

**ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH TRUST AUTHORITY
FULL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
February 18, 2026
8:30 a.m.**

**Hybrid/Zoom Meeting:
Originating at:
Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority
3745 Community Park Loop, Suite 200
Anchorage, Alaska 99508**

Trustees Present:

Brent Fisher, Chair
Anita Halterman
Kevin Fimon
Corri Feige (virtual)
Josie Hickel (virtual)

Trust Staff Present:

Mary Wilson
Allison Biastock
Katie Baldwin-Johnson
Shannon Cochran
Valette Keller
Julee Farley
Shannon Cochran
Kat Roch
Kelda Barstad
Tina Voelker-Ross
Michael Baldwin
Samantha Ponts

Trust Land Office staff present:

Jusdi Warner
Jeff Green
Karstan Eden
Tracy Salinas
Blain Alfonzo

Department of Law:

Gene Hickey

Also participating:

Corey Gilmore; Pam Cawley; Shannon McCain; Hazel LeCount; James Helleher; Patrick Reinhart; Kenneth Schneider; Tony Newman; Brittany Williams; Yasmin Radbod; Martin Lange; Holly Handler; Aaron Surma; Geoffrey Alter; Paul Cornils; LoAna Benton; Patrick Sidmore; Micki Dunn; Sharon Fishel; Bill Pagaran; Hayley Norris; Seline Mach; Karen Fritsche; Lisa Sauder; Michelle Snowden; Jared Davis; Bonnie Murphey; Shannon Baird; Haley Norris; Rachel Olson; Faith Myers; Kxlo Stone; Bryan Brandenburg; Kristen Bierma; Karen Heath; Kim

Champney; Michele Girault; Chelsea Burke; Rich Seville; Caroline Hogan; Jared Parrish; Riley Fitting; Joan O’Keefe.

PROCEEDINGS

CALL TO ORDER

CHAIR FISHER called the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority board meeting to order, and began with a roll call.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

CHAIR FISHER asked for a motion to approve the agenda with an amendment.

MOTION: A motion to approve the agenda, amended to remove the ABADA presentation, was made by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN; seconded by TRUSTEE FIMON.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Feige, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Halterman, yes; Trustee Hickel, yes; Chair Fisher, yes.)

ETHICS DISCLOSURE

CHAIR FISHER asked for any ethics disclosures. There being none, he continued to the approval of the minutes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

CHAIR FISHER began with the minutes of November, and then the minutes of December.

MOTION: A motion to approve the November minutes was made by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN ; seconded by TRUSTEE FIMON.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Feige, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Halterman, yes; Trustee Hickel, yes; Chair Fisher, yes.)

MOTION: A motion to approve the December minutes was made by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN; seconded by TRUSTEE FIMON.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Feige, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Halterman, yes; Trustee Hickel, yes; Chair Fisher, yes.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHAIR FISHER reminded the trustees that it is the time of year to make their financial disclosures to the State before the deadline.

MISSION MOMENT

CHAIR FISHER moved to the Mission Moment, and asked Eric Boyer to make the introduction.

MR. BOYER introduced Sondra LeClaire, the associate director for the Center for Human Development, to talk about microenterprise, and to introduce a beneficiary who successfully went through the program.

MS. LECLAIRE stated appreciation for the opportunity to speak and began talking about the microenterprise program. She was joined by Corey Gilmore. She continued that the purpose of the microenterprise program is to expand access to economic opportunities for beneficiaries, which is done through funds awarded to Trust beneficiaries. Those funds are for costs associated with their businesses which they are starting new, or that they are acquiring, or for expanding their current businesses. The minimum award received could be as small as \$500, but can go as large as a lifetime grant of up to \$12,000, which can be received in increments. She talked about the application process and the outreach, technical assistance and support. The appropriate use of funds is ensured through processes that are put in place and are evaluated every year. She explained the various uses of funding. She pointed out that they are always improving this program and are very dedicated to making it work for beneficiaries. She highlighted Stephen Davis who was in the Mental Health Trust quarterly newsletter and was excited to see his work identified. He is a microenterprise grantee and a wonderful artist. She introduced Corey Gilmore, who is the owner and operator of Corey's Handmade Arts, and also received a microenterprise grant.

MR. GILMORE stated that he is very grateful to the Trust for all that they do, and for all of the support they have given him over the years through the mini grant and through the microenterprise grant. He shared his logo that he designed. He explained that he paints with his hands, because if he uses brushes and sticks, they are very stiff, and he has muscle spasms. He always paints with texture, and he shared some of his paintings. He explained that every painting he does has texture so they can be felt as well as seen, which is really cool. He also shared some of his photography. Part of the microenterprise grant was used for a new Canon R8 camera to take photos to use as material to paint by. He really appreciates the funds, but the process took some doing. He suggested simplifying the questions by asking: what is your business about; what do you do that will get more people working, which is important. The other thing is, generally, DVR and places like that do not view creating art and selling at craft fairs as a viable business. They want something that draws a regular paycheck. He stated that anything that can be done to extend self-employment for people with disabilities would be good.

TRUSTEE HALTERMAN stated that she stumbled across his art, but other people might not know where to find it. She found a piece at Hope Studios and has one of Corey's paintings. She asked Corey to talk about where his pieces could be found.

MR. GILMORE replied that he does his work through Hope Studios and also does many craft fairs. He stated that he made good money doing those craft fairs. He is also working on getting a website up. The problem with making it available online is that it has to be shipped. With his staffing, that may not be possible. Also, group homes are really not set up to be places of business. So that needs to be worked on.

TRUSTEE FIMON stated that it was good to get to meet Mr. Gilmore last week in Juneau. He thanked him for contributing to the discussion on the microenterprise grants. It was very good to see the photos and the art. He continued that he was happy to hear about the program, and that Ms. LeClaire and Mr. Gilmore brought it forward. He added that Mr. Gilmore is a great communicator and asked if he was able to impart some of this knowledge to some others to help them get into the process and the program.

MR. GILMORE replied that he is trying to encourage Heidi Lee Williams to do a microenterprise grant application because she sews and does things with fabric that he could

never do. She could use a microenterprise grant, but the thought of having to write a business plan is just overwhelming for her. He has to sit down with her and do it, and he hopes that she will take advantage of that.

CHAIR FISHER thanked Mr. Gilmore, and asked Ms. LeClaire how they went about with the outreach to identify beneficiaries and helping them to understand what the program is, and to encourage them to try.

MS. LECLAIRE stated that Larissa Cummings, the coordinator for this program, takes any opportunity to go out and do presentations. She also oversees some other programs, such as WIPA, and also coordinates the supported employment plan. She added that they really partner with a lot of folks to get the word out when the application period is open so people are aware of what is going on with this grant and can utilize it.

TRUSTEE HALTERMAN asked about the different types of support they provide.

MS. LECLAIRE replied that she would have to connect with the program coordinator in order to answer in more depth. She stated that she would like to take some of the questions and bring them back to her, and to reconnect and give some answers to the questions.

CHAIR FISHER thanked both Ms. LeClaire and Mr. Gilmore. He commented that the microenterprise program is great, and it gives the opportunity for individuals who have challenges to be able to become more self-reliant and to receive the benefits of work. The microenterprise program really does a lot of things for individuals and, particularly, for the beneficiaries. He continued to the CEO Update.

CEO UPDATE

CEO WILSON stated that it has been about a year since she started this job. She continued that it has been her pleasure and privilege to serve this past year. She looks forward to what they will be doing together in the next few years. She added that the staff of the Trust are some of the most dedicated and knowledgeable and least prone to complain of any team that she has ever worked with. They are open and eager to grow, and to meet the changing demands of the future. Change is hard, and this team embraces it. She stated that this board of trustees supports and works together as great partners, which is a great gift. She briefly talked about some of the leadership models and then moved through some key accomplishments for 2025. In the strategic plan the beneficiary groups do not change and the work being done on behalf of them does not change. The difference is how the work is organized. She then highlighted some of the innovations that were done this year, as well as some accomplishments of the TLO. She reminded all that they are working on an end-to-end analysis, beginning-to-end of the Crisis Now program. She added that it is important to look back and say, "What are the success factors with this?" The big thing right now is getting the grant applications in, getting the money out for Year 1, and then returning to the strategic plan and figuring it out. They will do their best to have the biggest impact they can as an organization, as a group, and helping the community.

TRUSTEE HALTERMAN thanked staff and CEO Wilson. It has been a wild ride with a lot of change. Staff has been fantastic in accommodating the changes to the governance structure and the strategic plan development. She thanked Chair Fisher for meeting that effort. She asked for a hard copy of the Guide Point recommendations to the Department.

TRUSTEE HICKEL thanked CEO Wilson and the staff. It has been very busy, productive and beneficial. She stated that the strategic planning was very important, and is very well done. She also acknowledged the staff accomplishments.

TRUSTEE FIMON stated that he is in his fifth year being on this board and that every year there is a lot going on. He commented on the CEO's great job in keeping all the things that were already in place moving forward.

CHAIR FISHER asked for any other comments. He thanked CEO Wilson very much. He stated that this is probably the best CEO hire the Trust has ever had. By listening to her report and some of the comments of the trustees through this process, it can be seen to be true. He moved to the statutory advisors' presentation, and asked Mr. Boyer to make the introduction.

STATUTORY ADVISORS

ALASKA COMMISSION ON AGING

MR. BOYER introduced the first statutory advisor, Marty Lange, the director of the Alaska Commission on Aging.

