

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING OF THE  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF  
THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH  
4731 NORTH BOULEVARD  
JANUARY 11, 2019 AT 12:00 PM**

The Board of Commissioners for the Housing Authority of East Baton Rouge Parish convened in Regular Session on Friday, January 11, 2019 at 12:00 pm in the Main Office, located at 4731 North Boulevard.

**Meeting Called To Order**                      **Commissioner Dianna Payton, Chair**

**Invocation**                                      **Commissioner Chris Brown**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call:**

**Members Present:**                      **Commissioner Dianna Payton, Chair**  
**Commissioner Al Barron, Vice-Chair**  
**Commissioner Philip Smith, Jr., Second Vice-Chair**  
**Commissioner Chris Brown**  
**Commissioner Helena Cunningham**  
**Commissioner Tyra Banks**  
**Commissioner Lamiesa Bonton**

**Members Absent:**                      **N/A**

**QUORUM PRESENT**

**Public Comments**

Commissioner Payton asked if there were any public comments to be made. None were voiced. Public comment period was closed.

**AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 1:  
APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE EAST  
BATON ROUGE PARISH HOUSING AUTHORITY HELD DECEMBER 17, 2018.**

Motion was made by Commissioner Banks to approve the minutes for the regular meeting held on December 17, 2018 and Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. No abstentions or oppositions were noted. No further discussion was made.

**MOTION PASSED**

*Mission Statement*

*To provide and develop quality affordable housing opportunities for individuals and families while promoting self-sufficiency and neighborhood revitalization*

**AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 2:  
CITY PARISH/OCD - HCV MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT  
RESOLUTION NUMBER 2019-01**

Ms. Bayham began the presentation. The resolution was meant to formalize their past discussion in regard to the city permanently transferring their Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program to the housing authority. The permanent transfer would be effective July 1, 2019. They were in need of formal board approval before they could proceed any further.

Motion was made by Commissioner Barron to approve the resolution and Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. No abstentions or oppositions were noted. No further discussion was made.

**MOTION PASSED**

**AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 3:  
PRESENTATION OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

Mr. Daniels presented his report. The government shutdown was addressed. They had taken time to evaluate the effect and impact it would have on them. From an external standpoint, housing choice vouchers were one of their main risks. HUD had given indication that they would be funding January's housing choice voucher payments and they were expecting February to be funded also. The risk would come closer to March. They were hoping to come to a resolution before then. Communications would be key during this time. They did have adequate reserves to cover their internal operations possibly up to 120 days.

Another complication from the government shutdown was regarding the announcement of the first cuts for CNI. There would be a delay on that, but they were hoping that HUD would be going back to work in the near future and they would get an update on the new announcement date.

He also informed them that he had attached a letter from the Affordable Housing Advocates in their packets. The letter detailed the risks associated with the shutdown and had been sent to the Congressional leadership.

Director Smith asked if any communication had been made internally. Mr. Daniels stated that he had not as of yet. His plan was to get through January and then assess the situation and communicate to the staff the future possibilities then.

He informed the board that they were conducting rudimentary processes for the RAD application. They would be bringing upcoming actions to the board related to this strategy. As it had not been formally decided to go in the direction of RAD, they would be presenting backup information to the board as they provided their recommendations.

He stated that they had made final payment to Watts Didier in the amount of approximately \$54,000. This amount was derived from the outstanding invoices owed to the subcontractors who were working with Watts Didier and it was paid via joint check. There was some explanation given about the situation with Watts Didier and some of the recourse the housing authority could have with them. Prior to Mr. Murray's

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departure, he had terminated Watts Didier for engagement on the Gardere project. Subsequently, last week on January 4, Mr. Daniels had terminated Watts Didier from any public housing work in which they were currently engaged. There was more discussion that ensued regarding this issue.

After discussion concluded, Mr. Daniels added that the updated financials would be provided at the February meeting along with their quarterly media update. He also stated that this past week he had sent a request for quotes for asset management. The person hired would have the primary responsibility of overseeing the property management operations on the part of Partners behalf and this would be a key piece to making the RAD conversion work.

He did introduce Ms. Ivra Amacker who was the new public housing administrator.

This concluded the presentation of the chief executive officer's report.

#### **AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 4: NEW BUSINESS**

No new business was voiced.

#### **AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 5: ADJOURNMENT**

No other comments were voiced.

#### **MEETING ADJOURNED**

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**Dianna Payton**  
**Chair**  
**East Baton Rouge Parish Housing Authority**

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**J. Wesley Daniels, Jr.**  
**Acting Secretary/Chief Executive Officer**  
**East Baton Rouge Parish Housing Authority**

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