

MINUTES
SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE
March 18, 2005
9:01 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Co-Chair Green convened the meeting at approximately [9:01:11 AM](#).

PRESENT

Senator Lyda Green, Co-Chair
Senator Gary Wilken, Co-Chair
Senator Con Bunde, Vice-Chair
Senator Fred Dyson
Senator Bert Stedman

Also Attending: KAREN REHFELD, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Education and Early Development; DIANE BARRONS, Executive Director, Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education, Department of Education and Early Development; GERON BRUCE, Deputy Director, Division of Commercial Fisheries, Department of Fish and Game; KELLY HEPLER, Director, Division of Sport Fish, Department of Fish and Game; LINDA PEREZ, Administrative Director, Division of Administrative Services, Office of the Governor; JANET CLARKE Assistant Commissioner, Division of Finance and Management Services, Department of Health and Social Services; GUY BELL, Assistant Commissioner, Department of Labor and Workforce Development; SCOTT NORDSTRAND, Acting Attorney General, Department of Law; KATHRYN DAUGHHETEE, Director, Administrative Services Division, Department of Law; JOHN CRAMER, Director, Division of Administrative Services, Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, read the summary statement into the record.

Attending via Teleconference: From Anchorage: GERALD BAILEY, Division of Juvenile Justice, Department of Health and Social Services;

SUMMARY INFORMATION

SB 44-APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET
SB 46-APPROP: CAPITAL BUDGET

The Committee heard overviews on the capital requests of the Department of Education and Early Development, the Department of Fish and Game, the Office of the Governor, the Department of Health

and Social Services, the Department of Labor and Workforce Development, the Department of Law, and the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. The bill was held in Committee.

#SB46
#SB44

SENATE BILL NO. 46

"An Act making capital appropriations and appropriations to capitalize funds; and providing for an effective date."

SENATE BILL NO. 44

"An Act making appropriations for the operating and capital expenses of the state's integrated comprehensive mental health program; and providing for an effective date."

This was the third hearing for these bills in the Senate Finance Committee.

Department of Education and Early Development

KAREN REHFELD, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Education and Early Development, testified that the first 20 items in the Department of Education and Early Development portion of the Governor's proposed FY 06 capital budget are for priority deferred maintenance projects. This \$28.4 million request would fund the 20 highest priority items of a list of 71 major maintenance projects. She offered to detail each project or answer questions on specific projects. Additional information is available on the Department's web site.

Migrate ACPE Integrated Voice Response (IVR) Application

\$166,000 P-Sec Rcpt

Reference No.: 40055

Category: Education

Location: Statewide

Election District: Statewide

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010

ACPE's AlaskAdvantage loan and grant programs Customer Service section is supported by an IVR application that is hosted on an ETS managed IVR platform. This call center services approximately 8000 callers per month with automated borrower specific loan information. The ETS platform is aged and failing and needs replacement. ACPE also needs to provide enhanced IVR services. It is ACPE's intention [to] move its IVR application to a, hoped for, new enterprise service from

ETS during FY 06.

DIANE BARRONS, Executive Director, Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education, Department of Education and Early Development, testified that the system is in use 24 hours a day, seven days a week. If the current system failed, additional staff would be necessary to staff the call center. Also service would decline.

Co-Chair Green asked for an explanation of the system.

Ms. Barrons detailed the automated system in which a caller dials a toll free number and is able to confirm payments received, due date of next payment and other account information.

Co-Chair Green understood the system provides around the clock access to information regarding a borrower's account. She asked if the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education utilizes the system exclusively or whether it could be shared with other state agencies.

Ms. Barrons indicated that the possibility of an enterprise approach has been investigated.

[9:06:55 AM](#)

ACPE Migration to State IT Standards and Technology Refresh
\$291,900 P-Sec Rcpt
Reference No.: 40052
Category: Education
Location: Statewide
Election District: Statewide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010
One-Time Project

This project is to upgrade the ACPE LAN and PC infrastructure to comply with both Departmental and Statewide standards as well as software licensing. It also results in the additional benefit of aligning the ACPE LAN and PC infrastructure with EED's overall plan. Migration to Departmental standards will allow ACPE to potentially reallocate one LAN and PC support position to other IT programming and developmental functions.

Ms. Barrons stated the funds would be used to upgrade the current system. Failure to "keep up" would put the Division at risk for data loss.

[9:08:01 AM](#)

Preliminary Design for Museum, Archives and Library Building
Expansion

\$1,400,000 ASLC Bonds

Reference No.: 35850

Category: Education

Location: Juneau Areawide

Election District: Juneau Areawide

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010

Phased-underway project

The property adjacent to the Alaska State Museum has been purchased and this will provide funds for the preliminary design and planning of a combined facility of 105,000 square feet. The expansion would provide space, security and environmental protections for the Alaska State Museum, State Archives and the State Library.

Ms. Rehfeld reported the total estimated cost of this project is \$40 million. Different "partners" would fund the project.

Co-Chair Green asked when the property was purchased.

Ms. Rehfeld replied the property was purchased three years prior at a cost of \$1.5 million and with legislative approval. The next stage of the project entails design work. The Department unsuccessfully requested funding for a portion of the construction costs from the US Congress. The intent is to secure funds from private foundations and State and federal sources.

Co-Chair Green asked the timeline of this project.

Ms. Rehfeld responded that the timeline is dependant upon when funding for the design of the project could be secured. Delay in securing these funds would impact the construction costs.

Senator Hoffman asked about funding partners and the anticipated amounts that would be contributed from these sources.

Ms. Rehfeld told of conversations with representatives of the Rasmuson Foundation and with the Alaska Congressional delegation. These funds would not be committed until a design is finalized.

Senator Hoffman anticipated that the State would be major partner.

Ms. Rehfeld was unsure, but hoped State would support at least a portion of the costs.

Department of Fish and Game

[9:11:55 AM](#)

Deferred Maintenance Facilities

\$400,000 Bond Funds

Reference No.: 30128

Category: Health/Human Services

Location: Statewide

Election District: Statewide

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010

On-Going Project

This project will provide for repair, maintenance and renovation of department facilities statewide.

TOM LAWSON, Director, Division of Administrative Services, Department of Fish and Game, testified this is an annual request to provide for repairs and maintenance of facilities across the state. The Department has facilities at 40 locations.

[9:12:46 AM](#)

Fairbanks Infrastructure Renewal and Replacement Upgrades

\$200,000 Bond Funds

Reference No.: 39885

Category: Health/Human Services

Location: Fairbanks Areawide

Election District: Fairbanks Areawide

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2007

One-Time Project

Previous deferred maintenance CIP Budgets have routinely listed major projects necessary to upgrade and maintain compound facilities in Fairbanks as well as other statewide compounds. Due to the size of the projects needed in this location they no longer fit into a general deferred maintenance request. We are proposing an individual capital project approach to replace and upgrade existing systems in the Regional Office complex in Fairbanks. The Fairbanks Regional Office is a long time ADF&G compound and has reached the point where maintenance is not an option on some of the component systems. Replacement and upgrades to the facility is now warranted.