MR. LANGE stated that as executive director of the Alaska Commission on Aging, he believes it is his responsibility to evaluate how seniors are faring in Alaska, and to make them aware of what is happening, especially as it affects the beneficiaries. He brought forward an issue of grandparents raising their grandchildren. To make this relevant, he told the story of two different families, shared some statistics, and talked about the types of help needed, and what is currently provided. He continued that the people raising grandchildren do not make a big deal out of it, and they do not make a fuss. One of the problems they face is not being able to add their grandchildren to their insurance. They are retired, and their insurance does not allow that. According to the Alaska statistics from grandfamilies.org, there are 15,306 grandparents responsible for raising their grandchildren; 7,000 children being raised. That is outside of the foster system. In the foster system, there are 739 children being raised by kin. In the foster care system, the kin receive \$1,415 per child. The non-foster, the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, TANF, provides \$452, and each additional child is \$150. The grandparents do it to provide stability and family. He continued that it does get complicated because seniors can lose housing and/or senior services' eligibility due to taking on children. He asked if there was some way to create some sort of messaging that actually celebrates multigenerational caregiving. He does encourage continued support of the UReCares program, which is part of the Alaska Impact Alliance. UReCares stands for Unlicensed Relative Caregivers, and it is funded by the Trust. It is a well-established, and the program is a huge benefit. He also asked for supporting efforts to raise the TANF. Tlingit-Haida was the first TANF agency to put in a formal request to raise the amount closer to the foster care amount, and it was turned down. They could use some help working with the State and the Feds to get that amount increased, which is income-based as well. He asked for sponsorship for an information campaign because people do not know about this situation. He also asked to consider offering a mini-grant program for grandparents who are just starting the process of taking care of grandchildren, which would take care of setup expenses. He thanked them for the opportunity to share his journey of learning about this topic of grandparents raising grandchildren.

TRUSTEE HALTERMAN thanked Mr. Lange for the presentation, which she finds troubling because many of those grandchildren are beneficiaries. She asked how long the TANF rate has been set, and what it would take to get that to move.

MS. HANDLER replied that the TANF rate has remained unchanged for almost 30 years. She noted that right now the struggle is to maintain that rate.

TRUSTEE HALTERMAN stated that she was very interested in a solution that can be introduced, and she appreciated them bringing the issue forward.

TRUSTEE FIMON was interested in learning about the results from the different cultures in Alaska. In some cultures, it is not unusual for the grandparents to raise their grandchildren. He was also interested to learn of the issues with the actual parents and then the grandparents becoming parents with no warning. He felt that was where the Trust can look to see what kind of further assistance would be needed. He appreciated the presentation and the subject.

CHAIR FISHER asked if there was any research on the dynamics of multigenerational living in the U.S. and worldwide.

MR. LANGE replied that mutigenerational families are very common overseas. Grandparents, parents, and children living together.

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL EDUCATION

MR. BOYER stated that it was his pleasure to introduce the executive director of the Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education, Patrick Reinhart online, and Chelsea Burke in the room.

MR. REINHART stated he was tuning in from Anchor Point. Chelsea Burke, operations manager, is in the room; and Rich Seville, the education and early intervention coordinator, is joining. Rich is the subject-matter expert on all things education, and for the infant learning program. He began the presentation by talking about their legislative priorities. The fourth one is to end the waitlist. There are a couple of concerns. One is the interRAI project, which is a new suite of assessment tools that will basically help to develop better waivers and supports for people based on their needs and their lifestyles. This tool is supposed to be implemented late this summer, early fall, and the funding is no longer in the budget, which is a concern. He continued that the Department and Senior & Disability Services are completely committed to implementing this tool. Given the scenario of the State budget, any new funding for this was not included in the budget, which was brought to the attention of the Legislature. The understanding is that to continue will require a million dollars in State funds, matched by a million dollars in federal Medicaid funds. He stated that the second area in the "end the waitlist" issue are the Guidehouse studies done on long-term supports and services. He continued that the concern is whether or not the recommendations provided by a national consultant firm on the home- and community-based services will be able to be implemented this year and in the future. He asked Ms. Burke to talk about the adult changing-space bill.

MS. BURKE stated that the third priority is HB 141, which is adult changing spaces in public Buildings, requiring the installation of a universal changing spaces in all public places. The hope is to have the bill scheduled for an additional hearing for recommended amendment language to get that fiscal note decreased. She continued that they were asked to highlight data relevant to child, youth and Trust beneficiaries that they represent. This presentation primarily focuses on their current legislative priority, which is the number on SB 178. She asked Ms. Saville to continue to the second priority, and the ILP data prepared.

MR. SAVILLE gave a brief overview on HB 246, which would support a funding increase for the Special Education Services Agency, which provides consultation and training for school districts across the State and in every corner. If SESA can get there, they will go. This funding is based on a simple formula which is the average daily membership times a dollar amount. He moved to the main purpose of his presentation which was to talk about expansion of eligibility for the Infant Learning Program. Early intervention services are required in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. He stated that Alaska has the most strict eligibility requirements in the country, requiring a 50-percent delay in a child birth to 3 before considering providing services to them, which functionally means a 2-year-old must be functioning as a 1-year-old before they can get help.

TRUSTEE FEIGE asked whether or not any of the Rural Health Transformation funds could be leveraged to address some of the issues.

MR. SAVILLE replied that they do not have any solid answers, but he believes that they would be able to look at funds to help with workforce development that would be necessary to help make this eligibility come true.

MS. BURKE stated that the DDRR data, which is the annual review for people trying to access home- and community-based waiver services. They do an annual review and are placed on the waitlist until they are deemed qualified. She highlighted that over half of the Alaskans on the waitlist are children.

CHAIR FISHER thanked them and called a break.

(Break.)

IMPLEMENTING interRAI

CHAIR FISHER asked Ms. Barstad to do the introduction for the next presentation.

MS. BARSTAD stated that it was her pleasure to introduce this interRAI presentation, which is an assessment tool that is very much needed to solidify the foundation of work in Alaska. The State of Alaska provides home- and community-based services that support the beneficiaries through Medicaid waiver programs, State-planned services, as well as grant programs. The interRAI will be used to identify a level of need primarily for those Medicaid waiver programs and State-planned services. The home- and community-based services sector supports the Trust beneficiaries who are in noninstitutional care being served in their homes and communities, making sure that day-to-day needs are met so that beneficiaries and others with daily support needs can thrive and live the lives they want to live, and have a meaningful contribution and interaction with the community.

SENIOR & DISABILITY SERVICES

MS. BARSTAD introduced Tony Newman, the director of Senior & Disability Services online, and Caroline Hogan, the deputy director of Senior & Disability Services.

MR. NEWMAN began with a common understanding of what they mean when referring to home- and community-services in the presentation. The term refers to supportive care programs that assist people with disabilities or chronic conditions or older adults to receive care and to

remain in their own homes and communities rather than institutional settings like nursing homes. He stated that they use HCBS to refer to services, which are services that help people with activities of daily living in their own home or habilitative care that can be provided in a home or in an assisted-living home. Personal care is a home- and community-based service. He continued that home- and community-based services are provided primarily through two major funding streams at their Division: One being grant funds, which can be the State; and then the other is through Medicaid, the State federal health insurances partnership. This focuses on Medicaid-funded services. He talked about the waivers and added that all of these services require an assessment to be performed by the State before services can commence. The one exception that would not be affected by a new assessment process is Children with Complex Medical Conditions waiver. The assessment process will not be changing for the children on that waiver. He stated that even with the help of a new assessment instrument allowing for resource allocation, eliminating the waitlist would still cost tens of millions of dollars that the State does not have on hand. To help fund a new assessment instrument, there needs to be a creation of a foundational change in the work for people on waivers or in need of personal care that would eventually make it easier and more cost-effective for the State to eliminate the waitlist for the IDD waiver. This new instrument could also improve the State's ability to create new services, new flexibilities, and bring more person-centeredness to the system.

MS. HOGAN stated that they are currently serving approximately 8,000 people through these programs. She continued that in order to allow people to be served through these programs, they must be Medicaid-eligible, and must also undergo an assessment to determine a higher level of care, or an institutional level of care. The tools have been used for a very long time, and they are getting very outdated at this point. ICAP was not and is not on the path for updates, and they are looking for something new. A growing number of states use the interRAI, and the stakeholders support that as their choice. She added that the modernization effort does align with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services initiatives that are wanting more data-driven systems. They are very excited to be able to get data from the interRAI assessments. She explained that interRAI is an international nonprofit collaborative that develops research-based assessment tools. These tools help collect consistent information about a person's needs, goals, and preferences to support service planning and decision-making. The primary focus for the development of interRAI was to improve care for individuals who have disabilities, medical needs, older adults, and to create a comprehensive profile of a person's health, well-being, physical health, mood, their activities of daily living, living circumstances. She talked about support for the project, adding that having that support through HCBS strategies is very important. The next steps are to finalize that Alaska home care tool. They are developing the IDD tools for children and adults this year. The testing readiness activities are leading up to go live in the winter of 2026.

MR. NEWMAN thanked Ms. Hogan, the trustees for their attention, and Kelda Barstad for her care and passion for home- and community-based services. He stated that if all the interRAI did was provide a robust modern waiver assessment process, that would be exciting enough. They believe that the foundation being laid here will do far more, making it easier for positive changes of all kinds that the beneficiaries have been requesting.

