

## Minutes:

Tuesday April 25, 2017 – 8:15 am Alaska Pioneer Homes Advisory Board Meeting

Teleconference Call in Conference No: 1 800-315-6338 OR 1 913 904-9376

Access Code: 54784 No passcode required for members (Chairperson Passcode: 1399)

Teleconference guidelines: Please mute your phone unless you are speaking. When speaking, state your name first. Soon after the meeting, be ready to receive a copy of the draft minutes to review and provide input within a short period of time. Thanks.

### 1. Attendance

Att	Type	First	Last	Location/Title	Representing
x	Member	David	Blacketer	Juneau	Alaska Commission on Aging Designee
x	Member	Rosemary	Hagevig	Douglas	Public
x	Member	Hollis	Hall	Fairbanks	Public
x	Member	Bert	Hall	Wasilla	Public
x	Member	Jim	Hastings	Wasilla	Alaska Veterans Advisory Council Designee
x	Member	Jana	Shockman	Anchorage	Public
x	Member	Ronald	Siebels	Anchorage	Public/Restricted/Veterans representative
x	Member, Ch	Bob	Sivertsen	Ketchikan	Public
x	Division	Clinton	Lasley	Adm Ops Mgr	Central Office
x	Division	Emily	Palmer	Soc Svcs Pro Coord	Central Office
x	Division	Vickie	Wilson	Director	Director's Office

#### A. Quorum met.

- a. \_11\_ in attendance

### 2. Call to Order

- a. Rosemary moved, Ron second called to order at 0818

### 3. Discussion and approval of minutes from previous meeting.

- a. Rosemary moved

### 4. Declaration and verification of any conflicts of interest.

- a. No declarations or conflicts declared

### 5. Unfinished/Old Business

- a. Brief update to the board concerning the legislative audit findings (page 21-25).
  - i. Clint: We finished all 6 findings, some are still a work in progress but all are implemented. QuickBooks is working well, it is launched, have been receiving feedback and have been making adjustments. Overall it is simpler for residents and staff, we are now sending monthly invoices, still needs tweaking but overall is working really
- b. Roster updates have been made to the Advisory Board Website.  
<http://dhss.alaska.gov/daph/Pages/advisoryboard.aspx>
  - i. Clint: completed by Georgene, Emily will be taking over with management
- c. For the review of the Advisory Board members, a Fact Sheet for our board is located within the Office of the Governor's website: <https://gov.alaska.gov/services/boards-and-commissions/active-boards-commissions/fact-sheet/?board=080>
  - i. Clint: this was completed by Georgene, but moving forward will be done by Emily.
  - ii. Bob S: All updates will go through central office, encourages everyone to look at the governor's website for the board.
- d. Annual Advisory Board Report.
  - i. The last one was in 2012 (like posted on the website  
[http://dhss.alaska.gov/daph/Documents/docs/201209advisoryboard\\_report.pdf](http://dhss.alaska.gov/daph/Documents/docs/201209advisoryboard_report.pdf)

- ii. Does the board want to do them? If so, how can the Central office help to make that happen?
  - 1. Clint: Does the board want to do them? If so, how can Central office help make it happen?
  - 2. Vickie: Described how reports worked in the past, each home completed a template and information was presented to the board when they did a fall tour. We can come up with an outline of information that the board would find useful.
  - 3. Jana: Having a document can help with budget crisis, would like 1-2 pages to show value for each home.
  - 4. Vickie: legislature requests "bob book" which is a budget analysis.
  - 5. Clint: "bob" or budget overview, each division does these, very intensive with historical information and where we are now. It includes things like rates, beds available, budget, etc. Would need to find out if this is a public document before sharing with the board, but information could be pulled out of it.
  - 6. Hollis: Historical data like when we talked of building new homes or adding wings to existing homes would be helpful to show when we didn't get funding. Pillars in the community are concerned about not being able to get into homes due to funding and bed cuts. Would help paint the big picture on current concerns.
  - 7. Vickie: we really have seen changes since 2015, we can get that information. Please give ideas of things that you want to see, especially newer members.
  - 8. Rosemary: agree with Hollis, people do not follow how they work until they need it or it becomes personal.
  - 9. Clint: Emily will look at past designs and Clinton will look at bob document, so we aren't duplicating work.
  - 10. Bob: We should have some print copies available. When should we work on getting this done? Possibly in the fall?
  - 11. Clint: Let us know what works best for the board
  - 12. Dave: The report would be good to send to commission on aging to bring up to speed faster.
  - 13. Bob: when is the aging conference?
  - 14. Dave: It is sept 21
  - 15. Bob: goal may be first of September, Clint does that work? Members, please send requests for information that you want.
- e. Discuss report to Governor (if needed)
  - i. Bob: The Governor's office was trying to have Vickie provide response. It is more appropriate for the reply to come from the Governor's office, so we will rely on the reply to come from the Governor's office.