Mr. Lawson listed the most critical portion of this project is to connect the complex to the municipal sewer system. Currently a septic system is used because municipal services were not available at the time of construction. However, the facility has recently doubled in size and the existing system is inadequate.

Co-Chair Green asked about the funding source.

Mr. Lawson replied that the Office of Management and Budget decided to include this project in the bond proposal.

Co-Chair Green asked if this bond proposal would use earnings from the commonly referenced Amerada Hess account within the Alaska Permanent Fund.

Mr. Lawson understood this to be so.

[9:14:10 AM](#)

Vessel and Aircraft Repair and Maintenance
\$278,500 Bond Funds
Reference No.: 30129
Category: Natural Resources
Location: Statewide
Election District: Statewide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010
On-Going Project

This project will provide funding to maintain the department's research vessels and aircraft, which are used to support fishery monitoring efforts and stock assessment programs. Maintenance work to be done includes replacing the gensets, sandblast and paint, overhaul engines, general yard work and inspection, and replacing fishing gear and aircraft manuals.

Mr. Lawson informed that these vessels and aircraft are used to monitor fisheries. This request is to perform annual maintenance.

Senator Dyson requested a list of the projects. He asked if one of the projects relates to a vessel requiring replacement of an aluminum hull in which difficulties were experienced in getting the cost paid through the warranty.

Mr. Lawson would provide a listing of the projects.

Senator Olson asked the type of aircraft utilized by the Department.

Mr. Lawson indicated aircraft types include Cessna and beaver. He would provide a detailed description.

Senator Olson asked if the Department is involved in a cooperative effort with the Department of Public Safety and other State agencies to utilize aircraft hangers.

Mr. Lawson replied that Department of Fish and Game employs staff

to perform maintenance on its aircraft.

Senator Olson asked if a cooperative effort to use hangers exists.

Mr. Lawson was unsure.

Co-Chair Wilken noted the funding appropriated in the past three years for the purchase of a new vessel. He asked if this vessel is intended to replace an existing vessel and the status of the older vessel. He asked if a savings would be reflected in the Governor's proposed FY 06 operating budget.

Mr. Lawson deferred to the Division of Commercial Fisheries.

GERON BRUCE, Deputy Director, Division of Commercial Fisheries, Department of Fish and Game, testified that the new vessel, the R/V Solstice replaced the R/V Montague, which has been sold.

Co-Chair Wilken asked if the FY 06 budget would reflect cost savings associated with the new vessel.

Mr. Bruce was unsure that actual cost savings would result. The R/V Montague had safety and seaworthiness issues and was unsuitable for new tasks.

Co-Chair Wilken asked the status of the R/V Solstice.

Mr. Bruce reported the vessel is in operation. It is scheduled for electrical and hydraulic maintenance.

Co-Chair Wilken asked if the scheduled maintenance is necessary as a result of an accident.

Mr. Bruce answered no.

Co-Chair Wilken asked if this is the same ship that was dropped during its loading for transport.

Mr. Bruce was unaware of the situation and would research the matter. The maintenance repairs are unrelated to any damage from an accident.

Co-Chair Wilken detailed the instance in which the manufacturer dropped a vessel and he expressed that the State should not be liable for any expenses incurred as result of this. .

Mr. Bruce reiterated he would research the situation.

Senator Stedman commented that this item appears to relate to ongoing maintenance and is a reoccurring expense. He asked why the funding is therefore not requested in the operating budget.

Mr. Bruce replied that these activities have always been considered capital budget items. The majority of the expenditures are paid through a contract with a shipyard. The Department has only four aircraft located in Kodiak to serve the Alaska Peninsula. The Department employs a mechanic and performs most maintenance and repairs in house. A private shipyard does work performed on other vessels.

[9:21:20 AM](#)

DIDSON Sonar Equipment Purchase
\$500,000 Bond Funds
Reference No.: 39293
Category: Natural Resources
Location: Statewide
Election District: Statewide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010
One-Time Project

The Division of Commercial Fisheries is seeking funding for five DIDSON (Digital Frequency Identification Sonar) units. This sonar equipment would be used to count migrating salmon at the Kasilof and Yentna Rivers within Central Region, at the Anvik, Chena, Salcha, and Sheenjok rivers in AYK Region, and at Alitak Bay and Chignik Lake in Westward Region. The cost of each unit is about \$100,000, including transducer rotator and computer equipment for a total requested amount of \$500,000. The Division will prioritize where the sonar units will be installed based on the five units being funded.

Mr. Lawson explained this equipment is used in making management decisions to ensure maximum sustainable yield.

Senator Olson asked if the requested new units are more reliable than previous equipment that had significant disparity. He recalled an issue involving the closure of fisheries in lower parts of a river as a result of unreliable or inaccurate sonar equipment.

Mr. Bruce told of improved technology in the new equipment that provides better precision and accuracy as well as the ability to provide better directional information. Also units are easier to install and the data produced is easier to interpret. Seasonal technician employees, who are not specialists, operate this equipment. The older sonar machines are no longer manufactured and maintenance support has been phased out.

Co-Chair Wilken asked the expected life of the sonar equipment.

Mr. Bruce had no experience with the manufacturer of the requested equipment, Gibson. The existing equipment was installed in the late 1970s and early 1980s. In addition, rapid improvements have compounded the need for replacement equipment.

Senator Olson reported that Gibson has a good reputation of manufacturing quality.

[9:25:09 AM](#)

Westward Region Chignik Weir Improvements and Repairs
\$121,500 Bond Funds
Reference No.: 39981
Category: Natural Resources
Location: Chignik Bay
Election District: Bristol Bay/Aleutians
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010
One-Time Project

This project would fund the reconstruction of the Chignik weir piledriver, which is a piece of equipment that is necessary to install and remove the Chignik salmon weir annually. During this year's weir removal the tower (a 45' structure that supports the piling and the 3,000-pound hammer that drives the piling into the streambed) gave way due to metal fatigue. The engines/winches on the piledriver are also old and one of them is seriously compromised (blowing soot and the clutch will not disengage). The engines/winches will likely need to be replaced because the cost of repairing them may be as much or more than new equipment. The tower is beyond repair and needs to be replaced.

This request was withdrawn.