TRUSTEE FEIGE asked about assistance in remote communities for folks to interface with these tools.

MR. NEWMAN replied that the plan is for every individual on the waivers to receive an in-

person assessment, or at least an initial assessment at first.

MS. HOGAN added that the State assessors will actually be completing the assessments as they do now. That process will not change.

CHAIR FISHER thanked them for the presentation.

PUBLIC COMMENT

CHAIR FISHER moved to Public Comment and stated that the Public Comment period allows individuals to inform and advise the Board of Trustees about issues, problems, or concerns. It is not a hearing. He explained the participation rules. He stated that the first person scheduled is Faith Myers.

MS. MYERS stated that the rights of Trust beneficiaries in locked psychiatric facilities are 30 years behind best practice. She asked the Trust management and the board to hold committee meetings on how to improve Trust beneficiaries' rights and then advocate to improve those rights to best practice. She explained that the Disability Law Center cannot produce a booklet outlining the grievance rights for Trust beneficiaries in locked psychiatric facilities and units because Alaska has 50 different grievance and appeal processes for Trust beneficiaries in locked psychiatric facilities, and they would have to produce 50 different booklets. Maine and other states with best practice have one state grievance and appeal process for psychiatric patients. Alaska should do the same and adopt best practice when protecting Trust beneficiaries.

CHAIR FISHER thanked Ms. Myers, and recognized Bryan Brandenburg.

MR. BRANDENBURG stated that he is the executive director for AARS and introduced Bridget Sepe, director of clinical operations. They gave an update and an overview of where they were with the project that was brought before this body in the past, and thanked trustees for all they have done. He stated appreciation for the help.

CHAIR FISHER thanked Mr. Brandenburg, and recognized LoAna Benton.

MS. BENTON stated that she serves as the principal of Port Graham School and is also a parent of a student in the school. She was there to advocate for funding of Project Grads Counseling Program. Port Graham is a village that is only accessible by single-engine plane or boat. If a student needs mental health services outside of Port Graham, they have to fly to the closest town, which is Homer, which costs about \$216 roundtrip just for the student, and then the same amount for any adult who needs to accompany them. It is cost and time prohibitive, and is not feasible for a lot of families. The reality is that without the Project Grads Counseling Program, the students do not have consistent access to mental health support. She continued that consistency is what makes the Project Grads Program different. In Rural Alaska, teacher retention is a real challenge. Staff turnover affects students deeply. She was proud to say that at Port Graham, 100 percent of the staff is planning to return for next year, which is unusual. Their Project Grads counselor has been in this school longer than she has been, and longer than all of the certified staff. Counseling is intimate work. Students need rapport with their providers. She stated that their Project Grads counselor has built long-term relationships, follows up with families, and also provides wraparound support. She stated that if this counseling is not funded, the students lose that consistency. In rural communities like Port Graham, Project Grads counseling is not a luxury, but a lifeline for the children.

CHAIR FISHER thanked Ms. Benton, and recognized Kxlo Stone.

MS. STONE stated that she is a former foster youth who was served through the Beacon Hill Family Support Center. She has the privilege of working at Beacon Hill, an opportunity made possible in part because of the Trust's generous funding. She thanked trustees, and added that she now serves families in the boutique, supporting families facing challenges, much like those she once experienced. She added that the support allows them to provide essentials such as clean clothing, socks, hygiene products, relieving families of the burden and stress of having to choose between the basic needs and affording a home, shelter, or food. She stated that small items can bring tremendous dignity, hope, and peace of mind to parents doing their best to care for their children. It also stops that cycle of the revolving door of trauma. She thanked them for the continued generosity, and for making stories like hers possible.

CHAIR FISHER thanked Ms. Stone, and recognized Kristen Bierma.

MS. BIERMA stated that Trust funding helped them hire Kxlo into their family resource center, which helped to expand services to families over this past year. She continued that it was the first time they received a grant from the Trust, and shared a few impact highlights and gratitude. She added that they are incredibly grateful and excited to continue this partnership.

CHAIR FISHER thanked Ms. Bierma, and recognized Karen Heath.

MS. HEATH stated that she is the director of the Center for Human Development and responded to concerns about the accessibility of the microenterprise application process that was voiced at the last Trust meeting. She continued that they are making revisions to the program starting in July, based on Trust feedback. These include creating orientation and training materials in plain and clear language and scheduling two orientation meetings for each funding cycle, which she explained in more detail. She hoped that the changes will address the concerns while still ensuring the integrity and the fiscal responsibility for the program.

CHAIR FISHER thanked Ms. Heath, and recognized Kim Champney.

MS. CHAMPNEY stated that she is the executive director of the Alaska Association on Developmental Disabilities and took the opportunity to thank and assure trustees of the impact they have. She continued that AADD has had this capacity grant that the Trust helped them build for the past seven years, and the growth has been so exciting. She added that they were ready to graduate from that grant, and she gave a few examples of the things they were doing that would not have been possible a few years ago. She added that capacity work has really helped to diversify their membership.

CHAIR FISHER thanked Ms. Champney, and recognized Michele Girault.

MS. GIRAULT stated that she is the executive director of Hope Community Resources and also the board chair for the Key Coalition of Alaska. She added her thanks to Kim, and continued that a lot of the projects funded through AADD have been a direct benefit to providers across the state of Alaska, and also the Trust's support of Hope, as well. She talked a bit about the interRAI and supported it. She highly encouraged trustees to think about investing in the interRAI assessment project because it offers a clear, evidence-based solution that aligns directly

with the Trust mission to promote timely, effective, and person-centered care.

CHAIR FISHER thanked Ms. Girault, and asked for anyone online to testify.

MS. COCHRAN invited those online that wished to provide public comment to raise their hand. She recognized Aaron Surma and Geoffrey Alter.

MR. SURMA stated that he is a Trust beneficiary and the executive director of NAMI Juneau. He thanked the Trust for the upcoming competitive grant for peer-based services. NAMI Juneau is one of the many peer-based services in Juneau. He added that, as a proponent of peer services, he has an obligation to share a story of why they are so helpful and relevant. He asked his friend and colleague, Geoffrey Alter, from AAAA, to share a story of how and why peer services help.

MR. ALTER stated that he is the Southeast manager for AAAA, a person in recovery, and became involved in peer support through a NAMI peer support class. It was there that he learned that his lived experience could be used as a super power in helping others trapped in the cycle of addiction. The ability to relate helps foster trust in peer support relationships. He continued that an example of the peer support and action he used would be the outreach team AAAA organized this year for the annual pit count. He explained that the team was comprised of people which allowed them to be a familiar set of faces for the unhoused population. The pit count was more thorough because of the lived experience of the outreach group. It was because of the rapport they had with the people they counted that produced less fear on both sides.

MR. SURMA added appreciation to the TA for all they offer. They recently benefited from some grant-writing support from Savannah Bradley who works for Denali Daniels & Associates.

MS. COCHRAN stated that Hazel LeCount was next, but they were not able to hear her.

MS. McCAIN stated that she is the assistant director of Polaris House. She introduced James Kelleher to offer public testimony.

MR. KELLEHER stated that he serves as a staff generalist at Polaris House. In April 2024, he and his children left their apartment due to domestic violence and substance abuse. He became a single father of three young children and moved into St. Vincent de Paul's Family Shelter for 14 months. He knows what it feels like to be uprooted, overwhelmed, and carrying layers of trauma while trying to hold the family together. Nine months into that shelter stay, he began working at Polaris House and was rebuilding his life in real time. He navigated systems of housing, employment, and recovery, alongside the very members he serves. He secured permanent housing in December of 2025 through sustained permanent housing. Polaris House operates under the international standards for the clubhouse programs which emphasizes dignity, voluntary membership, and side-by-side partnership between members and staff. They are a community where members choose how they participate and direct their own recovery. He added that he now works with his former shelter neighbors, his neighbors surviving the harsh world of being homeless in Alaska and navigating addiction, traumatic brain injury, and complex trauma. He is proud to work in a place where empowerment is the intervention where dignity is foundational, and where recovery is driven by the individual and supported by community.

CHAIR FISHER thanked Mr. Kelleher, and ended the public comment period on the agenda. He stated that if anyone wished to give public comment and were not heard, they are always

welcome to submit written comments to the Trust at any time. He shared the address, email address, and fax. He called lunch break.

(Break.)

CHAIR FISHER called the meeting back to order, and asked Michael Baldwin to introduce the next presenter.

DATA UPDATE: EARLY CHILDHOOD AND YOUTH

MR. BALDWIN stated that the commitment made through the strategic plan is to bring quarterly bits and pieces of data on the different initiatives. He continued that this is a combination update on some efforts on initiatives being done, adding a little bit of grants information, a bit about some beneficiary status, and some general data. He was excited to have Tina Voelker-Ross and Eliza Muse share the great work they have pulled together.

DR. VOELKER-ROSS stated that they would review data related to the early childhood and youth priority area sources of data, and the data related to two Trust-funded projects. In this process, trustees will become more familiar with the data sources the Trust supports. It will also illustrate how the data from these sources come together to inform their direction, program investment, and how it supports the Trust's core commitment and the new strategic plan to make data-informed decisions.

MS. MUSE started by reminding trustees that Alaska is a really great place to grow up, and she shared some experiences. She presented an overview on PRAMS data, which is the Prenatal Risk Assessment Monitoring System; PUBS data; Childhood Understanding Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance Survey, and the YRBS, the Youth Risk Behavior Survey.

