

ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH TRUST AUTHORITY

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

Teleconference

August 7, 2014

9:01 a.m.

Taken at:

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

Trustees Present:

Paula Easley, Chair
John McClellan
Mary Jane Michael
Russ Webb
Laraine Derr
Larry Norene
Mike Barton (via speakerphone)

Trust staff present:

Jeff Jessee
Steve Williams
Nancy Burke
Carley Lawrence
Valette Keller
Marilyn McMillan
Carrie Predeger
Kevin Buckland
Michael Baldwin
Amanda Lofgren
Katie Baldwin-Johnson
Luke Lind
Miri Smith-Coolidge

Others Participating:

Denise Daniello; Kate Burkhart; Teresa Holt; Jill Hodges Still; Tawny Buck; Adam Rutherford;
Kathy Craft; Lisa Cauble; Sheila Soule; Laura Shue (via speakerphone); Aleesha Towns-Bain;
Stephanie Krost; Gayle Sorenson.

PROCEEDINGS

CHAIR EASLEY calls the Planning Committee meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

TRUSTEE DERR states that when she made prior comments about the Workforce Development area closing, she did not realize that some people did not know that, at some point in time, the Trust would be going out of the focus areas. She clarifies that that will not be for some time, and apologizes for the misunderstanding.

CHAIR EASLEY recognizes the people present and online, and moves to the agenda.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL asks to change Housing and Long-Term Services to 10:45, switching it with the Substance Abuse.

CHAIR EASLEY recognizes Mr. Williams.

MR. WILLIAMS begins with the budget sheet and Continuing Projects. He explains that these are non-focus area allocations that are Trust funds that go out into the community for various projects, and also funds positions within the advisory boards. He continues and points out the specific line items that have changed, and adds that those changes are either an increase from FY15 or are funds that were reallocated. He goes through the list, explaining as he goes along. He explains that Partnerships and Designated Grants were historically separated out, but are combined in terms of functionality. The process is the same for people who apply for these grants.

A discussion on Partnerships and Designated Grants ensues.

MR. WILLIAMS states that this is an area in terms of guidelines or description of the grant program that will be redone on the Web site. He continues, moving on to the small projects, explaining as he goes along.

A discussion ensues on the cap for each project and the total expenditure for that purpose, which will be decided in September.

MR. WILLIAMS moves on to the mini-grant programs, which go directly to Beneficiaries. He continues through the spreadsheet. He moves on to Traumatic Brain Injury, stating that, historically, it is not a statutory advisory board and had to work with the Commission, the Council, ABADA, AMHB and had to get them to come forward with recommendations, which seems like an unnecessary thing to do.

CHAIR EASLEY takes this opportunity to introduce the new executive director of ABIN, Tawny Buck.

MS. BUCK thanks all for the opportunity. She states that she is a lifelong Alaskan and has done a lot of advocacy and support with other nonprofits that the Trust has worked with, and is very

excited with where the ABIN is going. She looks forward to working with the Trust to expand their reach internally and around the state.

CHAIR EASLEY thanks Ms. Buck, and recognizes Mr. Williams.

MR. WILLIAMS continues with the rural outreach trip, adding that they are doing the technical assistance follow-up to that trip. He asks Carley Lawrence to describe what Coordinated Communications is, and how that funding gets used.

MS. LAWRENCE explains that the executive directors meet and work together about Coordinated Communications efforts. She states that the Trustees currently allocate \$25,000 per board, and to the Suicide Prevention Council, as well. She continues that the dollars are pooled for a coordinated effort, which was focused on employment last year. She adds that the group decides on what the focus will be for that year.

TRUSTEE DERR asks why a \$50,000 increase.

MS. LAWRENCE replies that it had not been increased in five years. In reviewing the five-year cost increases for media placement, there has been about a 20-percent increase for all broadcast and publications. She continues that the labor rates of the contractor have also increased.

MR. WILLIAMS moves on to the Predevelopment Program that has been historically within the Housing focus area and has been put in as a nonfocus area allocation.

CHAIR EASLEY asks why it is not appropriate for Predevelopment to be in Housing.