[9:25:15 AM](#)

Sport Fish and Recreational Boating and Non-Boating Access
Projects
\$1,500,000 federal receipts
\$500,000 Fish/Game funds
Reference No.: 30432
Category: Development
Location: Statewide
Election District: Statewide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2011
On-Going Project

Provides funds to the Sport Fish BRU to construct boating and sport fishing access facilities throughout the state. The Sport Fish Restoration (SFR) program requires that 15% of the federal funds available to Sport Fish be used for recreational boating access development. If these funds are not used for this purpose, they are lost to the State. Support for boating and sport fishing access facilities contributes to the Sport Fish Division's outcome to sustain recreational fishing opportunities while optimizing social and economic benefits from these opportunities. Access projects directly address Strategy #5, to maintain access to public resources.

Mr. Lawson noted this is a federal program. If 15 percent of the funds were not utilized for recreational boating access, all of the funds would be withdrawn. This is an annual request with a three-to one ratio of federal and State funds.

Co-Chair Green requested a listing of the proposed projects.

Mr. Lawson would provide this information.

Senator Dyson also requested detail on the criteria utilized to determine locations. He noted a controversial location in the election district Co-Chair Green represents.

[9:27:01 AM](#)

39959

\$167,000 Fish/Game funds

Reference No.: 39959

Category: Development

Location: Statewide

Election District: Statewide

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2011

On-Going Project

This request will provide funds to the Sport Fish RDU to match federal funds appropriated in FY 03. The project will provide new and rehabilitated transient moorage facilities for recreational boats over 26 feet in length. The work will be accomplished by working cooperatively with local communities. In the FY 03 CIP request, it was proposed that the local communities provide the match but they have not been able to do so.

Mr. Lawson read the summary statement into the record.

Senator Dyson requested similar information for this request as the previous item. In addition he asked about the existence of local

contributions requested or required.

Mr. Lawson replied that currently two projects are proposed; one located in Juneau and the other in Pelican.

Senator Stedman requested the Committee receive updated progress reports on these projects.

Co-Chair Green directed the Department to provide this information.

Senator Stedman asked about collection of harbor and moorage fees and how the facilities would be maintained.

[9:29:01 AM](#)

National Coastal Wetland Conservation Grant - Snyder Parcel
\$310,000 federal receipts

Reference No.: 39978

Category: Development

Location: Gustavus

Election District: Cordova/Southeast Islands

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010

Phased-New Projects

The Snyder parcel is 135 acres of undeveloped wetland habitat on the Gustavus forelands. The parcel is used by waterfowl and shorebirds and provides important habitat for sandhill cranes. It adjoins the Dude Creek Critical Habitat Area (CHA), designated for the protection of sandhill crane habitat, and is of interest to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game as a potential addition to the CHA. This will have a \$104,000 match (25%) provided by The Nature Conservancy.

Mr. Lawson informed that The Nature Conservancy is acting as an agent for the State. Title of the property would be transferred to the State.

Senator Bunde understood this is critical habitat and asked if consideration has been given to people who utilize the area.

KELLY HEPLER, Director, Division of Sport Fish, Department of Fish and Game, testified to the high priority of the Department that people have access to this property.

Co-Chair Wilken noted the classification of this request as a new phased project and asked if additional funding requests would be made in future years.

Mr. Hepler replied that another similar request would be made for

the same area.

Co-Chair Wilken asked the number of acres involved.

Mr. Hepler responded he would provide this information.

Co-Chair Wilken also requested a map showing both the CHA and the Snyder parcel.

Senator Stedman requested additional information on the shorebirds and water quality.

[9:31:56 AM](#)

Crystal Lake Hatchery Transformer Replacement
\$30,000 Fish/Game funds
Reference No.: 39960
Category: Natural Resources
Location: Petersburg
Election District: Sitka/Wrangell/Petersburg
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2006
One-Time Project

Transformers located on Crystal Lake Hatchery ground were recently tested and found to contain very high levels of PCBs. Petersburg Municipal Power and Light has informed us that they are the State's responsibility and that the State would be liable if a spill occurred. The estimated cost of replacing the transformers and disposing of the hazardous material is \$25,000 to \$30,000. The expected cost of cleaning up a transformer spill is much high[er] than the cost of replacing the existing transformers and disposing of the hazardous material.

Mr. Lawson noted the State has operated the hatchery under contract with the Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association since FY 99. Environmental audit conducted identified this.

Senator Bunde surmised that the electrical company owns transformers and should bear responsibility. He questioned why the Department of Fish and Game should pay the cost of removal and replacement.

Mr. Hepler replied he would research the matter. Regardless of the bearer of responsibility, a spill should be avoided.

Senator Bunde noted the presence of a power transformer near his home that he does not own.

[9:34:30 AM](#)

Language Section: Sale of Research Vessels

\$212,700 GF/Program Receipts

Reference No.: 40508

Category: Natural Resources

Location: Statewide

Election District: Statewide

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010

The Department has a pending sale of the R/V Pandalus and the proceeds are estimated between \$100,000 and \$200,000. In addition, the Department previously sold the R/V Montague and the funds were appropriated back to the Department for a new vessel. At that time, the funds were limited to purchase of a new replacement vessel and not for repair and maintenance. This CIP project will allow the remaining balance of \$12,700 from the prior CIP project to be used for repair and maintenance of existing vessels.

Mr. Lawson outlined this request.

Senator Olson asked the selling price of the R/V Montague.

Mr. Lawson would provide the information.

Senator Stedman asked whether the Department undertakes periodic analysis to determine if ownership of older vessels should be retained, rather than selling them to private parties and leasing those vessels for research purposes. He asked if the cost of maintenance, insurance and other expenses makes this option more viable.

Mr. Bruce replied that such examination is conducted periodically. Availability of vessels is problematic, as much research is undertaken during times of commercial fishery openings. Also vessels are used for many different operations.

Senator Olson agreed that a vessel is limited to the needs it is able to accommodate and therefore leasing of other vessels could be beneficial. He asked how often the matter of ownership versus leasing is reviewed.

Mr. Bruce replied the issue is reviewed more often than every ten years most recently during the sale of the R/V Pandalus and the R/V Montague. He stressed that research is conducted in the wide geographical area of the State. A large oceangoing vessel is ported in Kodiak, yet skiffs and smaller vessels are necessary for rivers and other smaller water bodies. The Department has reduced the

number of vessels and is preparing to auction surplus craft.

Senator Olson asked the number of vessels the Department owns compared to the number of vessels it leases.

Mr. Bruce responded that the Department owns five vessels. He would provide information on the number of vessels leased.

Office of the Governor

[9:40:40 AM](#)

Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund
\$26,000,000 Federal Receipts
Reference No.: 33647
Category: Natural Resources
Location: Statewide
Election District: Statewide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2009
On-Going Project
Federal fiscal year 2005 (FFY 05) appropriations legislation contains funding for the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF). Coordination of individual state funding is through the respective Governor's offices. The Alaskan portion of the FFY 05 appropriation is estimated to be \$26 million. Funding comes to the State through a Memorandum of Understanding with the U.S. Department of Commerce designating the Alaska Department of Fish and Game as the program manager.