DR. VOELKER-ROSS talked about adverse childhood experiences or ACEs, which are stressful or traumatic events, like abuse, neglect, family problems, or household challenges. She stated that recent data shows that nearly half of Alaska's 3-year-olds have had at least one ACE; of children 0 to 17, four in ten had at least one ACE; Alaska Native or American Indian children and those enrolled in Medicaid have substantially higher ACE burdens.

MS. MUSE went through the data from the Alaska Section of Epidemiology within the Division of Public Health through a report titled Adverse Childhood Experiences in Alaska.

DR. VOELKER-ROSS stated that The Help Me Grow centralized access point is the focus point of the grant with the All Alaska Pediatric Partnership, A2P2. Help Me Grow is the only centralized intake and referral system in the state. Families can simply call to receive support, information, care navigation, screening, and referral to address their identified needs. Help Me Grow supports early identification and coordinated access to developmental, behavioral, and mental health services for families. She added that from FY18 through FY25, Help Me Grow has served families from 29 of Alaska's boroughs and census areas. The only borough not served was the Haines Borough, which recently had the family navigator position in that region filled by A2P2.

MS. MUSE talked about the Youth Risk Behavior Survey data that is collected statewide and also nationally. They look at the local data set, statewide traditional high schools, as well as the national data set. She stated that Alaska youth are facing rising behavioral health challenges.

She added that YRBS collects data every other year on the odd years, and the most recent data is the 2023 data.

TRUSTEE FIMON asked if there is a possibility that some of the increased numbers relate to the availability and the knowledge gained going into the data.

MS. MUSE replied that they have lengthy and great historical data sets. The same questions in these surveys are asked over a long period of time, and the trends are assessed over time.

DR. VOELKER-ROSS talked about the project named Trauma Engaged Schools PBIS Coaching which supports increased capacity for trauma-engaged practice and mental health supports in schools. The project prioritizes rural and remote school districts who do not otherwise have available mental health support. PBIS is Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support, and is an evidence-based tiered framework for supporting students' behavioral, academic, social, emotional, and mental health. It is a systems approach using data to guide decisions with clear expectations, explicit teaching of behaviors, acknowledgement for meeting goals, and targeted supports for students needing more help. Specifically, this project supports a long-term, nonpermanent position within DEED to provide direct support to staff, as well as training and coaching to school district staff. The position works closely with underresourced and rural districts which have identified the need and interest in enhancing access to student behavioral health support. It also provides continuous support to cover the health and safety needs identified in schools, including crisis response. She shared some of the feedback and comments from participants regarding the PBIS training.

MS. MUSE stated that the Alaska scorecard is the measurement tool for the Comprehensive Integrated Mental Health Program Plan. She added that they are currently in the process of updating the scorecard to reflect the newer strategies and objectives in that plan.

DR. VOELKER-ROSS stated that upcoming projects that will be seen on the next budget will support the updated strategic plan, including screening, prevention, family support, access to services, and workforce development, which is grounded in some of the data introduced today.

CHAIR FISHER asked the trustees for any questions.

TRUSTEE FIMON asked where this information would be available for future reference.

MR. BALDWIN replied that the information provided today is on the website and through the links that were shared. He stated that this is a good example of some data capacity-building provided with trustees' support, funding for the surveillance systems that were referenced. Also provided was an amount of funding to help ensure that there is a representative sample of those tools, as well.

CHAIR FISHER stated appreciation for the presentation, and asked Michael Baldwin to introduce the next presentation.

OVERCOMING ACES WITH RESILIENCY SURVEY

MR. BALDWIN stated that Dr. Jared Parrish and Riley Fitting are epidemiologists from the Division of Public Health here to give an update on one of those projects that was started several years ago, identifying a need for some information.

DR. PARRISH stated that he is the senior maternal child health epidemiologist at the Division of Public Health. He is joined by Riley Fitting, the senior injury epidemiologist in the Division of Public Health. He added that it is a wonderful collaboration for them to be able to join forces. They recognized a need for a comprehensive surveillance framework for understanding and monitoring adverse childhood experiences in the state of Alaska. There are multiple data tools to do that, with one glaring omission, which is what OARS fills. No other state has this type of surveillance going on right now in this comprehensive framework.

MR. FITTING stated that he is an injury epidemiologist with the Division of Public Health and helped put this survey together. The Overcoming ACEs With Resilience Survey is trying to address the problem that the 2013 to 2015 ACEs data collection and the Adult Behavioral Risk Factors Surveillance System, the BRFSS, survey did not capture, which was protective factors. He went through the ACEs categories and had comparisons from before this survey, as well as national comparisons that might be collected by other states using the BRFSS. He added that this was text to online, and all respondents were texted a link to the survey.

DR. PARRISH stated that one of the hardest things they do in epidemiology in the Division of Public Health is to get the data out in a meaningful way and actually getting it to the individual to make an impact. He continued that they have a collaboration now between the Alaska Division of Public Health, the Center for Safe Alaskans, and Brigham Young University. He stated that the idea was to create a toolkit of information around ACEs and PACEs. The goal is that there is a lot of information that exists, but it does not exist in a useable way that could be presented or shared with a group in a local setting. They are trying to create a toolkit that individuals who are trained to use this toolkit, with lived experience, will go out and share this data within their community and to help us understand what this data means, and to collect qualitative data to help provide context to it. He added that what they have, so far, with the data is the need to continue to invest in trauma-informed care. They want to meet people where they are and make sure to not continue causing negative stigmatization to groups that may have been experiencing some hard times in their life. They focus on the Mental Health Trust beneficiary population, and really build those protections with that group to try and mitigate some of these risks.

TRUSTEE HALTERMAN asked when reaching out to non-907 numbers, was there any change in any way when capturing the additional folks not captured the first time.

MR. FITTING replied that there was no change. The only difference seen in ACEs was neglect.

TRUSTEE HICKEL stated that it is a great start and something that can definitely be built upon for the future.

TRUSTEE FIMON stated that that is how it sparks other questions to ask.

MR. FITTING replied that the main surprise is just how different the results were from the 2013 to 2015 BRFSS results. He added that this data is available on the website they manage at the Division of Public Health. There is also a new report with all of this data, and more, with all the demographic breakdowns.

CHAIR FISHER stated that it was great data to share, and that trustees would also like to see the

demographic breakdown that goes along with it. He thanked them and called a break.

(Break.)

CHAIR FISHER welcomed all back to the continuation of the board meeting and moved to the Program & Planning Committee. He recognized Katie Baldwin-Johnson to give an introduction.

PROGRAM & PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT/GRANT APPROVALS

COO BALDWIN-JOHNSON began by providing highlights from the Program & Planning Committee meeting and stated that the grant proposals included on the agenda for the Full Board consideration were presented and discussed at the January 21st Program & Planning Committee meeting. Items included in the consent agenda were grant requests of less than \$200,000 and with a grant term of 12 months or less, and all proposals have been included that were considered by the committee. The committee also discussed a few of the projects in greater detail. She noted for the trustees that the Recover Alaska proposal is not included on the agenda for this board meeting with a plan to bring that back at the April Program & Planning Committee meeting, with additional information based on the discussion at the committee.

CHAIR FISHER asked for a motion.

TRUSTEE FIMON asked if anyone wanted to pull out any of the requested motions for discussion.

TRUSTEE HALTERMAN asked that the Hope Community Resources request be pulled out.

CHAIR FISHER stated there were several questions for the Project Grad Kenai Peninsula project to be pulled.

COO BALDWIN-JOHNSON stated that the Project Grad Kenai Peninsula proposal was discussed, and there is additional information available. She continued that the Hope Community Resources had no separate discussion, and she had nothing additional about that at this time.

TRUSTEE FEIGE stated that she would like to hear about the Project Grad, and was reviewing some of that prior to the meeting. It is full of really good data and content, and it is worthwhile to get that on the record.

MOTION: The Board of Trustees approve the following Authority Grants as outlined below to include: No. 1, Alaska Jewish Campus, Alaska Friendship Circle All-Inclusive Early Childhood Indoor Play Center for \$150,000; No. 2, Alzheimer's Resource of Alaska, Living Better with Dementia for \$136,085; No. 4, Choosing Our Roots, Choosing Our Roots Rapid Rehousing Assistance Program for \$125,000; No. 5, Palmer Senior Citizens, Inc., MSSS, ADS Transportation, \$50,000; No. 7, REACH 907, Electronic Health Record, EHR Compliance Services, Billing and Coding Certification, HR Consultation, \$48,960; No. 8, Sitka Homeless Coalition, Sitka Emergency Winter Shelter, \$40,710; No. 9, Cook Inlet Native Headstart, Expanding Mental Health Counseling for Students and Families, \$25,000; No. 10, Be Fit and Well Annex, Expanding Access to Brain and Body Health for Alaskans, Scholarships and Training for Evidence-Based Programs, \$24,750; and No. 11, Carry the Cure, Inc., Commit to Life

Mat-Su, \$20,000. The motion was made by TRUSTEE FIMON; seconded by TRUSTEE FEIGE.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Feige, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Halterman, yes; Trustee Hickel, yes; Chair Fisher, yes.)

MOTION: The Board of Trustees approves the following Authority Grant as outlined below to include No. 3 from the original list, Project Grad Kenai Peninsula Rural School Counselor Program, \$134,100. The motion was made by TRUSTEE FIMON; seconded by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN.

