part, active. He asks Mr. Lind to walk through it.

MR. LIND states that this is the list of everything that was approved for '15 and '16. This was in response to the request to look over everything that was approved for the last few years. The other exercise is going back through all of the Authority over the past four years to see if there is anything that was approved and not fully expended.

CHAIR MICHAEL states, for clarification for people on-line, there is a form that says Grant Approval Process for Authority Grant Funds. This process will be explained first and then will proceed to the actual Authority Grants and what they are.

MR. LIND states that the flow chart is a visual picture of how each of the types of Authority Grants that are commonly funded are approved, starting with partnerships and working on down to the focus areas, small projects, mini-grants, and then the emergency grants. He adds that those are not extremely common and have not been done for probably four fiscal years. He goes through the process in more detail, explaining as he goes along. He moves to the big spreadsheet along with the memo and explains it in detail.

TRUSTEE EASLEY asks how many grants are active.

MR. LIND replies that he does not have an exact number, adding that all of the FY16 grants are open and roughly half of the FY15.

TRUSTEE DERR asks to go to Disability Justice, FY16 Authority Grants to the Holistic Defense Model for Alaska Legal Services Corporation for \$67,000. She asks Mr. Lind to walk through the process on how that would be approved.

MR. LIND replies that would have come before the Finance Committee as a larger grant with a portion of it going to the Court System and a portion going to the Alaska Legal Services Corporation.

MR. WILLIAMS explains that that is a good example of how the process for focus areas is slightly different than the process for a grant application process that comes to the Trust from the community. He goes through this process in greater detail. He states that the reason the process is gone through internally is to make sure that grantees are not spending a lot of time, energy, and resources submitting an application that does not fall within the mission of the Trust or has a low likelihood of approval.

A short discussion ensues.

MR. LIND explains that a large number of the grants are on a fiscal year, but during the course of the year the Finance Committee has meetings and focus area grants are approved at that time.

MS. PREDEGER states that, as of January 26<sup>th</sup>, there were 167 total grants, and of that, 120 are Authority Grants and 47 are MHTAAR for FY16.

CHAIR MICHAEL asks for any further questions or comments.

MR. WILLIAMS states that seeing all this information down on paper is a good refresher of the broad impact that the Trust has as an entity for the State of Alaska.

CHAIR MICHAEL thanks all and moves to the next item of the agenda, which is the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs with a request. She asks Mr. Jessee to continue.

MR. JESSEE states that this came out of a meeting in Juneau with Representative Thompson's staff. Military and Veterans Affairs is going to get a significant cut in their FY17 budget. The inquiry was whether the Trust could somehow make that up and offset some of that cut. He continues that he and Trustee Webb made it clear that that was not how it worked, but if there was something that would enhance their ability to better serve the beneficiaries that was not ongoing support, we were open to that discussion. He continues that they have been working on a database system that would help their outreach workers identify vulnerable veterans that may need services so their outreach can be targeted. We were asked if beneficiaries coming out of Corrections that were veterans could be identified through access to the Corrections database sounded like something that would fit the Trust priorities. It would serve beneficiaries and help the Military and Veterans Affairs, as well. He states that the proposal is before you.

TRUSTEE WEBB adds that it can make the system operate better and get people connected with something that is their right to have.

CHAIR MICHAEL asks for any other comments.

TRUSTEE NORENE states that it seems like a lot of money for a database that probably exists at the Department of Corrections. He asks if this will provide data that is not already there.

MR. BOWEN states that he is Verdie Bowen and is actually in Washington, D.C. He continues that the database was presented and accepted this morning by the Office of Rural Health. He explains that they helped to fund the initial portion of the database being used for the outreach. he continues that the Corrections side of the database is a new module that will go into the existing database that was just developed and delivered this morning. He states that this will allow claims, housing requests, and other stuff to be processed. He continues that currently the veterans outreach person gets the release information on the veteran by word of mouth. There is no document within the system that says this person is a veteran or not. This will be a better way to track the individuals as they are released back into the communities. The portion of the application would cost somewhere around \$40,000. There is \$10,000 that was put in for the outreach coordinators to travel to each of the facilities and properly identify and document those veterans that are in each one of the correctional facilities in Alaska.