## 6. Reports

- a. Division Director's Report
  - i. Vickie: Spoke to the first flow of recent cuts, with loss of personal services and available beds. Then the Senate cut that resulted in the loss of two homes, etc (more description about how that went along). Then the Senate said they did not mean that, and blamed the Governor, who did not have anything to do with it. Then they blamed one or some of their own. In the end, they did not implement the cuts. The senate is still purposing an 815K cut, which translates into 8 staff positions and 29 beds. We will likely have some cuts made. Any questions?

- ii. Rosemary: at this point, it is more important what goes forward. Since the budget is not in conference committee because the committee has not been appointed. House numbers are much better, we need to be supporting the house bill
- iii. Clint: It is 2 against one, governor and house vs senate.
- iv. Rosemary: Pioneer homes were being held hostage for income tax, brutal politics, what can we do to encourage people to take house numbers?
- v. Clint: The governor's plan is even better, we would get an extra 300K to help with increasing costs.
- vi. Hollis: are our numbers even negotiable, neither shows a cut at this time other than undeclared general cuts?
- vii. Vickie: what I have heard this week is (meeting with commissioner and div directors) we are still being told of potential for 800k cut, where last week I thought we were in the clear, but 800k hasn't gone away yet. We are hopeful that house version would mean no cuts. This amounts to 29 beds being cut.
- viii. Bob: I think we should advocate for the Governor's budget where it added 300,000. Public doesn't understand staffing needs and 24 hour care for residents. We will have to cut beds if we stay flat, we still have increased cost every year.
- ix. Clint: spoke to the 800K, would have to take into account the 300K and take into account. It would actually be closer to \$2 million dollars
- x. Bob: yes that is what I thought, thank you, we lost 500k through list management
- xi. Clint: I think it was reversed back out, we now have that money
- xii. Bob: We have the sense of the Senate. Like Vickie said it showed support of the homes. Hopefully we could stay at the status quo.
- xiii. Vickie: feel that we are in a better position this year than we have been in past 2 years
- xiv. Rosemary: 5.5 million cut across department, will pioneer homes absorb some of that or will department think we have had too much already?
- xv. Vickie: I am unsure, but with support of governor, hopefully that we will be spared some of that cut, but we won't know until it's all final
- xvi. Clint: yesterday conference committee notes, senate is now saying 818.5k would be part of the 5.5 million across department. This is their latest reasoning, so we would have some of the cut. The conference committee should be picked mid-week. We will make sure to have information ready for them.

## 7. Reports

### a. Directors Report:

- i. Vickie: contemplating the next chapter, I am retiring on May 15<sup>th</sup>. We are having a party on May 12 at the Fairbanks Pioneer Home, please join if you can. It has been wonderful working for Pioneer Homes for the past 19 years and Senior Services for 35 years. Thanks for everything that you do for the homes, I appreciate it!
- ii. Bob: congratulations! It's a wonderful thing, its magic.
- iii. Vickie: The department commissioner has had several people say they are interested, there will probably be an interim or maybe they will just pick someone.

### b. Administrative Operation Manager's Budget Report

- i. Clint: We have already gone over a lot of this, legislative liaison indicates that congress committee will be named this week, got a list of names, but doesn't

- really know. Our next step is to make sure they understand what an 815K really means a 2 million cut. Will make sure we have that info ready
- ii. Bob: please send me info too, I will get letters drafted and sent, I can send to all board members.
- iii. Clint: QuickBooks, New program is up to date and show debits and credits more accurately, everything is new and moving forward. All homes are now in the same company making it easier to do division wide reporting. Residents now see complete costs and who is paying for what so it is a clearer picture. Overall feedback is positive.
- iv. Budget this year, projections meeting this afternoon. We are running really tight with funding cuts and being unable to fill 39 beds, should be within 1 % of budget for this year when closing.
- v. Emily Palmer is our new Social Service Program Coordinator. She will be taking on a lot of the rolls. This position has been vacant for 2 years. She will be working on the website, forms, booklets, and helping with the advisory board. She just started yesterday, so it will take some time to get everything up and running. Expect an email from her sometime next week, after her email access gets straightened out.