MS. PONTS stated that this grant would enable Project Grad to fund one year of salary for a full-time school counselor to serve K-12 students across four rural communities on the Kenai Peninsula. Project Grad is a nonprofit organization based in Homer that has consistently worked and provided culturally responsive programming for over 20 years. The counselor's primary focus will be on mental health prevention and intervention and working collaboratively with school staff and family members. She noted that online was Kenneth Schneider, the deputy director of Project Grad Kenai Peninsula. She shared some supplemental information on some of the findings of that curriculum and the student survey instrument, both the pre and post. She noted that the survey questions are in that attachment, as well. They are also pursuing Federal funding. Some of the timeline information for the Native Youth Community Projects grant is included, as well as the Alaska Native Education Program grant. Both of those grants prioritize counseling and mental health services as core components.

TRUSTEE FEIGE asked how to most effectively leverage those dollars for programs like Project Grad.

MR. SCHNEIDER replied that they have had talks with another organization in Homer to try to possibly combine some services that occur here in Homer with some services that can happen across the bay. They are also looking into some prevention models with after-school activities. The hope is that this can be a program that will take advantage and leverage these kinds of systems. At the moment, because this is all happening so fast, they are in an exploratory phase.

COO BALDWIN-JOHNSON asked to touch on the question regarding parental engagement and parental consent in this process.

MS. PONT replied that this curriculum is an opt-in.

MR. SCHNEIDER stated that with all of the programs at Project Grad, parental consent is received at the beginning of the school year. He asked Selena Mach for more information.

MS. MACH stated that all of the programming occurs in collaboration with parents, guardians, community members, and then the other key stakeholders like tribal leadership. In any programming, they are in communication with parents.

TRUSTEE FIMON asked if the program is sustainable if a number of parents opt out.

MR. SCHNEIDER replied that, historically, they have had a very good buy-in from the communities and have worked with them for more than 20 years. The buy-in from the

communities and families is huge, and these are things that have been requested of us to do. He is pretty confident that this program will take shape, and it would be a huge letdown for these communities to not see this happen.

TRUSTEE HICKEL thinks that these school counselors, especially in rural schools, are very important. She stated her support for this.

TRUSTEE HALTERMAN stated support for this particular request, and appreciated the very detailed reply received from the Program & Planning Committee.

CHAIR FISHER asked for anymore questions. There being none, he called the vote.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Feige, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Halterman, yes; Trustee Hickel, yes; Chair Fisher, yes.)

MOTION: The Board of Trustees approve the following Authority Grant as outlined below. It was No. 6, Hope Community Resources, exterior siding replacement for assisted-living home in Kenai, \$50,000. The motion was made by TRUSTEE FIMON; seconded by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN.

TRUSTEE HALTERMAN stated that she was hearing that folks are being moved from group-home settings to assisted-living home settings, and there is an influx of assisted-living homes; and she had some concerns about a request of this type. She was concerned about not having guardrails around requests of this nature and thinks the board might want to look at giving staff direction about when to look at doing a capital improvement for a Medicaid-funded operation. She asked for a bit of background about what is happening with placements.

MS. BARSTAD discussed some of the systems' issues that may be impacting this request. She explained that there are two different services that are both licensed under assisted-living homes: There are group home services, and then the senior services. Typically, people are not going to move between one or the other. They get qualified for one or the other, depending on which waiver they are authorized for. She added that there is not necessarily movement between those two things. There are larger numbers of what are referred to as "mom-and-pop group homes" where there is a sole proprietor, one group home. They may take placement of two individuals, maybe up to five, in a family-home-type setting where folks have their own private room. Those individuals may expand their services or stay very small. There has been some movement for individuals preferring that small "mom and pop" business feel rather than a large organizational feel. She stated that they are expecting to have a presentation available to the trustees in April to learn more about those trends, their impact on legacy providers, and what we will see for the future of services for this beneficiary group.

TRUSTEE HALTERMAN asked if this Hope facility is owned, and if it accepts Medicaid funding for each of the beneficiaries in that home.

MS. PONTS stated that Karen Fritsche, the communications and grants manager, and Jared Davis, the director of properties and maintenance, are online.

MR. DAVIS replied that they do own the home, and he believes that they are Medicaid-waivered individuals. He added that he is more the hands-on for the project.

MS. FRITSCHÉ replied that the home has two individuals living in it, along with direct support staff, and then the family members provide support, as well.

MR. DAVIS added that this home is actually licensed for four individuals, and there is some vacancy.

TRUSTEE HALTERMAN stated concern about the global impacts of having requests of this magnitude put before them.

MR. DAVIS stated that they have sold some aging properties, and they hold that for capital improvements. They do a lot of grants, fundraising, and donations.

MS. FRITSCHÉ added those are their primary sources. Mr. Davis and team work with a set of contractors they use on a regular basis to help reduce the costs.

MS. BARSTAD mentioned that several years ago the joint boards and the Trust produced a deferred maintenance program. It is one of the MHTAAR programs that was transferred to Senior & Disability Services for management due to some of the staffing concerns experienced in the Grants and Contracts Section and Finance and Management Services. This deferred maintenance grant is part MHTAAR, part GF/MH. It would normally handle requests of this nature, but that grant has not been issued the past few years primarily due to the staffing concerns and the transfer of grants from one division to another.

CHAIR FISHER asked for any other questions or comments. There being none, he called the vote.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Feige, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Halterman, yes; Trustee Hickel, yes; Chair Fisher, yes.)

MOTION: The Board of Trustees approve a \$200,000 Authority Grant to Southcentral Foundation for the Traumatic and Acquired Brain Injury (TABI) basic implementation plan for identification, intervention, and enhanced community infrastructure grant. These funds will come from the Trust focus area strategy implementation line of the Fiscal Year '26 budget. The motion was made by TRUSTEE FIMON; seconded by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN.

MS. BARSTAD stated that this project is in its fifth and final year of implementing the pilot project., TABI's basic implementation plan for identification, intervention, and continued assessment of capacity and community infrastructure building. This project has been pretty incredible. The staff at Southcentral Foundation and ANMC were able to give an update at the Program & Planning Committee to discuss the progress to date, which has been really phenomenal. The goal of this multiyear project was to implement brain injury services for those who are empaneled. Southcentral Foundation utilized the Alaska Native Medical Center. She noted that this project was not only really successful, but is replicable, as well.

CHAIR FISHER asked for any other questions. There being none, he called the vote.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Feige, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Halterman, yes; Trustee Hickel, yes; Chair Fisher, yes.)

MOTION: The Board of Trustees approves a \$310,000 Authority Grant to Covenant House Alaska for the Meeting Youth Where They Are Expanding Behavioral Health, Substance Use, and Recovery Services Across CHA grant. These funds will come from the Trust focus area strategy implementation line of the Fiscal Year '26 budget. The motion was made by TRUSTEE FIMON; seconded by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN.

MS. BARSTAD stated that Covenant House Alaska serves homeless youth in the Anchorage area ages 13 to 24. This project will help to ensure that youth who are using that campus have access to both mental health and now expanding to substance use disorder services. Last year a grant was funded by the Trust to provide mental health services, and was incredibly successful.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Feige, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Halterman, yes; Trustee Hickel, yes; Chair Fisher, yes.)

MOTION: The Board of Trustees approves a \$300,000 Authority Grant to the All Alaska Pediatric Partnership for the Help Me Grow Alaska Community Outreach Care Coordination and Development Screening grant. These funds will come from the Trust focus area strategy implementation line of the Fiscal Year '27 budget. The motion was made by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN; seconded by TRUSTEE FIMON.

DR. VOELKER-ROSS stated that this project will support the All Alaska Pediatric Partnership in implementing Help Me Grow Alaska to connect families to care navigation developmental and social/emotional screening and timely referrals to community providers through their centralized access point. Help Me Grow continues to experience significant growth statewide in terms of number of families that they are serving, as well as the reach into many communities and boroughs. This is a two-year project to continue to serve Alaska's families who are in need of care navigation, developmental screening, resources, and support.

CHAIR FISHER asked for any other questions.

TRUSTEE FEIGE asked if this was a continuation of the work that was heard earlier today.

DR. VOELKER-ROSS replied yes.

CHAIR FISHER asked for any other questions. There being none, he called the vote.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Feige, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Halterman, yes; Trustee Hickel, yes; Chair Fisher, yes.)

MOTION: The Board of Trustees approve a \$114,082 Authority Grant to the Petersburg School District for the Thriving Together Collaborative Student Wellness Grant. These funds will come from the Trust focus area strategy implementation line of the Fiscal Year '26 budget. The motion was made by TRUSTEE FIMON; seconded by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN.

DR. VOELKER-ROSS stated that this is a 16-month grant project that will support the

expansion of access to mental health supports, professional counseling, and social/emotional learning for students within the Petersburg Borough School District. It builds on initiatives that the Petersburg School District has been prioritizing and developing for several years. The project focus is universal for all students who would benefit from prevention, as well as more specialized and direct support services and interventions for students with higher needs. These are Trust beneficiaries or those at risk for becoming a Trust beneficiary. Petersburg has submitted a response to the questions that arose from the Program & Planning Committee which is available in an addendum. They also submitted a letter of support from the Borough.

CHAIR FISHER asked for any questions or comments. There being none, he called the vote.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Feige, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Halterman, yes; Trustee Hickel, yes; Chair Fisher, yes.)

MOTION: The Board of Trustees approves \$116,200 Authority Grant to South Alaska Independent Living, Inc., for the Evaluating Access to Environmental Modification grant. These funds will come from the beneficiary housing project and related services line of the Fiscal Year '26 budget. The motion was made by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN; seconded by TRUSTEE HICKEL.

