

Minutes  
Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners  
Housing Authority of the City of Bridgeport  
150 Highland Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06604  
Held on Monday, May 11, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.

Board of Commissioners present included:

Dulce Nieves

James M. Brown – Via Conference Call

Rev. Sulton Stack, Jr.

Shante Hanks

Board of Commissioners absent: Janet Ortiz

Others present included:

George L. Byers

Jen Hudon, HUD-Boston

KimberLee Centeno

Charley Francis, HUD-Boston

Kimberly Graham

Maura O'Brien, HUD-Boston

Jeff Zimmermann

Marilyn O'Sullivan, HUD-Boston

David Ghio

Jennifer Gottlieb, HUD-Hartford

Edwin Jamora

Steven Durham

Eva Miranda

At Roll Call, Dulce Nieves and Rev. Stack were present.

The special meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of the City of Bridgeport was called to order at 3:12 p.m.

- Orientation on Public Housing Agency Recovery & Sustainability (PHARS) On-Site Assessment

Orientation/On-Site Assessment

Ms. Marilyn O'Sullivan, Director of the Boston Field Office, explained the reason for the on-site assessment of the Bridgeport Housing Authority. The Authority was given a "troubled" status as of December 2014. This triggers a number of events to occur such as an independent audit of the Housing Authority. Because of the size of the Housing Authority, someone outside of the Hartford Field Office is required to come in. The HUD Boston team will spend 2 ½ days looking at the Authority's programs, policies, finances, interviewing executive leadership to determine the root cause for the troubled performance. The reason the Authority became troubled is because the financials were not filed; and the new leadership did not feel the documents were in the right order to file the financials.

This audit is not a test; it is conversational. Members of the Boston team will be meeting with the Directors in the following areas:

- Section Eight Department
- Public Housing
- Apartment Inspections
- Capital Fund Program
- Governance

After the assessment is completed, HUD Boston will present to the Housing Authority a legal recovery agreement. If it is violated, HUD will take action by retrieving the assets of the Authority and placing the Authority on "receivership". The Improvement Plan will be attached with some additions. A meeting will be held with the Board for a briefing on the recovery agreement and approval. The Mayor will also be briefed on the agreement before he signs it. This will occur at a later date.

Ms. O'Sullivan advised the Board members to contact her with any questions they may have during and after the assessment of the Authority.

ADJOURNMENT: (3:30 p.m.)

Motion was made by Commissioner Stack; seconded by Commissioner Hanks.

The vote was as follows: All in favor.

Attest:



Secretary