Mr. Lawson reported this is the sixth year the State has received this funding. It is intended to assure that Alaska salmon and fisheries are stable and able to provide jobs and income. No State matching funds are required.

[9:42:17 AM](#)

Governor's House Maintenance
\$100,000 Bond Funds
Reference No.: 40486
Category: General Government
Location: Juneau Areawide
Election District: Juneau Areawide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2008
On-Going Project
Funds needed for on-going maintenance and deferred maintenance and the Governor's House.

LINDA PEREZ, Administrative Director, Division of Administrative

Services, Office of the Governor, testified to the significant leaks in the butlers' pantry and the family room. The source of these leaks must be identified and repaired to highest extent possible.

Co-Chair Green noted the extensive amount of repairs necessary at a cost of several million dollars. The legislature would be poor caretakers of this facility if it did not appropriate funding for these efforts regardless of who is serving as governor. She compared the situation to that of school districts failing to properly maintain school buildings.

Senator Olson asked the value of the Governor's House.

Senator Stedman asserted it is a one "standout building" in the State and should be maintained.

Ms. Perez added that the Governor's House is recognized as a historical structure.

[9:44:43 AM](#)

Statewide Accessible Voting Equipment
\$992,500 Election Fund
Reference No.: 34852
Category: General Government
Location: Statewide
Election District: Statewide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2006
Phased-Underway Project
\$549,700 to purchase remaining accessible voting equipment for each precinct statewide by January 1, 2006 as required by the Help America Vote Act (HAVA). \$442,800 for modifications to accessible voting equipment statewide to allow for voter verifiable paper record required under Ch 154, SLA 2004 (HB 459).

Ms. Perez outlined this request.

[9:45:11 AM](#)

Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund
Reference No.: 33647

The Department of Fish and Game spoke to this request.

[9:45:23 AM](#)

Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance Projects

\$100,000 general fund

Reference No.: 6391

Category: Health/Human Services

Location: Statewide

Election District: Statewide

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2007

On-Going Project

This project continues the removal of physical barriers to persons with disabilities within State-owned facilities as required by Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, Public Law 101-336. Funding covers the cost of design, project administration, and construction. Aside from the legal requirements, removal of physical barriers will negate the need for temporary program modifications, which are currently required of the facilities' occupants. Office of Management and Budget allocates available funding to the Department of Transportation [and Public Facilities] for State facility ADA compliance projects based on DOT's prioritized project list. The requested FY 06 funds will continue to work from the statewide priority list.

Ms. Perez stated that the funds requested for FY 06 would be utilized for projects at the Meadow Creek Correctional Center located in Eagle River.

[9:46:05 AM](#)

Department of Health and Social Services

The Committee heard presentations on projects included in the proposed FY 06 capital budget and the mental health budget.

[9:46:44 AM](#)

Fairbanks Virology Laboratory Replacement

\$24,200,000 COPs

Reference No.: 38900

Category: Health/Human Services

Location: Statewide

Election District: Statewide

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010

One-Time Project

The Alaska Virology Laboratory is currently located in the Arctic Health Research Facility on the University of Alaska Fairbanks campus. A recent report concluded that the space is small, old, and lacks the necessary physical plant requirements for this type of facility and that it needs to be

replaced. This request would provide for the planning, design, and construction of a new State-owned laboratory that would be located on the University campus in Fairbanks.

JANET CLARKE Assistant Commissioner, Division of Finance and Management Services, Department of Health and Social Services, testified that this request would appropriate funding in the event enabling legislation to construct the facility is adopted. The Committee would receive a detailed overview of the situation during the hearing on that enabling legislation.

[9:47:58 AM](#)

MH [item included in the mental health legislation]: Crisis Treatment Facility - Phase 2
\$2,500,000 Bonds MH fund
Reference No.: 33683
Category: Health/Human Services
Location: Anchorage Areawide
Election District: Anchorage Areawide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2012
Phased-Underway Project
These funds will be used for the replacement of current facilities housing enhanced Crisis Treatment services in Anchorage. The new facility will be built in the old Alaska Psychiatric Institute (API) shell after asbestos is abated by Providence Hospital. It will have 16 beds. The current facility housing Crisis Treatment is owned by the University and was part of the land exchange to replace API. The University requires Crisis Treatment to vacate by October 2007. There must be a safe, efficient replacement for this essential service.

Ms. Clarke listed this request as the second highest priority in the mental health bill. She showed an aerial photograph of the API campus, near the McLaughlin Youth Center and the University of Alaska Anchorage, and the location of the current crisis treatment center in the former superintendent building. The land was owned by the State, then transferred to the Mental Health Trust and recently sold to Providence Hospital, which exchanged the land with the University.

Ms. Clarke stressed the critical need for these services and their location near API to because of the "step-down nature". Providence Hospital has granted permission to occupy part of the former API facility. The estimated total cost of a standalone facility is \$6 million to \$7 million; therefore, this option would realize a savings.

Co-Chair Green asked if the crisis treatment center would occupy the entire API building or just a portion.

Ms. Clarke replied the center would occupy a portion of the former west wing.

Co-Chair Green asked if the remainder of the building would be used for other purposes or razed.

Ms. Clarke responded that officials at Providence Hospital are considering options, including stripping walls and rebuilding. The Department's cost estimate of asbestos removal is high.

Ms. Clarke detailed the aerial photograph and its relation to areas not pictured for the benefit of Senator Olson.

[9:52:50 AM](#)

Comprehensive Client Database
\$350,000 Federal Receipts
\$150,000 general funds
Reference No.: 39149
Category: Health/Human Services
Location: Statewide
Election District: Statewide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010
State Match Required
Phased-Underway Project
Develop a comprehensive client database of all clients receiving services from the Department. This will be used by all service delivery applications to insure the accurate identification of clients.

Ms. Clarke detailed a graph demonstrating the master client index system [copy not provided.] The goal of this project is that caseworkers know what other services a family are receiving to better organize case management.

Co-Chair Green surmised that if this program were currently operating, planned pilot projects would be easier to implement.

Ms. Clarke agreed and told of the difficulties of obtaining information from manual data systems.

Ms. Clarke next referenced a chart showing the timeline of this project [copy not provided].

[9:57:49 AM](#)

E-Grants
\$33,200 Federal Receipts
\$67,600 general funds
Reference No.: 39148
Category: Health/Human Services
Location: Statewide
Election District: Statewide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010
State Match Required
Phased-Underway Project
Design and build an automated system for the management of all aspects of grant administration, including on-line grant applications, award and reporting.

Ms. Clarke reminded this is the second year this request has been submitted. She referenced additional information included in a packet titled, "Department of Health and Social Services, SB 46, Supplemental Capital Budget Handouts, Senate Finance Committee, March 18, 2004, E-Grants, Juneau Pioneer Home Roof Replacement, Deferred Maintenance, Pioneer Home Deferred Maintenance." [Copy on file.]