MS. BARSTAD stated that this project is a pilot project to support improving the environmental modification service for the State of Alaska. It is a Medicaid service. She explained the project, stating that this grant will help provide funding to SAIL and their associated partners to try out some of these new processes to make this service work again. She asked Joan O'Keefe about the current status of partner funding.

MS. O'KEEFE replied that both of the other funding sources are fully secured, from the Mat-Su Health Foundation and the Juneau Economic Development Council.

CHAIR FISHER asked for any other questions. There being none, he called the vote.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Feige, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Halterman, yes; Trustee Hickel, yes; Chair Fisher, yes.)

CHAIR FISHER stated that that completed all of the grants that the committee sent to the Full Board, and he called a break.

(Break.)

CHAIR FISHER called the meeting to order, and stated that they were going into Executive Session. He asked for a motion.

MOTION: A motion that the Alaska Mental Health Authority Trust Board of Trustees enter into Executive Session pursuant to the Alaska Open Meetings Act, Alaska Statute 44.62.310(2) [sic], to discuss the annual performance of the Trust CEO. The discussion will include matters concerning the CEO's performance evaluation for the prior year. The discussion is proper for an Executive Session under Alaska Statute 44.62.310(c)(2) as the subjects to be discussed may prejudice the reputation and character of people. The motion was made by TRUSTEE FIMON; seconded by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Feige, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Halterman, yes; Trustee Hickel, yes; Chair Fisher, yes.)

MR. HICKEY clarified that there was a typo, and that it is (c) (2) for both.

CHAIR FISHER stated that they were in Executive Session.

(Executive Session from 3:06 p.m. until 3:42 p.m.)

TRUSTEE FIMON stated for the record that he and his fellow trustees are returning from meeting in Executive Session. During the Executive Session, the trustees only discussed the items identified in our motion to move into Executive Session. The committee did not take any action while in Executive Session.

CHAIR FISHER recessed the meeting until Thursday morning at 8:30 a.m.

(Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Full Board of Trustees meeting recessed at 3:44 p.m.)

**ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH TRUST AUTHORITY
FULL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

**February 19, 2026
8:30 a.m.**

**Hybrid/Zoom Meeting:
Originating at:
Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority
3745 Community Park Loop, Suite 200
Anchorage, Alaska 99508**

Trustees Present:

Brent Fisher, Chair
John Morris
Anita Halterman
Kevin Fimon
Agnes Moran
Corri Feige (virtual)
Josie Hickel

Trust Staff Present:

Mary Wilson
Allison Biastock
Katie Baldwin-Johnson
Shannon Cochran
Valette Keller
Julee Farley
Luke Lind
Carrie Predeger
Michael Baldwin
Eric Boyer
Kat Roch
Kelda Barstad
Tina Voelker-Ross
Eliza Muse
Debbie DeLong
Heather Phelps

Trust Land Office staff present:

Jusdi Warner
Jeff Green
Sarah Morrison
Mariana Martinez
Blain Alfonso
Cole Hendrickson

Department of Law Staff present:

Gene Hickey
Chris Orman

Also participating:

Shannon McCain; Hazel LeCount; Patrick Reinhart; Betsy Wood; Deputy Commissioner Emily Ricci; Steve Center; April Kyle; Tracy Dompeling; Nick Bailey; Kim Isley; Leah Van Kirk; Nicole Lebo; Chloe Woodall; Nathan Bell.

PROCEEDINGS

CALL TO ORDER

CHAIR FISHER called the meeting back to order and asked for any announcements. There being none, he asked COO Baldwin-Johnson to do the introduction.

MR. HICKEY stated that an announcement stating that there is a quorum of trustees present was necessary.

CHAIR FISHER stated that the trustees present that makes up a quorum for the board is Corri Feige, Anita Halterman, Kevin Fimon, and himself, Brent Fisher. He added that additional trustees may join later.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

COO BALDWIN-JOHNSON stated that Deputy Commissioner Emily Ricci was online, and that Commissioner Hedberg and Leah Van Kirk would be on shortly.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER RICCI stated that Commissioner Hedberg may be more delayed than she anticipated. She stated that she is deputy commissioner with the Department of Health and talked about the Rural Health Transformation Program, which is an important opportunity for the state as a whole and for anyone involved in the healthcare field. She added that they are thinking about how to use it to build out and address some of the gaps seen in the system that make it difficult, sometimes, to meet the needs of Alaskans. She explained that the Rural Health Transformation Program is a one-time \$50 billion Federal initiative focused on catalyzing rural healthcare delivery, recognizing the challenges around the country that many states are experiencing in ensuring that rural residents have access to the healthcare services that they need. It is really focused on improving access and health outcomes. It is established as a \$50 billion fund to be paid out over a five-year period. She explained that, every year, \$5 billion is distributed across 50 states. Half of that money is evenly distributed so that every state receives around \$100 million. Then the other half is awarded based on a number of competitive factors, which were evaluated as part of a one-time application that all states submitted earlier this fall. There was a six-week submittal period. Alaska submitted the application for funding in November of 2025, and we were awarded \$272 million. It was a very dense application, and she continued talking about some of its elements. That one-time application provides the parameters for what the funding can be used for over the next five years. She added that this is a nonconstruction, competitive grant through the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. That means that it is a grant agreement that is structured through a cooperative agreement with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services which are working together to administer this grant. The Department of Health is to work very closely with CMS to make sure that it is being administered within the confines of the grant parameters. She reported that they did meet with their newly assigned program officer who is based in Seattle. They will come up and visit as part of some of the site visits and assessments in future years. She added that it is important to remember that this is a grant under a cooperative agreement, but we are still subject to all of the same terms and conditions as any type of Federal grant.

CHAIR FISHER noted that Trustee Josie Hickel has joined the meeting.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER RICCI introduced Betsy Wood, the executive director of the Office of Health Savings in the Commissioner's office. She is leading the Rural Health Transformation Program within the Commissioner's office. She is on the phone and is a wealth of information. She continued through her presentation and talked about the three goals and six different proposed funding initiatives identified within Alaska's application.

CHAIR FISHER asked if they saw a role for the Alaska Mental Health Trust to be able to assist with some of the planning and such.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER RICCI replied absolutely. They have established an advisory council with a steering committee which provides some directional perspective and advice on the criteria for future years. She added that they will be moving into a more formal council with a formal charter and Open Meetings Act. She also sees the role for the Alaska Mental Health Trust, particularly, representing beneficiaries with both behavioral health and developmental disability issues. The other role may be funding support that is prohibited through the Rural Health Transformation Program. She talked about the goal of getting the grants out on the street in April and May, recognizing the time frame with reporting to CMA about the progress in August.

CHAIR FISHER thanked Deputy Commissioner Ricci, and stated his appreciation for the presentation. It was important information for the trustees to hear.

COO BALDWIN-JOHNSON introduced Tracy Dompeling, acting commissioner with the Department of Family and Community Services, to share information from her department.

ACTING COMMISSIONER DOMPELING began with a brief resume of her experiences of working about 26 years in the equivalent of this department in numerous positions. She stated, in addition to API, within the Department is the Office of Children's Services, Division of Juvenile Justice, The Alaska Pioneer Homes, and also the Department Support Services, which is primarily the administrative support. Under that is also the Coordinated Health and Complex Care Unit. She shared API's mission, and talked about the capacity. There are 80 beds at API with 60 of them for civil commitments, usually folks with involuntary commitment. She talked about the population data and the development of more opportunities for kids in the communities that keep them out of the higher level of care. There has been an increase in the number of competency restoration individuals placed in the custody of the Department of Family and Community Services. She talked about the highlights of API working with the Department of Corrections, and the challenges.

CHAIR FISHER thanked Ms. Dompeling, and stated appreciation for her presentation. He called a break.

(Break.)

TRIBAL HEALTH SYSTEM

COO BALDWIN-JOHNSON introduced April Kyle, CEO of Southcentral Foundation, who was instrumental in the beginning of the conceptualization of the initiative of crisis care, and is a very valued partner in that work. She continued that Ms. Kyle will talk about the Tribal Health

System and behavioral health with a hope for an opportunity for some dialogue with trustees around partnering opportunities.

CEO KYLE introduced herself traditionally, and stated that she serves as CEO of SCF, and has led behavioral health for a long time, serving with tribal behavioral health directors and with the basic health association. She began her presentation with a bit about the Tribal Health System in general and then addressed SCF and their role in tribal health. She continued that the strengths of the system are that they collaborate and work together as one system. They care a lot about this work, which walks in the path created by ancestors. They recognize sovereignty and self-determination at a local level. They are built on values, vision, and dreaming about what healthcare can be; and they talk about what healthcare can be. She moved to SCF and stated that if Alaska Native people get to envision healthcare, this is what the Native people in this region have decided: A vision of the Native community that enjoys physical, mental, emotional and spiritual wellness. It has also been about the idea of whole-person wellness; a balance of how they do physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually, which are not separate; and the whole healthcare system is responsible for it all. The mission is how they work together with the Native community. And how we get to the vision is the relationships and shared responsibility.

CHAIR FISHER stated that he really enjoyed the presentation, and that it was very helpful for all of the trustees. He thanked her very much.