TRUSTEE NORENE asks why not go to the Department of Corrections to provide this information.

MR. BOWEN replies that the prior deputy commissioner was in charge of reintegration and it was being worked on, but since there is a new commissioner of Corrections the project is starting at ground zero.

MR. WILLIAMS adds that the Department of Corrections is moving in the right direction and their database infrastructure is less than optional. They are just starting to get an electronic database system where the various correctional facilities statewide can communicate with one another.

TRUSTEE WEBB states that the goal here is to get veterans identified, get them known to DMVA so care can be accessed.

CHAIR MICHAEL asks for any other comments.

TRUSTEE DERR states that in October last fall the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs released their study about Alaska veterans' needs assessment. She asks if that included the number of people, veterans, in jail.

MR. BOWEN replies that he released that study and had the University of Alaska accomplish that needs assessment study. He states that he does not remember if the number of incarcerated veterans were identified.

TRUSTEE WEBB asks if, based on the numbers involved, the estimate is about 10 percent or about 1800 veterans annually cycling through Corrections.

MR. BOWEN replies that is correct.

CHAIR MICHAEL asks for any other comments. She states that it is her understanding that this is just for information and will reappear at the board meeting later this afternoon. She moves on to the next item on the agenda, the Department of Corrections Update, the Leadership Change and Reentry Initiatives.

MR. WILLIAMS states that there is a change in leadership at DOC. Dean Williams is the permanent commissioner replacing the temporary interim Commissioner Walt Monegan. He is also making some changes in his leadership which includes Deputy Commissioner Diane Casto, who will not be the deputy commissioner come March 1. He adds that Remond Henderson, also deputy commissioner, was asked for his resignation and they are actively recruiting for both deputy commissioner positions. He states that, as it relates to reentry, he is not sure how the department might get restructured. There is a possibility that reentry could be lumped in with some other major responsibilities of a deputy commissioner. This will be paid attention to, and we will try to work with the commissioner to the extent we are able, to talk about structure and about the importance of not lumping this piece in with some other major responsibilities.

CHAIR MICHAEL thanks Steve for the update and calls a break.

(Break.)

CHAIR MICHAEL calls the meeting back to order. She states that the next item on the agenda is the Medicaid Expansion and Reform Update.

MR. JESSEE states that there has been a Finance Committee Subcommittee chaired by Senator Anna Mackinnon. She has driven that subcommittee into a level of activity rarely seen in the Legislature, and completed their hearings last week. He continues that staff was working over the weekend on a committee substitute who will be introduced tomorrow. He states that, at this point, he does not see any deal breakers. He adds that he is optimistic that the bill is going to come out in reasonably decent shape. He asks Ms. Baldwin-Johnson to talk about some of the specific reform activities that are underway already without the bill.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON gives an update on the requests for sole source for the Curry Group, which is in process. It is currently with the Division of General Services. She states that the Department did move forward with a small independent contract with Stephanie Colston to get some of the work started with the DBH that was needed.

MS. LOFGREN states that she was able to go to Juneau for the AgeNet and the Commission on Aging meetings and sat in on some of the hearings. The Senate Finance Subcommittee was meeting twice a day. She continues that the debates and conversations back and forth showed that they were well informed. She moves on to an update regarding the 1915(i) and (k) project. She states that when the Department released the report on January 22<sup>nd</sup>, there was a Behavioral Health Access Initiative that is super comprehensive and addresses the full continuum of care. She continues that it recommends doing a 1115 demonstration waiver. She explains that this allows the states to be able to put together a package that demonstrates some kind of innovative

model of care. She continues that the primary populations targeted was all beneficiaries' groups, including serious mental illness. She states that, through discussions about the Behavioral Health Access Initiative and the 1915(i) and (k), it makes more sense for the Department to look at the Behavioral Health Access Initiative to be more encompassing and include all services in the continuum of care. She continues that those home- and community-based services that could be in the 1915(i) can also be in the 1115 demonstration waiver. She adds that it is really important to watch tenancy support services to ensure that beneficiaries have access to permanent supportive housing and remain stable.