Ms. Clarke stated the Department currently has a system to track grant payments, which is also used to track performance measures.

[10:00:29 AM](#)

Bethel Youth Facility Security Improvements
\$233,900 Bond Funds
Reference No.: 39875
Category: Health/Human Services
Location: Bethel
Election District: Bethel
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010
One-Time Project
Current physical security measures provided to staff at the Bethel Youth Facility are inadequate. Renovation of security enhancements and controls at the Bethel Youth Facility are needed to provide staff a safe working environment.

Ms. Clarke stated that the facility does not "really" have any security. Controls are necessary to provide a safe work environment. Currently access to administration and supervisor offices is unimpeded and bulletproof glass and other safety barriers are needed.

[10:01:47 AM](#)

Anchorage Pioneer Home Emergency Generator Replacement
\$600,000 Bond Funds
Reference No.: 39892
Category: Health/Human Services
Location: Anchorage Areawide
Election District: Anchorage Areawide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010
One-Time Project
Replace two aging generators with a single generator as recommended by Department of Transportation and Public Facilities and MBA Consulting Engineers

Ms. Clarke stated that the current generators were installed in 1975 and 1983. One does not meet code requirements and could not be used for emergency service. The other system recently failed a test.

Senator Stedman understood the emergency generators are used intermittently, and he expected that although the machines are old, they have low hours of actual usage. He suggested undertaking maintenance rather than replacement.

Ms. Clarke replied that engineers recommended replacement. She would research the situation further.

Senator Olson asked the extent of necessary repairs.

Ms. Clarke would provide this information.

[10:04:09 AM](#)

Juneau Pioneer Home Roof Replacement
\$1,000,000 Bond Funds
Reference No.: 40224
Category: Health/Human Services
Location: Juneau Areawide
Election District: Juneau Areawide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010
One-Time Project
The 32,000 square foot roof was installed during the original construction of the Juneau Pioneer Home in 1985. It is nearly 20 years old, is failing in numerous locations and is in need of replacement.

Ms. Clarke noted a report in which architects recommended immediate replacement. She also noted photographs of the roof are contained

in the aforementioned information packet. Temporary repairs are expensive and would not fix the problem.

[10:05:55 AM](#)

Deferred Maintenance, Renovation, Repair and Equipment
\$1,500,000 Bond Funds
\$200,000 Federal Receipts
Reference No.: 31862
Category: Health/Human Services
Location: Statewide
Election District: Statewide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010
State Match Required
On-Going Project

This request is for deferred maintenance projects for 28 health centers, youth facilities and behavioral health facilities statewide with a combined replacement value of \$128.3 million. Funds would be used for immediate and critical renewal, repair, replacement and equipment needs in state-owned facilities along with selected leased facilities. This request does not include the deferred maintenance needs for the Pioneers' Homes, the Alaska Psychiatric institute (API), the Anchorage Public Health Lab and the Office of the State Medical Examiner, or the Mat-Su, Ketchikan, or Kenai Youth Facilities.

Ms. Clarke stated that the projects are listed in priority order in the supporting documentation, as stipulated by an audit conducted every few years. The funding requested in this item would be used to address the first 13 items, if possible.

Ms. Clarke noted details and photographs on the needs are included in the aforementioned information packet.

Co-Chair Green directed attention to the photographs of water damage to a door at the Sitka health center. She asked if the facility would be redesigned to prevent future damage after the door is replaced.

Ms. Clarke would provide further information.

[10:10:27 AM](#)

Pioneers' Homes Deferred Maintenance, Renovation, Repair and Equipment
\$2,500,000 Bond Funds
Reference No.: 37934

Category: Housing/Social Services
Location: Statewide
Election District: Statewide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010
On-Going Project

This request is for deferred maintenance projects for Pioneers' Homes statewide, including immediate and critical renewal, repair, replacement and equipment needs. The Department is responsible for operating and maintaining the six Pioneer's Homes throughout the state. Locations include Ketchikan, Sitka, Juneau, Anchorage, Palmer, and Fairbanks. The homes all operate on a 24-hour basis and have a combined replacement value of \$137.1 million.

Ms. Clarke indicated the priority listed included in the supporting documentation. If fully funded, this request would address the first 20 items on the list. She noted the information packet includes photographs showing the repair needs.

Co-Chair Green ascertained the eighth item, duct repair to the Juneau facility, would be an on-going need.

Ms. Clarke reminded that the Department recently inherited oversight of the Pioneers' Homes from the Department of Administration, and is attempting to implement a scheduled maintenance system.

[10:14:03 AM](#)

Emergency Medical Services Ambulances and Equipment Statewide
- Match for Code Blue Project
\$425,000 Bond Funds
Reference No.: 33797
Category: Health/Human Services
Location: Statewide
Election District: Statewide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010
State Match Required
On-Going Project
This request will provide funding to match federal dollars and other funding to purchase ambulances and other emergency medical equipment needed in rural Alaskan communities.

Ms. Clarke explained this funding is intended for volunteer agencies. The State provides matching funds for the federal code blue project program funds.

Co-Chair Green understood the State funds are used to match funding

provided by the US Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Rasmuson Foundation and the Denali Commission.

Ms. Clarke affirmed.

Senator Olson asked what communities would receive this equipment.

Ms. Clarke replied that applications would be received by and reviewed at a meeting scheduled for March 23.

Co-Chair Wilken asked if the matching funds are requested or required.

Ms. Clarke responded that the USDA requires matching funds for this program.

Co-Chair Wilken asked the amount of matching funds required.

Ms. Clarke answered that the USDA provides 75 percent funding. The State funding requested in this item would leverage three times its amount in federal funds. She would provide additional information.

[10:17:02 AM](#)

Juvenile Offender Management Information System Software Upgrade
\$325,000 Bond Funds
Reference No.: 39872
Category: Health/Human Services
Location: Statewide
Election District: Statewide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2006 - 06/30/2010
One-Time Project
Increase the qualify and accuracy of data entered into the juvenile offender database by developing additional data edits that incorporate new and existing business rules. Add additional data collection and reporting functionality.

Ms. Clarke informed that this system was funded primarily with federal funding with minimal State funding required. US Senator Ted Stevens was instrumental in securing the federal funds. It has become apparent that additional changes must be made to fully implement the juvenile justice information system.

GERALD BAILEY, Division of Juvenile Justice, Department of Health and Social Services, testified via teleconference from Anchorage that this system has been on line for three years. At the date of implementation it was understood that additional changes and

improvements would be required because every need could not be anticipated. The system is functional, but further improvements would allow better database management decisions and operation of the Division. He detailed the benefits of the proposed changes.

Co-Chair Green requested a description of new and exiting business rules.