MS. BURKE replies that the Predevelopment Program is used primarily for those capital projects that come through and apply for funds. She continues that there have been some housing programs run through the Predevelopment Program, but it is primarily used as a tool to help do due diligence on the capital projects that are reviewed.

A discussion ensues, with different examples explained.

MR. WILLIAMS concludes the summary of the changes in the nonfocus area allocation. He adds that this document is not the cleaned-up version that will be presented in September.

CHAIR EASLEY asks for any questions, and recognizes Trustee Derr.

TRUSTEE DERR asks how many staff positions are being funded in this.

MS. BURKHART replies that the Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse and the Alaska Mental Health Board advocacy coordinator is being completely paid for by this funding. She adds that it also pays for the time that the two planners, the research analyst, and the executive director spend on Trust-related activities. She continues, that is a portion of five people, plus the full advocacy coordinator. She states that part of this funding goes toward all of Terry Tibet's travel for the purpose of advocacy coordination and for her travel to Trust board

meetings and activities, and also staff travel to focus area activities. She continues that for the four entities, it is three full-time FTEs, and then it is a portion of the other five staff.

MR. JESSEE states that a question about FTEs was asked about yesterday, and he goes through the other focus areas. He states that he will identify the positions that are very specific and then go through and get an estimate of what all the other grants generate in terms of employment.

CHAIR EASLEY asks for any other comments. There being none, she moves on to reviewing the Housing and Long-Term Services and Supports focus area. She notes that it is a modification and expansion of the Housing focus area with new direction. She recognizes Nancy Burke and Amanda Lofgren.

MS. BURKE begins with how to summarize the complicated systems that need to be changed, and bring it down to something that is digestible and memorable to the general reader. She begins her PowerPoint presentation and states that the goal in Housing and Long-Term Services and Supports is to try to assess the continuum from two different perspectives: Address the gaps; and look at how the Trust can influence the system to move people from the crisis to the more stable end. She explains as she moves her presentation along. She states that the goals are for Beneficiaries to live in safe and affordable housing, and to be able to access appropriate community-based social services. She quickly goes through some of the successes.

MS. LOFGREN begins with Long-Term Services and Supports, stating that it is still in the planning stages. She goes over the strategic plan, and then the ADRD road map. She states that the recommendations for the strategic planning was to educate the public through utilizing and maximizing the capacity of the aging and disability resource centers; invest in lower levels of continuum services; private pay, waiver services, and State-funded services; improve quality and encourage innovation; develop workforce support for caregivers; and then develop a plan for appropriate types of nursing and assisted-living home beds.

MS. BURKE goes through the budget, highlighting as she moves along.

TRUSTEE DERR asks how the matrix document is being used.

MR. BALDWIN replies that it is a tracking document to monitor the results. He continues that the first part is an overview of the systems, and basically is an easy way of tracing the efforts and then the actual results. He adds that, down the road, the information on the Web site will be in an easier format.

TRUSTEE DERR states that it is important for her to see what the Trust is getting for the money that is being spent. She adds that it does not have to be on paper, but results are needed.

MS. BURKE agrees, and states that is the conversation with the program officers that will take place in FY15 and become consistent across all of the focus areas. She explains that they are taking FY15 because it is a lot of uploading to the Web site, and the target is to stay in touch with the Planning Committee in moving through these. She moves on to the Housing budget,

and states that the first grouping is the systems change and policy work, and that is where the administration for the focus area resides. She talks about housing data Web site development.

TRUSTEE NORENE asks the total cost to track the number of units.

MS. BURKE replies that it is not much beyond setting it up. She continues, explaining the budget items and answering questions as she goes along.

MS. LOFGREN continues explaining the budget items and answering questions.

MS. BURKE states that the total request would be \$300,000.

A discussion ensues.

MS. BURKE requests time on the agenda to talk about the opportunity to use Trust resources in the form of a PRI for acquisition of some housing units.

CHAIR EASLEY calls for a break, stating that will be a fine place to begin again.

(Break)

TRUSTEE DERR reiterates her prior apology to those newly arrived.