TRUSTEE EASLEY asks what the 1115 demonstration waiver is.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON replies that there are a number of things that are intended to be accomplished with the 1115 demonstration waiver: Systemic reforms developing a comprehensive continuum of care; promoting evidence-based practices; testing managed care payment models; practice reform such as implementing care coordination models; improving integration with primary care; and using interoperable health information exchange. She continues that there is a comprehensive evidence-based benefit design; appropriate standards of care; third party, nonproviders must use ASAP criteria for doing assessments on enrollees. She states that there is a whole bunch that is involved with that.

MS. LOFGREN states that through the 1115 a potential request from CMS can be made for different allowances to build infrastructure and capacity to meet needs. She continues that this conversation is not over with. We need to be sure that the beneficiaries with dual diagnoses are not falling through the gaps of the system.

CHAIR MICHAEL asks about the status of the conflict-free case management.

MS. LOFGREN replies that the Division of Senior and Disability Services just put out their regulation changes to address conflict-free case management. She continues that it is important to note that there are two categories of case management, one on an individual sole-provider type agency, and then the agency, such as Alzheimer's, to be able to meet different classifications, which will allow for different reimbursement rates as well as different criteria and qualifications.

A short discussion ensues.

TRUSTEE WEBB states that the Behavioral Health Access Initiative is a foundational piece for the Medicaid reform. He asks what feedback has been received from legislators about that.

MS. LOFGREN replies that Representative Vazquez said that she saw it as savings because the whole body is treated and it is important to treat both the mind and the body. She continues that in one of the Senate Finance Committee Hearings Senator Giessel said that investing in the Behavioral Health Access Initiative was like investing in oil and gas.

MR. JESSEE states that there is a significantly growing understanding in the Legislature about the importance of behavioral health to this whole effort. He reports that Representative Neuman is looking at putting more funding into substance use disorder treatment services.

MS. LOFGREN states that one piece that caught some people off guard was trying to understand what the Administrative Service Organization was and that it was not replacing the Division.

MR. JESSEE adds that although the Administrative Services Organization will not replace the Division, the role of the Division in the system may change dramatically. He states that the providers are not seeing how dramatic this is going to be and should be clamoring for information.

MS. LOFGREN states that she would like to add one other thing related to reform, but outside of the Behavioral Health Access Initiative. She continues that at the Home- and Community-based Service Conference in September there was a program called the Innovative Accelerator Program. This is a partnership between HUD and the Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services to create mechanisms to pay for permanent supported housing through Medicaid. She adds that the Department was awarded intensive technical assistance to put it in place. This is an exciting opportunity.

CHAIR MICHAEL asks for any other comments. There being none, she moves to Medicaid Expansion and Reform, Potential Implementation, Involvement, and Funding.

MR. JESSEE states that this is the list from the Department of the things that the Trust could be of assistance on, which is displayed on the screen. He continues that the bottom line is a little over \$3 million for '17, right about \$3 million for '18, and close to \$6 million for '19. He explains that this is a working document which gives a sense of the order of magnitude and the types of things that are being looked at.

TRUSTEE WEBB points out that this is exclusive entirely of anything related to the Criminal Justice Reform.

A discussion ensues.

TRUSTEE DERR states that she has some questions to the Summary of Actuarial Results for Reform Initiative, on page 4. She continues that this shows the baseline going from \$400 million to \$626 million in five years. She asks how the Department is handling that in regard to the savings with Medicaid expansion and reform. She states that she does not see a lot of savings in Medicaid expansion and reform.

MR. JESSEE replies that there are two parts to that. One is absolute dollar savings versus a reduction in future growth, particularly with a formula program. The best the Department can do is to provide estimates based upon the data that they have. He adds that the Department is doing their best to provide the Legislature with the information that it wants and they have a reasonably good level of credibility for a lot of the information being provided.

MS. LOFGREN adds that looking at the actuarial analysis as it goes out farther than the increases in savings goes out. She continues that the actuarial analysis was limited.



TRUSTEE DERR states that she has been reading those reports and some of them are technical. She asks how staff is handling that.

MS. MARTIN states that she is Monique Martin from the Department and provides a bit more information. She explains the actuarial analysis does not include the savings to other departments, and goes into greater detail.