Mr. Bailey explained the process in which data is entered into the system. When a juvenile is entered into a facility, information is collected regarding the contributing charge and "end dates". The intent is to differentiate between new charges and probation violations. Technical changes would be made to improve accuracy and reduce user error.

Ms. Clarke stated the goal is to prevent incorrect data entered into the system.

Senator Bunde asked about the reference in the supporting documentation regarding Youth Level Skills Inventory and Performance Based Standards.

Ms. Clarke responded that the Division is reforming the current system; including establishing standards to ensure that a juvenile is entered into a facility for appropriate reasons. Formally, a probation officer used discretion and interpretation of the juvenile's situation. The new system would involve a probation officer performing an assessment based on a well tested model, with the expectation that more costs would be incurred with an offender initially, and avoiding overcrowding of facilities, as has occurred in the past.

Co-Chair Green requested the Division director speak to Committee members regarding this item.

[10:24:21 AM](#)

Server Consolidation
\$150,000 Federal Receipts
\$150,000 General Funds
Reference No.: 40018
Category: Health/Human Services
Location: Statewide
Election District: Statewide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010
State Match Required
One-Time Project
Department of Health and Social Services is engaged in a

process of standardizing server operating systems, directory services and authentication methodologies and reducing and number of file and print, database, and application servers utilized by department staff to provide better data sharing and access and reduce equipment and operational expenses.

Ms. Clarke informed that all operating systems in the Department were consolidated in July 2004. Before that date, each division independently managed servers. Currently, 300 servers, both operating systems and disc storage, are used. This funding would be utilized in a storage area network and would free server space. Less costly servers could then be purchased. The goal is to consolidate 100 servers and operate with 200 servers. This would result in lower costs and would require fewer data processing staff to operate the system.

[10:26:18 AM](#)

Women, Infants, and Children Payment System
\$600,000 Federal Receipts
Reference No.: 39954
Category: Health/Human Services
Location: Statewide
Election District: Statewide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010
One-Time Project
Replace the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) computer system with a web-based system. Build capacity for WIC to transition to Electronic Benefit Transfer System.

Ms. Clarke corrected the explanation statement noting that this funding would not be utilized to replace the existing system, but would rather be used to develop and design a replacement system. Additional funding would be requested in the future for the actual system replacement. The current system is out of compliance with the federal requirements; in addition it is cumbersome, at times produces duplicate warrants and has other problems. This item represents the first step in the replacement process.

Co-Chair Green asked if the federal funding would be available to assist in the cost of the actual replacement system.

Ms. Clarke replied that typically the federal government pays 100 percent of the cost of system replacements; however, the State is required to design that system.

[10:28:13 AM](#)

MH: Alaska Psychiatric Institute Automation Project

\$674,200 Bonds MH

Reference No.: 39983

Category: Health/Human Services

Location: Anchorage Areawide

Election District: Anchorage Areawide

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010

One-Time Project

Alaska Psychiatric Institute provides inpatient psychiatric care to over 1,500 individuals annually from all regions of the state. The automated systems necessary to support business and clinical activities at the facility are inadequate. Efforts to adapt the E-Chart system from Utah are unsatisfactory due to the limitations in accounts receivable and other key functions. This project will enable API to operate more efficiently and will provide necessary tools for clinicians and management at the facility. The API hospital must maintain adequate information systems to remain certified and to protect the safety and health of the patients.

Ms. Clarke noted that the Alaska Psychiatric Institute (API) is the only mental health care facility in the State. She reported that a study estimated additional \$180,000 federal funds could be secured annually once the system is upgraded.

Co-Chair Wilken asked if the bond funds would be generated from the aforementioned Amerada Hess settlement account.

Ms. Clarke affirmed.

[10:29:43 AM](#)

Telephone Systems Replacement

\$19,200 Federal Receipts

\$52,900 GF Match

\$137,500 general funds

Reference No.: 37694

Category: Health/Human Services

Location: Statewide

Election District: Statewide

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010

State Match Required

One-Time Project

The phone systems at various health centers, youth facilities, and Division of Public Assistance offices are old, failing and in need of replacement. These facilities are public facilities that provide medical and residential services. These facilities need to have reliable phone service in order to

serve the public and their clients on a daily basis. This request provides funding to replace the aging phone systems in nine facilities statewide.

Ms. Clarke informed that the Department is consulting with the Department of Administration to develop a standard for replacing phone systems. Some systems are failing with calls being "dropped" and complaints are received.

[10:30:46 AM](#)

MH: Alaska Psychiatric Institute Move
\$250,000 GF/MH
Reference No.: 39933
Category: Anchorage Areawide
Election District: Anchorage Areawide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010
One-Time Project

This request will fund the cost associated with relocating all patients, staff and equipment to the new facility that is set to open during the summer of 2005. The move will require the hiring of contractors to move furnishings and furniture, the safe and secure transfer of patients, relocation of staff and confidential files, and concurrent operations of two facilities.

Ms. Clarke again directed attention to the aerial photograph of the facility. Although the new location is "next door", costs would be incurred to move patients safely. The move must be done quickly to prevent patients from regressing in their treatment.

[10:32:04 AM](#)

Senior Centers Deferred Maintenance, Construction, Renovation, Expansion and Equipment
\$1,000,000 Bond Funds
\$1,000,000 Federal Receipts
Reference No.: 40043
Category: Health/Human Services
Location: Statewide
Election District: Statewide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010
State Match Required
On-Going Project

This project funds renovation and maintenance requirements of senior facilities in 30 communities. The facilities are either not-for-profit or publicly owned with a variety of equipment replacement or renovation needs. The request meets an array of

senior health needs and is a means of reducing inappropriate hospitalization and early institutionalization.

Ms. Clarke stated that the Alaska Commission on Aging completed a needs assessment two years ago and identified project costs totaling over \$5 million. These funds would be distributed through competitive procurement. She offered to detail the needs of all the facilities in the state.

Co-Chair Green asked if the federal funding required State matching funds.

Ms. Clarke answered it is not required.

Co-Chair Wilken noted the documentation claims the State match is required.

Ms. Clarke surmised the documentation was inaccurate. This federal funding is not included as part of a regular program.

It was established that the issue of a State match requirement was unknown.

[10:34:00 AM](#)

Denali Commission Grants for Health Care Facility Improvements
\$25,000,000 Federal Receipts
Reference No.: 38923
Category: Health/Human Services
Location: Statewide
Election District: Statewide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010
On-Going Project
This request will continue to provide funding for planning, design and construction of hospitals, behavioral health facilities, village clinics, assisted living homes and other program facilities that serve Alaskans. Funds will also be used for the purchase and installation of major medical equipment. This request consists of federal funds that are granted to the Department of Health and Social Services from the Denali Commission.

Ms. Clarke reminded that funding for this project has been appropriated in the capital budgets of the past several years. The Denali Commission requested an increase in the amount. The Department administers grants with the Denali Commission funding a staff position for this purpose.

