

**Teleconference for Executive Committee of the Advisory board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (ABADA) and Alaska
Mental Health Board (AMHB)**

08/07/2019

ABADA

Lee Breinig - Present

Philip Licht – Present

Sid Atwood – Present

Cathy Bishop – Present

AMHB

Brenda Moore – Present

Charlene Tautfest – Present

Stephen Sundby – Present

Christopher Gunderson – Present

Sharon Clark – Present

Elizabeth Schultz – Present

Ex-Officio

Gennifer Moreau-Johnson – Present

Visitors

Kristina Vandagriff – Director of the Governor’s Council on Disabilities and Special Education

Jimael Johnson – Program Officer, Alaska Mental Health Trust

Staff

Bev Schoonover

Teri Tibbett

Jennifer Weisshaupt

Kyle Galano

Val Cooday

Roll Call/ Introductions

Meeting called at 10:00AM

- **Old Business (Nominating and ED Hire Committees)**
 - Interested in serving on the Executive Nominating Committee:
AMHB – Brenda Moore & Charlene Tautfest
ABADA – Lee Breinig, James Duncan, Philip Licht & Sid Atwood
 - Interested in serving on the ED Hiring Committee:
AMHB – Brenda Moore & Charlene Tautfest
ABADA – Lee Breinig, James Duncan & Philip Licht
Sharon Fishel, Barbara Franks and another one from SSPC

- Brenda Moore will be drafting a formal letter to the incoming Chief-of-Staff pointing out our statutory and federal responsibilities and will also be requesting that Beverly Schoonover be reconsidered as Executive Director.
- **Empowerment Through Employment Conference**
 - **Kristin Vandagriff, Director of the Governor’s Council on Disabilities and Special Education**
 - **Jimael Johnson, Program Officer - Alaska Mental Health Trust**
 - The will of the Alaska Mental Health Trust stakeholders is to bring together a group of providers and leaders around the state and have an Employment Summit/Conference that would highlight the work happening on the State on behalf of the Trust Beneficiaries to improve the outcomes related to employment. *No Registration Fee*
 - When: October 24-25, 2019
 - Where: Hotel Captain Cook, Anchorage
 - Website: <https://www.employmentfirstak.com/>
- **FY20 Legislative and Budget Brief**

[HB 2001](#) - Contains the vetoed items the Boards were tracking in the operating, mental health, and supplemental budgets. The bill also includes language for a \$1,600 PFD. No CBR (Constitutional Budget Reserve) funds were used, so the bill did not require a 3/4 vote.

Following are priority items included in HB 2001:

- **Medicaid Services** (\$50 million/General Funds (GF)) for health coverage for Alaskans in need.
- **Medicaid Adult Preventative Dental** (\$27 million/GF) for dental care for Alaskans in need.
- **Senior Benefits Program** (\$20.7 million/GF, plus \$800,000/GF) to supplement expenses for living expenses, medications, transportation etc. for seniors in need.
- **Behavioral Health Treatment and Recovery Grants** (\$6.1 million/GF) for mental health and addiction treatment services.
- **Human Services Community Matching Grant** (\$1.387 million/GF) for resources to homeless shelters and food banks in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Mat-Su.
- **Community Initiative Matching Grants** (\$861,700/GF) for resources to homeless shelters and food banks throughout Alaska.
- **Early Learning Programs** (\$8.8 million/GF) for Head Start Grants, Early Childhood Grants, Best Beginnings, and Parents as Teachers, providing opportunities for early identification and intervention for children with disabilities and behavior challenges.
- **Adult Public Assistance** (\$7.5 million/GF) for financial support to elderly, blind, and disabled Alaskans for basic living expenses.
- **Nome Youth Facility** (\$2 million/GF) to continue operations providing detention, treatment, and probation services for justice-involved youth in Northwest Alaska.
- **Therapeutic Courts** (\$188,400/GF) for serving justice-involved adults with mental illness, addiction, cognitive disorders, and other disabilities.
- **Public Defender Agency** (\$579,800/GF) to address increased caseload of serving Alaskans without resources for defense in criminal matters.
- **Alaska Civil Legal Services Fund** (\$309,090/GF) for grants that support legal assistance in civil matters for low-income Alaskans.
- **Office of Public Advocacy** (\$91,000/GF) for attorney travel, providing guardianship/conservatorship for vulnerable Alaskans found by the court to be in need of a protective order.

[SB 2002](#) - Contains capital items the Trust and partner advisory boards have been tracking. The bill also contains provisions for a "reverse sweep" that restores monies to various functioning state funds, and passed with the required 3/4 vote giving authority to draw from the CBR (Constitutional Budget Reserve).

➤ **Following are priority items included in SB 2002:**

- **Special Needs Housing Grant** (\$2 million/CBR) for rental assistance and permanent supportive housing that target Alaska's homeless population.
- **Homeless Assistance Program** (\$7.2 million/CBR) for homeless prevention, rental and utility emergency assistance, emergency shelters, and rapid rehousing.
- **Statewide Addiction Treatment Facilities** (\$10 million/CBR) for local and private treatment facilities to build capacity to increase the number of available treatment slots in nine regions of the state.
- **Hiland Mtn. Prison Mental Health Unit and Detox** (\$2.54 million/CBR) for renovation of the women's mental health unit to expand detox and mental health services for women with behavioral health disorders.
- **Lemon Creek Prison Laundry Expansion** (\$420,000/CBR) to increase the capacity of the prison to provide training for meaningful employment after release.
- **Coordinated Transportation** (\$1 million/CBR) for transportation needs of seniors and people with disabilities.

● **Kenai Board Meeting Update**

- Board Meeting Travel Request Status: Pending Approval
- When: September 24-26, 2019
- Hotel: Aspen Suites Hotel
- Meeting Location: Kenai Visitors & Cultural Center
- Site Visits (separated into 3 groups):

- Group 1:

The Leeshore Center (Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Center for Women and Children)
Dena'ina Wellness Center

- Group 2:

Central Peninsula Hospital

- Group 3:

Wildwood Correctional Complex
Kenai Peninsula Youth Facility

● **SAMHSA Block Grant Application Update**

- Bev: In federal and state statute, it is responsibility of the AMHB/ABADA Boards to review and give feedback on the SAMHSA Block Grant plan. We want to make sure that we are meeting our statutory duties and I want to engage the boards with this a little bit more. I'm going to do an optional online webinar for folks, I'm also going to invite folks from the Trust just to go over some things like planning, steps, and performance indicators. We'll be doing a little back and forth and I'll write that up and submit it to DBH just to make sure that we're doing our due diligence on that.

● **Other Business**

- None

Meeting adjourned at 10:50AM