MS. ASCHENBRENNER adds to keep in mind that the expansion savings from expansion are not part of this particular actuarial analysis. The saving from almost eliminating the State-funded chronic and acute medical assistance, shifting the payment of inpatient hospitalization to Medicaid, hospitalizations over 24 months, and the small reduction. She states that the savings from the behavioral health grants are not documents in this report in this area; they are elsewhere.

A short discussion ensues.

TRUSTEE EASLEY asks if there is any way to reduce the very high cost of residential substance abuse treatment.

MS. LOFGREN replies that there is still a lot of planning work that needs to happen and a lot of conversations and dialogue to really understand how the Institute for Mental Disease exclusion works.

TRUSTEE WEBB states that the whole point of the IMD exclusion was to prevent institutionalization, where the only type of care was in an institution. The goal was to deinstitutionalize. He continues, in terms of cost reduction of inpatient care, is that there are different types of inpatient care and there are people that have different needs. He adds that the full range needs to be looked at to make sure the client population being served are in the appropriate range of care.

The discussion continues.

MS. WAILAND explains the process.

CHAIR MICHAEL asks for any other comments or questions. She asks about the contracts with Charlie and if they are in here.

MR. JESSEE replies no.

CHAIR MICHAEL states the need to know what things are being funded now that are not in there that the Trust wants to keep funding as this request list is built.

MR. JESSEE explains that it is the start of the process.

The discussion continues.

CHAIR MICHAEL states the need to use this as an opportunity to make sure that timelines get hit, that things progress, and that the Trust, as an outside agency, can help make sure this thing stays on the right track over the next five years or however long.

TRUSTEE WEBB asks Ms. Martin and Ms. Aschenbrenner what supportive role the Trust and staff, besides being a funder, can potentially play in assisting in making sure that everything will be where we want it to be at the end of the time when these things come due.

MS. LOFGREN states that, in the list, underneath the total amount is a leverage amount. She continues that a common question is about the FMAP and the federal financial participation which varies with each of the different projects. She thinks that one of the things will be the total dollar amount that is leveraged to be able to bring in to get the infrastructure, and the capacity is huge.

CHAIR MICHAEL states that a lot has been accomplished. She recognizes Mr. Williams.

MR. WILLIAMS states that he would like to talk about August and September dates for Planning Committee and Finance Committee meetings, and then the full board meetings that will happen where the '18/'19 budget decisions will be occurring. Currently there is a Planning Committee meeting on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. He adds that there are vacations that have been planned around that time and would like to talk about adjusting those dates to either the end of July or the week of August 8<sup>th</sup> through the 11<sup>th</sup>.

A discussion ensues on meeting dates.

CHAIR MICHAEL states that the meeting in August will be the 8<sup>th</sup> or the 9<sup>th</sup>, and the May meeting will be changed to the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup>.

MR. WILLIAMS states that the May board meeting is scheduled as a one-day meeting and asks if the trustees would like to add either a half day or a day to the board meeting to go and do site visits.

TRUSTEE DERR states the need for some board training since there is a new board member.

MR. WILLIAMS states that trustees need to give staff direction on whether to move forward or not.

TRUSTEE WEBB states that it would be good to have an anniversary event. It needs to be done in a way that is inclusive of the beneficiaries and the folks who serve them and make it not necessarily just about the Trust, but about them, and recognize all the work that everyone is doing. He continues, also recognizing how far the Trust has come since it was reconstituted and how far it still has to go.

CHAIR MICHAEL suggests having a couple of trustees work with staff to see if there is a possibility for working something out during the May meeting and if there could be a reception put together the night of the board meeting.

TRUSTEE EASLEY states that she would be happy to work on that.

TRUSTEE WEBB also states that he will work on that and invites anyone who wishes to attend to help.

MR. JESSEE states that there are no retreats or other work sessions scheduled.

A short discussion ensues.

CHAIR MICHAEL asks for anything else to come before the committee. There being none, she asks for a motion to adjourn.

TRUSTEE WEBB makes a motion to adjourn the meeting.

TRUSTEE NORENE seconds.

*There being no objection, the meeting is adjourned.*

(Planning Committee adjourned at 3:47 p.m.)