[10:34:47 AM](#)

Ms. Clarke next commented to the remaining items included in the mental health appropriation legislation. Most projects are competitively procured as "routine requests". The Department manages the projects on behalf of the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority.

Co-Chair Green asked if the requested projects could proceed without State matching funds.

Ms. Clarke replied that the Trust Authority has withdrawn funding in the past in instances in which State matching funds were not appropriated. The Trust intends the State to provide matching funding.

MH: Fairbanks Detoxification Unit Construction Expansion and Renovation

\$1,000,000 Federal MH

Reference No.: 38366

Category: Health/Human Services

Location: Fairbanks (Fairbanks/Fort Wainwright)

Election District: Fairbanks/Fort Wainwright

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010

One-Time Project

This project will provide capital funding to expand detoxification services in the Fairbanks area to those unable to obtain medical detoxification services due to the current limited capacity. This population is largely composed of Mental Health Trust beneficiaries under the chronic alcoholism with psychosis criteria.

Ms. Clarke noted this funding could be allocated through the Denali Commission to the Trust Authority.

[10:37:43 AM](#)

Department of Labor and Workforce Development

[10:38:01 AM](#)

Alaska Vocational Technical Center Deferred Maintenance

\$2,500,000 Bond Funds

Reference No.: 39929

Category: Education

Location: Seward

Election District: Homer/Seward

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2006

On-Going Project

Deferred maintenance funds to be used to address life, health and safety issues, deferred maintenance, and upgrade facilities. AVTEC has 12 buildings that range in age from 20 - 50 years and one new 48-bed dormitory. Some of these buildings have exceeded their useful life or were built to accommodate temporary purposes but are still in use. Without repair or replacement funding AVTEC risks catastrophic failure of key facility systems. Safe and healthy facilities are key to AVTEC's ability to train Alaskans for Alaskan jobs.

GUY BELL, Assistant Commissioner, Department of Labor and Workforce Development, offered to provide a detailed listing of the proposed projects.

Co-Chair Green requested he do so.

[10:38:56 AM](#)

Vocational Rehabilitation Home Modifications and Assistive Technology for Individuals with Disabilities

\$300,000 general funds

Reference No.: 39887

Category: Health/Human Services

Location: Statewide

Election District: Statewide

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2011

On-Going Project

These funds would be used to provide assistance to individuals with the most significant disabilities in the purchase of modifications for vehicles and home modifications as part of the Individual Plan for Employment (IPE). These projects result in individuals becoming employed.

Mr. Bell gave examples of wheelchair ramps, removal of barriers, lift systems, and computer voice enhancers.

[10:40:05 AM](#)

Alaska Vocational Technical Center Welding Program Expansion

\$3,000,000 ASLC [Alaska Student Loan Corporation] Bonds

Reference No.: 39934

Category: Education

Location: Seward

Election District: Homer/Seward

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2006

One-Time Project

Construct a 10,000 sq ft training building to increase

capacity of AVTEC welding programs to meet the current and anticipated increase in demand for a trained Alaskan workforce. AVTEC's existing welding shop limits the number of students to 14 per class. The existing space is not adequate to add additional equipment for automatic welding equipment of the type used in high-pressure gas pipeline fabrication. As a result of this project approximately 42 additional Alaskans annually will receive training and employment in welding/pipe welding jobs.

Mr. Bell told of the demand for more trained welders. This request would fund construction of the expansion and equipment.

Co-Chair Green asked for examples of other types of projects funded with this funding source.

Mr. Bell replied that this funding source has been used in the past, but was unfamiliar with the restrictions.

[10:41:38 AM](#)

Improvements to Workers' Compensation Computer System and Completion of Electronic Data Exchange
\$1,094,100 Wrkrs Safe
Reference No.: AMD40587
Category: General Government
Location: Juneau Areawide
Election District: Juneau Areawide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2007
One-Time Project
The current Workers' Compensation computer system was installed in 1999. Since that time many corrections and enhancements have been identified that will make the system more responsive to the needs of users. In addition, the Division has been working to add an electronic data interchange (EDI) capacity that will allow employers and insurers to file reports electronically. The Division has received some funding authority in the past to address system problems in a piecemeal fashion. This project will allow a comprehensive system overhaul.

Mr. Bell stated the intent is to reduce processing of injury reports from 14 days to one day. This system would also reduce timing of other functions and result in a reduction of fines imposed for late filings.

[10:43:11 AM](#)

Department of Law

[10:43:33 AM](#)

Management Information System
\$1,000,000 Bond Funds
Reference No.: 40036
Category: General Government
Location: Statewide
Election District: Statewide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010
One-Time Project

- 1.) Replacement of our outdated and poorly performing timekeeping and billing system.
- 2.) Installation of a full-featured case management system with a case-based calendaring module and case-diary feature as well as conflict checking and contact management functions. This system would be fully integrated with or be part of the timekeeping and billing system.
- 3.) Installation of a document management system which fully integrates with timekeeping, case management, and knowledge management (i.e. Westkm) systems.

SCOTT NORDSTRAND, Acting Attorney General, Department of Law, testified that the intent is not to change the existing system, but rather to create a new system. Currently, the Department has no case management technology to access information specific to a case, such as the calendaring of a case, retrieving documents pertaining to a case, etc. that is necessary to meet deadlines. This centralized system is important in the event an attorney is out of the office. If the Department were a private firm it would be unable to secure malpractice insurance without such a system in place. He qualified that the Criminal Division has a case management system, but no document management system.

Mr. Nordstrand continued that the amount of the project is an estimate. The intent is to purchase "off the shelf" software. A consultant would be hired to determine the Department's needs, and then a request for bids would be released.

Co-Chair Wilken asked if this project could be funded in phases.

Mr. Nordstrand did not know. The software would be purchased and installed at one time.

KATHRYN DAUGHHETEE, Director, Administrative Services Division, Department of Law, testified she would investigate this possibility.

[10:51:04 AM](#)

Collections Database
\$250,000 GF/Prgm
Reference No.: 40054
Category: General Government
Location: Anchorage Areawide
Election District: Anchorage Areawide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010
On-Time Project
Replace existing Collections and Support Database

Ms. Daughhettee stated that the Department makes collections and garnishes Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend payments on behalf of the State. However, the current system could not be expanded or enhanced to handle electronic downloading of information from the Permanent Fund Division of the Department of Revenue, or the Alaska Court System. Correctional surcharges totaling \$750,000, authorized through legislation passed the previous session are not currently collected because the database is unable to encompass another type of collection. The requested amount of this item would be returned at least three-fold annually to the State with the implementation of a new system.

Mr. Nordstrand informed that staff currently prints electronic data, then manually keys that information into the system.

Senator Dyson stressed his interest in restoration to victims. The current system does not provide notice to the courts of unpaid judgments.