MR. HICKEY raised a question for later discussion. He stated that sometimes there are grant requests that come through that are for Alaska Native-based programs, and the question about funding often comes up. He continued that he was aware of the complications related to how funding streams run through the various Alaska Native programs with the Federal Government, the Government relationships and the compacting and things, but many people are not aware of that. He added that those questions are valid, and it would be really helpful to have a presentation to hear more about that side of their performance. He stated that they have watched that campus grow from a little hospital in 1953 to what it is today, including Mat-Su.

CEO KYLE explained fully that the base HIS funding that they receive is the minority of their funding. She noted that they are a really good partner with the State in helping save the State General Funds by investing in those tribal health programs.

TRUSTEE FIMON asked if ANTHC was doing anything with immersive technology.

CEO KYLE replied that she was not aware of an implemented service that uses those Google-based or VR-based technologies.

UNIFORM PRUDENT MANAGEMENT OF INSTITUTIONAL FUNDS ACT

CHAIR FISHER stated that the next presentation is from Callan. He asked Ms. Farley to do the introduction.

MS. FARLEY introduced Steve Center with Callan to walk through some fiduciary standards related to asset management for trustee education.

MR. CENTER greeted all and stated that this is an important conversation. Understanding what trustee fiduciary responsibilities are as a board is something that most of their clients that are governed by boards or committees go through a process of fiduciary education at least every three years. And, usually, when a new member of a board is nominated or joins the Board, they

highly recommend that they go through fiduciary training to understand what their overall responsibilities are. He began with an historical review about some of the rules that govern fiduciary conduct for an asset pool like the Mental Health Trust. He talked about two main rules, the Uniform Prudent Investor Act and the UPMIFA, the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act. They are both adopted by the State of Alaska and govern some of the responsibilities as a board of trustees. He also explained fully about who and what a fiduciary is. He talked about investment policies, and stated that it is very important that written investment policies are adopted and adhered to. They should also be reviewed on a periodic basis, and should also include monitoring procedures, as well. He went through seven things that are outlined in UPMIFA that should be taken into account when a spending rate is being created. He then defined a fiduciary as anyone that has any discretionary authority or control over the Trust's management, or the management or disposition of the Trust assets. As trustees, they have a decision ability around things like asset allocation, but also how the assets are spent in the awarding of grants and things of that nature. Additionally, anyone who renders investment advice for a fee is a fiduciary. He added that Callan does accept fiduciary responsibility for the advice provided to all their clients.

MR. HICKEY clarified that although a judge makes the final decision on fiduciary, if there is a court case, and most of the time it comes down to the specific facts of each particular scenario. The court will look at the facts, apply them with the law, and then make the determination as to whether or not there is or is not a fiduciary relationship there.

MR. CENTER went through the four central duties of fiduciary under UPMIFA: a duty of loyalty; focusing on minimizing expenses; duty of care; and a duty of obedience. A fiduciary should insure that the organization adheres to its mission and that it complies with all applicable laws and regulations. He then went through their seven recommendations for fiduciary conduct that all ties back to UPMIFA. He moved to the overall recommendations for fiduciary conduct and added the importance of having a good, strong governance structure in place.

MR. HICKEY noted that this presentation only talked about two particular Acts, and that it is more complex than that.

CHAIR FISHER thanked Mr. Center, and called a lunch break.

(Lunch break.)

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT REPORT CONSULTATIONS

CHAIR FISHER welcomed all back from lunch, and asked Ms. Warner for an introduction to the Resource Management Report.

E.D. WARNER pointed to the Resource Management Committee Meeting Summary which gives an update of what was covered in the Resource Management Committee meeting; the executive director report; and Icy Cape update. She then continued to the first motion.

LAND EXCHANGE, CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL

MOTION: The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Board of Trustees concur with the decision to exchange Trust parcels located in and around Wrangell with the City and Borough of Wrangell in a value-for-value land exchange of up to \$1,650,000. Parcels received by the Trust will be disposed of through the Trust's competitive or over-the-

counter land sale programs. The motion was made by TRUSTEE FEIGE; seconded by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN.

E.D. WARNER stated that this has received some media attention. Recently, there was an article in the *Wrangell Sentinel* about this which stems from the MOU that the Trust Land Office signed with the City and Borough of Wrangell. This is to insure the joint efforts are aligning, and they are working toward the same sort of process that benefits both entities. She continued that this is a waterfront parcel with a plan to subdivide it. She noted that it would be economic for the Trust to do so. Parcels that are being conveyed to the City and Borough of Wrangell are still in discussion. There is a pool of parcels, and we are getting very close to deciding the final parcels. She added that, with the negotiations and discussions happening so far, the Trust Land Office parcels will be approximately \$30,000 short for a value-to-value land exchange, and that payment will have to equalize. It was in the consultation, and we are happy that it is a small value to equalize. She added that once the parcels are subdivided, those values will increase.

CHAIR FISHER asked for any other questions. There being none, he called the vote.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Feige, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Halterman, yes; Trustee Hickel, yes; Chair Fisher, yes.)

FY2027-2032 PARCEL INVENTORY FOR STATEWIDE LAND SALE

MOTION: The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Board of Trustees concur with creating a pool of approximately 20 subdivision lots and small-to-large-tract parcels to be subdivided such that they may be disposed of through the TLO's statewide Land Sale Programs. The motion was made by TRUSTEE FEIGE; seconded by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN.

E.D. WARNER stated that this is a consultation that the RMC and the Board sees on an annual basis which supports the continuing of the Land Sale Program for years to come. This is anticipated to generate about \$6 million in the next five years.

CHAIR FISHER asked for any questions. There being none, he called the vote.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Feige, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Halterman, yes; Trustee Hickel, yes; Chair Fisher, yes.)

AO 360 PROPOSED REGULATIONS CHANGES

MOTION: The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Board of Trustees approve the Trust Land Office's compliance with AO 360 and submission of proposed amendments to 11 AAC 99 in Exhibit A through the Department of Natural Resources to the Department of Law's legislation, regulations and legislative research section. The motion was made by TRUSTEE FEIGE; seconded by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN.

E.D. WARNER stated that the goal of Administrative Order 360 is to reduce the regulatory burden on agencies in getting decisions made and done. For the Department of Natural Resources, that means getting industry to work. Essentially, the proposed regulation changes attached to the Resource Management Committee consultation will do just that. It will accelerate those decision-making timelines and reduce the notice, the public notice, and appeal periods. She added that the policy and the discretion can also come from the executive director who might decide this project needs to go to the Resource Management Committee first before a

decision is also issued at the same time.

CHAIR FISHER asked for any questions. There being none, he called the vote.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Feige, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Halterman, yes; Trustee Hickel, yes; Chair Fisher, yes.)

MHT 9400930 – 8 STAR ALASKA, LLC – NON-EXCLUSIVE TERM EASEMENT

MOTION: The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Board of Trustees concur with the decision to issue a negotiated term easement to 8 Star Alaska, LLC, for a portion of Trust lands FM-1179, FM-1323, FM-1326, FM-1329, FM-1333, FM-1341, FM-1342, FM-1348, FM-1349, FM-1354, FM-1418, FM-1419, FM-1427, SM-1530-A01 and SM-7017. The motion was made by TRUSTEE FEIGE; seconded by TRUSTEE HICKEL.

E.D. WARNER stated that this is the LNG pipeline, a pretty high-profile project in the state right now. It is a small footprint for Trust land and for the pipeline. The annual rental will be charged based on linear foot, and it will have escalations in five-year increments.

TRUSTEE FIMON asked if this referenced back to the other day in the committee.

E.D. WARNER replied that it was in the House Finance committee. She clarified that if a pipeline is not there, it will be issued as an easement authorization with a construction idea behind it. Once it is constructed and working, it will move to an easement, and will be charged additional fees.

TRUSTEE FEIGE asked if this particular section of the pipe would be buried or above ground.

MR. HENDRICKSON replied that it will be a buried pipeline. There are sections where it has to cross over two rivers, but for the portions on Trust land, it will be buried.

CHAIR FISHER asked for any questions. There being none, he called the vote.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Feige, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Halterman, yes; Trustee Hickel, yes; Chair Fisher, yes.)

MHT 9300103 – HILCORP ALASKA, LLC – NEGOTIATED OIL & GAS LEASE

MOTION: The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Board of Trustees concur with the negotiated lease of Trust land, a portion of Parcel S70437 near Tyonek, to Hilcorp Alaska, LLC, for the exploration and development of oil and gas resources. The motion was made by TRUSTEE FEIGE; seconded by TRUSTEE HICKEL.

E.D. WARNER stated that this motion is an excellent description of the lease. She noted that there is an annual fee, and there are escalations built into the lease. She noted that the rental fees are credited against a royalty deal. Should they go into production, there could be a credit of those rental fees to the royalty, which is 12.5 percent.

CHAIR FISHER asked for any questions. There being none, he called the vote.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Feige, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Halterman, yes; Trustee Hickel, yes; Chair Fisher, yes.)

NEGOTIATED LAND LEASE

E.D. WARNER stated that the next consultation on the agenda is a negotiated land lease, and the reason that MHT 9201068 is separate from the committee packet is because the committee did not hear this consultation due to application timelines. Even though we were in discussions with them, they were unable to get their application packet in time for meeting the timeline of the RMC. She clarified this is the first time this is being heard.

MOTION: The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Board of Trustees concur with the decision to lease Trust parcels SM-1162-01 and SM-1162-04 through a negotiated term lease. The motion was made by TRUSTEE FEIGE; seconded by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN.

E.D. WARNER asked Cole Hendrickson to walk through this new consultation.