c. Alaska Veterans Advisory Council Report

- i. Jim: we just had most recent meeting, restructured and have new members, I am now chairman and I'm still playing catch up. There was not a lot of in depth conversation. Ron has been helping a lot as well, we have been very active helping advocate for homes. Ron and I have been doing a lot of behind the scenes work.
- ii. Ron: Went to meetings in Palmer, was there when governor was there. He reiterated no cuts to homes. There has been a lot of worries from residents, lots of veterans have been playing a lot of behind the scenes roles as well.
- iii. Bob: I know governor supports homes but it hard trying to manage the budget.
- iv. Ron: The governor and wife spent a lot of time talking to everyone, was very productive
- v. Jim: the AVAC will provide a support resolution if needed, we think it will sort itself out now and we probably don't need to do anything now. I have been working with local legislators as much as possible. Will have to wait for dust to settle, but the AVAC will be supporting house numbers.
- vi. Vickie: The VA were right there in support with a "tell us what you need" attitude. As of Feb we had 117 veterans' across the system. 49 are in Palmer, may have shifted up or down. I know it looked like a political choice, but it was also looked at where residents would have to be rehomed, which is how the scenarios were.... In some areas, there are little to no rehome options. My hope is that we fight for each one of our homes. I hope that you would be able to visit the different homes.

d. Alaska Commission on Aging (ACoA) Report

- i. David: Chairman of Alaska Commission on Aging; welcome Emily and congratulations on retirement to Vickie. Commission is actively advocating for all senior issues, Juneau visit advocacy on hill was to advocate for pioneer homes. Today there is a bill that will effect some seniors at Pioneer Homes to renew senior benefits program to extend past 2018. We are hoping to have it in the works for next year, this effects some residents as well as other seniors. We will continue to advocate and bob let us know how we can help more!

- ii. Bob: I appreciate all of the advocacy, thank you. We came to the conclusion that we are all part of taking care of our seniors and we need to be supporting each other.
    - iii. David: yes we all need to work together
  - e. Board Chairman's Report
    - i. Bob S: I think that we have covered everything, its going to come down to the conference and progress will take time.
- 8. New Business
  - a. Introduce Emily Palmer, Social Services Program Coordinator, Central Office, to the board.
    - i. Bob: Welcome Emily, don't hesitate to ask if you need anything. Please share any new concerns
  - b. Going forward, rather than waiting to be asked, proposed agenda items can be emailed through the Chair to the Central Office at any time in preparation for the next meeting. Email subject line: Advisory Board agenda item for next meeting
    - i. How to email to chair or central office, if you have anything, always bring forward at any time
  - c. policy and procedure:
    - i. Bert: Bert: time is coming up for my time on the board. I'm stressed about the things we haven't got to. I'm sitting a 207 pages of the P&Ps for the Anchorage. Review annually the p&ps for the homes and bring up changes or additions to the Governor.
    - ii. Bert: I was out there at Palmer for all but two days. We don't have the kind of data we need. I looked back at some of the
    - iii. Bert: I was hoping to have one more face to face meeting before the end of this fiscal year.
    - iv. Bob: Bert I appreciate that and I will talk with Vickie to see if that is possible with the budget, sounds like Emily will be working on that and hopefully that will be part of it, there are lots of policies and procedures to review. If there is an opportunity, a northern community would be better financially.
    - v. Rosemary: In person meetings would make teleconference more effective
    - vi. Bert: I did have an opportunity to talk with governor 3 times, was well informed on some things but not others, his initial reaction was a renewed interest to look at some of the things we haven't fully developed.
    - vii. Bob: thanks Bert, We can't hold governor to past governors,
- 9. Chair's Closing statement
  - a. Bob: Asked for closing
  - b. David: Not really, Good luck to Vickie have a good day.
  - c. Rosemary: Thanks to Vickie. Gratified to see the Juneau business community. Mentioned someone in particular referencing emails.
  - d. Hollis: 2<sup>nd</sup> what's been said about a crisis bringing the community together. Vickie: It's an opportune time. I'll see you every once in a while. I'll be at your party.
  - e. Bert: no done.
  - f. Jim: Not at this time.
  - g. Jana: had to leave

- h. Ron: In all my travels, I have visited all the homes. Thanks. In every home, the residents really feel that they are at home. Came back with a really positive feeling.
- i. Bob: I'm glad you were able to go to the homes. I feel the same way. The residents are very well taken care of. The staff get close to the residents. Thanks, Vickie. The administrators are in tough positions. They are employees, so advocacy is a challenge. Even we have to be careful how we as board members take advocacy. I appreciate everyone.....
- j. Rosemary: Asked if 815 times works and when the next meeting will be.
- k. Bob: will schedule meeting with central office and get back to everyone, does the 815 meet work for everyone? Will send out a notice

10. Adjourn

Bob: adjourned at 0932

Cc via email:

Division:

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