[10:53:18 AM](#)

Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

[10:53:31 AM](#)

Bethel Readiness Center New Construction - Phase 2
\$2,500,000 ASLC Bonds
\$8,062,500 Federal Receipts
Reference No.: 34848
Category: Public Protection
Location: Bethel
Election District: Bethel
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010
State Match Required
Phased-Underway Project

The Bethel National Guard Readiness Center is currently in the design phase to replace the existing undersized and outdated facility. Construction of a new facility is necessary to meet the minimum requirements established by National Guard Bureau (NGB). NGB requires 25% matching funds for construction and 100% state funding for building site work. This project is being funded using three budget cycles. This request is for the second budget cycle funding. An additional \$687,500 general fund match will be required to complete the construction and will be requested in FY 07.

JOHN CRAMER, Director, Division of Administrative Services, Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, read the Brief Summary and Statement of Need into the record.

[10:54:17 AM](#)

State Homeland Security Grant Program
\$15,000,000 Federal Receipts
Reference No.: 38529
Category: Public Protection
Location: Statewide
Election District: Statewide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010
On-Going Project

The State Homeland Security grant program is annually awarded by the Office of Domestic Preparedness (ODP), US Department of Justice. This request will allow the Department to accept the 100% federally funded grant allocation. Program activities include homeland security planning, equipment, training and exercises to support State and local first responders.

Mr. Cramer outlined this request.

[10:54:46 AM](#)

Anchorage Armory Expansion
\$500,000 Bond Funds
Reference No.: 39011
Category: Public Protection
Location: Anchorage Areawide
Election District: Anchorage Areawide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2009
One-Time Project

This project is for the construction of a 1,790 square foot second floor addition to the Anchorage National Guard Armory located on Fort Richardson, Camp Denali. Due to the Homeland Security program growth within this facility, office space has

become extremely congested, leaving no available space for temporary expansion during and actual emergency or disaster event. Extension of the second floor provides the most cost effective alternative for increasing space occupancy for this facility.

Mr. Cramer overviewed the summary statement.

[10:55:15 AM](#)

Military Youth Academy Dining Facility Renovation and Repair
\$276,900 Bond Funds
Reference No.: 40065
Category: Education
Location: Statewide
Election District: Statewide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010
One-Time Project
This project will renovate and upgrade the 10,650 square foot dining facility at the Alaska Military Youth Academy (AMYA) located on Fort Richardson at the Camp Carroll Training Site. This building was built in 1979 and has been used by the Academy for the past 11 years as both a dining facility and educational testing center.

Mr. Cramer read the summary statement into the record.

[10:55:47 AM](#)

Alaska Statewide Emergency Communications
\$1,950,000 Federal Receipts
\$550,000 general funds
Reference No.: 40061
Category: Public Protection
Location: Statewide
Election District: Statewide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2004 - 06/30/2010
On-Going Project
This project will merge three emergency communications systems into a single, operationally integrated concept. This will expand the current Emergency Alert System (EAS) to rural communities using a concept titled Mini Radio Service (MRS), modernize the National Alert and Warning System (NaWaS) to 29 statewide locations and provide basic 911 service to all wired phones in the state. This comprehensive, statewide network integration system will reduce costs, improve service and comply with federal mandates.

Mr. Cramer outlined this request.

[10:56:19 AM](#)

Alaska Aviation Safety Project Phases 2 and 3
\$8,452,000 Federal Receipts
Reference No.: 40060
Category: Public Protection
Location: Statewide
Election District: Statewide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010
Phased-Underway Project

This research project is funded by NASA and the FAA. It involves mapping the most dangerous major air corridors in Alaska using ortho-rectified, remote imaging and digital elevation models to create 3-D visual fly throughs. These renderings will be used by the aviation community, Rescue Coordination Center (RCC) and the Medallion Foundation. The goal of this research is to apply advanced sciences and technology to decrease aircraft accidents and related fatalities.

Mr. Cramer overviewed the summary statement.

[10:56:56 AM](#)

Army Guard Deferred Maintenance, Renewal, and Replacement
\$500,000 Bond Funds
\$500,000 Federal Receipts
Reference No.: 38963
Category: Public Protection
Location: Statewide
Election District: Statewide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010
On-Going Project

With 237 Alaska Army National Guard buildings at 96 various locations, with an average age of approximately 30 years, deferred maintenance and renewal and replacement are a high priority. Preventative maintenance is performed on a schedule, yet building components have a limited life thus renewal and replacement is required. This project requests \$500,000 federal authority from the National Guard Bureau and \$500,000 State funds.

Mr. Cramer outlined this request.

Co-Chair Green asked if State matching funds are required.

Mr. Cramer answered they are.

[10:57:35 AM](#)

Kodiak Readiness Center Addition and Alteration
\$1,500,000 Federal Receipts
Reference No.: 40062
Category: Public Protection
Location: Statewide
Election District: Statewide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010
This project is for the construction addition and alteration to the existing Readiness Center in Kodiak. The facility was constructed in 1959 and does not meet current National Guard Bureau space criteria for the mission and the assigned unit. Utilizing the Congressional Add process, this project is being submitted as an Unspecified Minor Construction project and is on the Alaska Army National Guard Long-Range Construction Plan. This project will increase administrative and training space and upgrade latrine facilities to accommodate male and female soldiers. This request is 100% federally funded by the National Guard.

Mr. Cramer read the summary statement into the record.

[10:57:57 AM](#)

Army Guard Energy Projects
\$150,000 Federal Receipts
Reference No.: 32560
Category: Public Protection
Location: Statewide
Election District: Statewide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2003 - 06/30/2008
On-Going Project
This project funds the replacement of doors, windows, insulation and various other energy efficiency upgrades that will be performed in existing Alaska Army National Guard facilities throughout the National Guard Military Headquarters' performance measure strategy G1: Incorporate energy-efficient design practices.

Mr. Cramer overviewed the summary statement.

[10:58:22 AM](#)

Alaska National Guard Counterdrug Support Program
\$100,000 Federal Receipts

Reference No.: 31915
Category: Public Protection
Location: Statewide
Election District: Statewide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010
On-Going Project

This program participates in the US Department of Justice Asset Forfeiture Program. This federal program's primary purpose is to deter crime by depriving criminals of profits and proceeds from their illegal activities.

Mr. Cramer explained these funds would be utilized for technical support and materials.

[10:59:12 AM](#)

Alaska Land Mobile Radio Continued Core Infrastructure Construction
\$2,744,000 Federal Receipts
Reference No.: AMD40583
Category: Public Protection
Location: Statewide
Election District: Statewide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010
Phased-Underway Project
This project is for the continued construction of the core infrastructure of the Alaska Land Mobile Radio System.

Mr. Cramer read the summary statement into the record.

#

ADJOURNMENT

Co-Chair Green adjourned the meeting at 11:00 AM