CHAIR EASLEY states that Program-Related Investments will be discussed. She continues that Ms. Burke presented a draft proposal at the last Planning Committee meeting of an opportunity to use the PRI. She asks Ms. Burke to continue.

MS. BURKE states that it is the six-page document handed out which describes Program-Related Investments and how the Trust Land Office and Trust resources might be used to acquire properties that could benefit the program. She continues that a number of examples have been provided on how other foundations have used their resources to further their missions. She adds that the second document spells out some ideas on how to move forward with one property that is in Anchorage and another in Fairbanks. She walks through the property concepts.

TRUSTEE DERR asks if the Planning Committee discussed the policy. She states that she does not remember a formal motion being made.

TRUSTEE BALDWIN states that after the last Planning Committee there were a couple of follow-up items. He continues that there were questions about the specific mechanisms of the funding and how it was going to work, and then it was going to be finalized in Planning to take to the other committees.

MS. BURKE continues through the property concepts, the due diligence, and states that the property in Anchorage is a positive location for the Beneficiaries to live and is a project worth pursuing. She moves on, providing some aggregate categories that include the capital acquisition, rehabilitation and furnishings with the amount being \$4.5 million. She states that

with the second property, the Department would be the main partners. She continues that desk monitors, clinical and housing associates for the first start-up year would be up to \$250,000. She proposes the need for the rent-up funds for the first year, and then transitioning to operations support with funds generated by the program. She states that the most needed is \$4.9 million. She adds that the second property is in Fairbanks and is in foreclosure. She continues that this is a project that had special-needs-housing grant funds in the project when it was initially developed and has some covenants for being used for Trust Beneficiaries. She states that if the project goes through foreclosure, those covenants will be removed and it will just become a community rental project, or someone will pick it up for their own purpose. She adds that this property is a seven-unit property that is adjacent to two other projects that are housing people who require support services, making a nice campus. She asks for any questions.

CHAIR EASLEY recognizes Trustee Michael.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL asks how long has Community Mental Health been in negotiations on that property.

MS. BURKE replies two-and-a-half years. She states that there is a purchase and sale agreement that has some money provided by the Trust to Anchorage Community Mental Health Services, and that contract ends in October.

MR. JESSEE states that part of the reason to get the Land Office involved in the negotiations is they are more experienced on the real estate and could figure out how to maximize the leverage.

A short discussion on the subject ensues.

TRUSTEE NORENE volunteers to work with the Trust Land Office or committee to help try to make it work. He states that the other part of the issue is where the money comes from.

CHAIR EASLEY asks if the Department of Labor might be willing to do away with \$80,000 of liens.

MS. BURKE replies that they are prohibited to forgive liens that are already on the property. She adds that it would have to be purchased for the amount on the liens right now. She continues that they do have the ability to stop filing liens because there are no employees remaining in that nonprofit.

CHAIR EASLEY asks if it is the intent of the Trustees to direct staff to pursue investigating the purchase of these two properties, and asks for a motion.

TRUSTEE WEBB makes a motion to assign a committee to work with staff, the TLO, and whatever partners to answer the questions and develop a formal proposal for the September meeting.

MS. MICHAEL seconds.

There being no objection, the motion is approved.

CHAIR EASLEY appoints Larry Norene, Mary Jane Michael and John McClellan as the committee to work on that.

TRUSTEE BARTON states that he had the same concerns about financing as Mr. Norene. He asks the committee to also look into the possibilities of issuing revenue bonds to pay for this. He continues that he does not know whether the Trust Authority has the legal powers to issue revenue bonds, and asks to look into that and consider that option.

CHAIR EASLEY thanks all, and moves on to the new focus area of Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON states that a lot of this was covered yesterday in the introduction to the FY15 budget. She moves through it quickly and then moves into the budget. She moves to the snapshot of the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment RBA indicators that are being proposed. She states that they are preliminary and will be working with the groups to flesh it out.

TRUSTEE EASLEY asks if the stakeholders, in the initial meetings, feel it is really possible to advance this topic.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON states that people have different opinions based on their own personal experience and how they connect to the issue. She continues that feedback is that people are excited that there is so much energy about it, and also cautious optimism.