MR. HENDRICKSON explained that this is a negotiated lease request from TUGLIQ Energy USA, Incorporated. They are requesting permission to build a solar farm on these parcels. The parcels are north of Kenai, Alaska; just north of the airstrip in Kenai. They propose a two-phase development of solar. He stated that, originally, these parcels were leased for the same purpose to a company called Renewable IPP. As of September 2025, that lease was relinquished, terminated, and finalized due to being unable to secure project financing. In an effort to capitalize on an expiring tax credit, TUGLIQ has approached the TLO believing that they can make use of those credits before they expire in July. With that, construction has to begin soon. He added that it is within the timeline, but will be a quick turnaround. He continued that TUGLIQ Energy is a project developer and independent power producer for renewable energy, for storage solutions, for biomass projects. They are based out of Canada with several projects in the United States, and they specialize in Arctic production with their operational partner Solvest, who will be the primary engineering, procurement, and construction contractor and are just as experienced and specialists in these types of projects. Together, they believe they can get this project across the finish line, capitalize on the expiring tax credits, and build the solar farm that was originally promised through the first lease. He noted that the details are very similar to the original project. He stated that the primary benefit to the Trust is the annual fees and collection of rent. This is a very unique flagship project where a full life cycle lease authorization was created to permit projects like this. He noted that there is no cost to the Trust outside of general project administration, file administration, the annual fuel inspection on a very road-accessible property.

CHAIR FISHER asked for any questions. There being none, he called the vote.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Feige, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Halterman, yes; Trustee Hickel, yes; Chair Fisher, yes.)

BELOW-MARKET LEASE APPROVAL ASSETS INC.

MOTION: The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Board of Trustees approve the annual lease rent of \$36,000, with a 10 percent rent increase every five years for a 10-year lease for Tract 5A of the Community Park Subdivision, Plat 73-41, containing 6.00 acres, in Anchorage, Alaska, to Assets, Incorporated. The motion was made by TRUSTEE FEIGE; seconded by TRUSTEE HICKEL.

MS. PHELPS stated that this below-market-value lease was presented in October. The reason for the lapse is because of the public noticing that was required, and for the time frame. She added that Nick Bailey, the property manager from Assets, was available to answer questions. She continued that Assets, Incorporated, is requesting a long-term lease at less-than-fair-market value for the real property located at 2330 Nichols Street, Anchorage, Alaska. Assets, Incorporated, currently utilizes this property for clinical services, case management and community recovery support services. The building also houses their administrative services, their print shop and bindery. The print shop provides employment and training opportunity for Trust beneficiaries. 100 percent of those served at this location are Trust beneficiaries with developmental disabilities or mental health disorders. The last time this lease was executed with the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority was July 2016, and it expires June 30th, 2026. She added that no public comment was received for this lease, and she wanted that noted on the record.

CHAIR FISHER asked for any other questions. There being none, he called the vote.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Feige, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Halterman, yes; Trustee Hickel, yes; Chair Fisher, yes.)

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

MOTION: The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Board of Trustees approve the annual lease rent of \$37,000 for a one-year lease for Lot 1, Block 1, of the Community Park Loop Subdivision, Plat 85-218, containing 3.46 acres, in Anchorage, Alaska, to Catholic Social Services. The motion was made by TRUSTEE FEIGE; seconded by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN.

MS. PHELPS stated that Kim Isley, the COO from Catholic Social Services, was there. She continued that there was no public comment received. Catholic Social Services requests a one-year term lease at less-than-fair-market value for the real property located at 3710 East 20th Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska. CSS currently utilizes this property for the St. Francis House Food Pantry and the storage of household goods to assist families in need. Approximately 29 percent of those participating in the food pantry are Trust beneficiaries. She added that CSS also subleases a portion of the building to Kids' Corps, which provides a Head Start program on site. About 30 percent of the children enrolled in the program are Trust beneficiaries. Due to the unique circumstances related to this property, Trust Land Office and Trust Authority Office staff met with CSS to discuss potential options. Based on those discussions, CSS requested that their current lease be extended until May 31, 2027, with the offered rate being 1 percent of the property's value, and the option to terminate early without penalty. CSS further requests that the extension allow them to maintain Kids' Corps as a tenant. This would enable CSS to plan and implement the transition with minimal disruptions to their services. She added that this current lease for CSS predates the existence of the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority. The lease was executed on May 1, 1986, and expires May 31, 2026. The Kids' Corps sublease was executed on June 1, 2010, and expires May 31, 2026. She continued that Kids' Corps indicated to CSS that they were working toward a partnership with the Anchorage School District to lease part of an elementary school building. No potential date was determined when they plan to end their sublease with CSS. In late January 2026, CSS informed TAO that Kids' Corps would be vacating the CSS property at the end of July 2026. CSS's ability to remain in the building depends on continued rent payments from Kids' Corps. This timeline significantly impacts how long CSS can afford to carry the operating costs of the building. Based on this new information, internal discussions between the TAO and the TLO occurred. She asked Ms. Warner to

continue.

E.D. WARNER stated that the new developments that have come forward are Kids' Corps has secured a new lease offer on an ASD property. They anticipate a move-out date in the July time frame, which puts Catholic Social Services in a financial bind, and they also informed us that they will be vacating early. She proposed that the motion on the table potentially be amended to allow Catholic Social Services or the Land Office exit the lease with a 30-day termination notice. Therefore, it would be a month-to-month lease for up to a year. CSS will not have to pay \$37,000 in one lump sum, and will be prorated for monthly rent payments.

TRUSTEE FEIGE asked, in terms of potential future tenants, if there is a plan in place to do some outreach with beneficiary-serving groups that may be interested in taking that space. She also asked about the condition of the building.

COO BALDWIN-JOHNSON replied that there have been exploratory conversations.

E.D. WARNER stated that there is a master plan for this campus that was done in 2019 or 2021. It says that parcel was historically used for beneficiary-serving organizations, and the intent is for it to continue serving beneficiary-serving organizations. It is a master plan and can be amended. She added that there is a contractor working on a conditions assessment for the building, updating it from 2021. VOA has taken a tour of the building and has some interest. There will be cash infusions that will have to be made on the property once it is vacated.

TRUSTEE FEIGE requested an update on this at a future RMC meeting.

MOTION: A motion to rescind the initial motion was made by TRUSTEE FEIGE; seconded by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN.

MOTION: The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Full Board of Trustees approve the annual lease rent of \$37,000 for lease agreement for Lot 1, Block 1, of the Community Park Subdivision, Plat 85-218, containing 3.46 acres in Anchorage, Alaska, to Catholic Social Services. The lease shall be a one-year term with an outside expiration date of April 30, 2027, and shall include a 30-day-without-cause termination right exercisable by either party. Rent shall be payable in monthly installments at an annualized rate of \$37,000, and the lease shall automatically terminate upon nonoccupancy by the tenant. The motion was made by TRUSTEE FEIGE; seconded by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN.

CHAIR FISHER asked for any questions. There being none, he called the vote.

After the roll-call vote, the MOTION was APPROVED. (Trustee Feige, yes; Trustee Fimon, yes; Trustee Halterman, yes; Trustee Hickel, yes; Chair Fisher, yes.)

TRUSTEE COMMENTS

CHAIR FISHER stated that they were at the conclusion of the agenda and asked for any comments from the trustees before concluding.

TRUSTEE HALTERMAN stated that she wanted to talk about the outstanding issue of the populations that are exiting the group-home setting for assisted-living-home settings. She asked for more information on how many assisted living homes exit in this state, how many group

homes, and what the changes are that are driving people from the group-home settings or assisted-living-home settings. She continued that she would like to know a bit about the cost-of-care determinations being done for those populations, and whether there are any eligibility concerns, because she is hearing grumblings from the advisors. She had a couple of them approach raising various concerns. She does not fully understand the issues being raised and wants to be clear on this. She had heard that a group-home setting is not an ideal setting to run a microenterprise grant. That may have driven his decision to move from a group-home to an assisted-living-home setting. It is critical for the board to understand what we are up against. She thanked the staff for preparing a great meeting. It is working, and she is getting used to it. She added that it is a difficult change even for the Board.

TRUSTEE FIMON stated that he was happy with the Mission Moment and appreciated the fact that Corey was on the screen, his information, and how he presented himself on behalf of himself. He talked about his Mission Moment at the airport in Juneau and the reassembling of two wheelchairs and putting everything together, and then getting everyone buckled into the van. It was a good reminder of what he takes for granted and what the beneficiaries have to go through in situations that may be a 2.5-hour ordeal. He also stated appreciation for the staff and all the good information; the speakers and presentations were phenomenal.

TRUSTEE HICKEL stated appreciation for the meeting and the OARS presentation. She continued that that was the kind of information and data they should be gathering and disseminating, and figuring out how it can help us do better. She looked forward to what comes out of that. She was also happy with the update on the Rural Mental Health Transformation Plan.

CHAIR FISHER expressed his appreciation for the staff and for the way everything was conducted in the meeting. He talked about getting more information and more detailed information, which is really important. The ability to act quickly and get the trustees to jump on that is an important aspect of the ability for the Trust, the TAO, the TLO to not make things more prolonged than they need to be. He thanked all for participating in that. He asked for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by TRUSTEE HALTERMAN; seconded by TRUSTEE HICKEL.

There being no objection, the motion was approved.

(Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Full Board of Trustees Meeting adjourned at 1:38 p.m.)