TRUSTEE WEBB comments that it will be a tough road and is an issue that must be addressed. He states that to be effective advocates need to know all that is needed to know. He continues that there is a need to know where the public really stands in order to move forward in both changing public attitudes about whether treatment works and about whether substance abuse disorders are diseases or moral failings. He states that an easy approach is needed in terms of long-term prevention and rebuilding a treatment system to actually meet needs; midterm is policy changes and advocacy to help change public opinion and policies; and short-term is to define the landscape and develop some integrated projects that focus and bring together integrated efforts for the focus areas to be effective, and show that things actually do work. He adds that he believes that there is a large group of the Alaska public that wants something done and wants it done as quickly as possible.

CHAIR EASLEY thanks Trustee Webb, and recognizes Kate Burkhart.

MS. BURKHART states with certainty that, if adequately and consistently funded, prevention and treatment practices do work. She continues that the biggest problem faced is that funding is neither adequate nor consistent, and the efforts that the focus area undertakes need to be in the context of the fact that the system fails the people it serves not because treatment does not work, not because people do not want to get better, but because the services provided are neither adequately or consistently funded.

MS. TOWNS-BAIN states that she is program officer at Rasmuson Foundation and has been working on the Recover Alaska initiative just about a year and a half. She adds that she will be focused solely on Recover Alaska and the partnership for the next 11 months. She states that she believes that a difference can be made and is excited to work on the initiative and to have the Trust as a partner.

CHAIR EASLEY thanks both, and recognizes Denise Daniello.

MS. DANIELLO brings up the subject of the increased rates of senior binge and heavy drinking. She states that the senior Trust Beneficiaries who have those needs cannot be overlooked and are included. She adds that the Alaska Commission on Aging is not included as a partner in this project.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON states that she is including it now.

MR. JESSEE suggests addressing seniors and talking to them about their quality of life and their length of life. He states that getting the right message and conveying it is important.

A short discussion ensues.

CHAIR EASLEY asks Ms. Baldwin-Johnson to move into the specific budget items.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON goes through the budget, explaining and answering questions as she goes along.

CHAIR EASLEY asks about treatment access and why it takes six months for treatment.

MS. BURKHART replies that it depends on the community, whether service is available, the provider, and a need to have a readiness to get into treatment, which she explains. She states that a patient is ready, has resources, has been assessed, the level of care is outpatient and the outpatient provider cannot or will not take him, is just one of the variables. She explains some of the other variables and issues that affect the treatment.

A short discussion ensues.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON continues with the budget, moving into policy analysis and development, and explains as she goes along.

A short discussion ensues on the Center for Alcohol Policy Partnership.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON wraps up the budget.

TRUSTEE BARTON states appreciation for the work staff has done on putting all of this together while closing out '14, transitioning into '15, and beginning work on '16. He thanks them.

CHAIR EASLEY asks for anything else to come before the Planning Committee, and recognizes Laraine Derr.

TRUSTEE DERR asks to go back to Housing and explain the total, because something is missing.

MS. BURKE states that it is confusing because the strategies have changed. She states that she will do a special page for Housing to show where things were and where the increments are, which will clarify it since everything has moved and changed.

TRUSTEE WEBB makes a motion to adjourn the meeting.

CHAIR EASLEY states that no second is needed.

TRUSTEE DERR states the need to review the total amount before finishing up the budget.

TRUSTEE WEBB asks for the total budget for '15, '16 and '17.

MR. BUCKLAND replies that in '15 there was a total MHTAAR and Authority grants of \$26,477,800; in '16 proposed currently in total MHTAAR and Authority grants is \$28,245,900; and currently in '17 is \$27,245,900 in Authority grants and MHTAAR, and MHTAAR Admin, which is the Trust Authority's funds.

MR. JESSEE asks if that includes the unobligated for '15.

MR. BUCKLAND replies no, just what has been authorized.

A discussion ensues on the numbers, the budget and how it works.

CHAIR EASLEY asks for any other comments. There being none, she adjourns the meeting.

(Planning Committee adjourned at 12:30 p.m.)