



**ROCKFORD HOUSING AUTHORITY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**August Meeting
Minutes**

Thursday, August 15, 2024

Present:	Jeff DiBenedetto, Chairman	Staff:	Laura Snyder, CEO
	Anisha Grimmett, Vice Chair		Odessa Walker, COO
	Jaime Sanchez, Commissioner		Tim Horning, RHA Legal Counsel
	Simone Cameron, Commissioner		Angel Mackey, Executive Assistant

Absent: Jennifer Matlick, Human Services Assistant

The meeting was called to order at 4:06 pm

MINUTES:

Commissioner Sanchez moved that the RHA Board of Commissioners approve the minutes from the Special June meeting held on June 24, 2024. Vice Chair Grimmett seconded the motion.

Ayes: Commissioners: Sanchez, Grimmett, Cameron , DiBenedetto

Nays: None

MOTION APPROVED

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Resident Concerns:

- Residents from Park Terrace have requested a meeting to discuss issues in the building

John Brantley Renewal Turning Point,

Financial Overview for Renewal Turning Point:

- Last month, John's organization raised and spent \$6,930.74

- Last year, they raised a total of \$49,190.62
- John estimates needing \$474.00 for van repairs, but Robinhood Repair Shop generously covered these repairs free of charge

Scared Straight Program:

- 25 children participated in the Scared Straight program, where they met with three Winnebago County judges and police officers from District 1

Efforts in District 205:

- Of the 359 Black students expelled from District 205, John has successfully overturned 19 expulsions so far
- There have been 4,578 suspensions of Black students in District 205, and John is actively working to reduce this number.

CHECKS:

Vice Chair Grimmiett moved that the RHA Board of Commissioners approve the checks from May 2024. Commissioner Sanchez seconded the motion.

Ayes: Commissioners: Grimmiett, Sanchez, Cameron, DiBenedetto

Nays:

MOTION APPROVED

Commissioner Cameron moved that the RHA Board of Commissioners approve the checks from June 2024. Vice Chair Grimmiett seconded the motion.

Ayes: Commissioners: Cameron, Grimmiett, Sanchez, DiBenedetto

Nays:

MOTION APPROVED

Commissioner Sanchez moved that the RHA Board of Commissioners approve the checks from July 2024. Vice Chair Grimmiett seconded the motion.

Ayes: Commissioners: Sanchez, Grimmiett, Cameron, DiBenedetto

Nays:

MOTION APPROVED

LIPH OCCUPANCY & HCV UTILIZATION

LIPH Occupancy May 2024

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| • Blackhawk | 96% |
| • Park Terrace & Low-rise | 96% |
| • North Main Manor | 93% |
| • Olesen Plaza | 90% |
| • Scattered Sites East | 98% |

- Scattered Sites West 98%

LIPH Occupancy June 2024

- Blackhawk 94%
- Park Terrace & Low-rise 95%
- North Main Manor 92%
- Olesen Plaza 89%
- Scattered Sites East 99%
- Scattered Sites West 98%

LIPH Occupancy July 2024

- Blackhawk 93%
- Park Terrace & Low-rise 96%
- North Main Manor 92%
- Olesen Plaza 89%
- Scattered Sites East 96%
- Scattered Sites West 98%

HCV Utilization May 2024

- 1698

HCV Utilization June 2024

- 1697

HCV Utilization July 2024

- 1697

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Resolution #2023-024

Vice Chair Grimmiett moved that the RHA Board of Commissioners layover the review and approval of the Closed Meeting Minutes until the September Meeting; Commissioner Sanchez seconded the motion.

Ayes: Commissioners: Grimmiett, Sanchez, Cameron, DiBenedetto

Nays: None

MOTION APPROVED

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Sanchez moved that the RHA Board of Commissioners approve the Collection Loss Write-off for vacant uncollectible accounts for the month of April in the amount of \$16,140.37. Commissioner Cameron seconded the motion.

Ayes: Commissioners: Sanchez, Cameron, Grimmiett, DiBenedetto

Nays: None
MOTION APPROVED

Commissioner Sanchez moved that the RHA Board of Commissioners approve the Collection Loss Write-off for vacant uncollectible accounts for the month of May
Commissioner Cameron seconded the motion.

Ayes: Commissioners: Sanchez, Cameron, Grimmiett, DiBenedetto
Nays: None
MOTION APPROVED

Commissioner Cameron moved that the RHA Board of Commissioners approve the Collection Loss Write-off for vacant uncollectible accounts for the month of June Vice Chair Grimmiett seconded the motion.

Ayes: Commissioners: Cameron, Grimmiett, Sanchez, DiBenedetto
Nays: None
MOTION APPROVED

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution #2024-014

RESOLUTION THAT THE RHA BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVE AN ANNUAL BOARD PLAN OF WORK FOR THE 2025 FISCAL YEAR. IT IS ADDITIONALLY RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS GIVE RHA STAFF THE AUTHORITY TO UPDATE THE PLAN, AS NEEDED, TO ACCOUNT FOR UNFORESEEN REQUIREMENTS AND CHANGES.

Commissioner Sanchez moved that the RHA Board of Commissioners approve an Annual Board Plan of Work for the 2025 fiscal year. It is additionally recommended that the Board of Commissioners give RHA staff the Authority to update the plan, as needed, to account for unforeseen requirements and changes. Commissioner Cameron seconded the motion.

Ayes: Commissioners: Sanchez, Cameron, Grimmiett, DiBenedetto
Nays: None
MOTION APPROVED

Resolution #2024-015

RESOLUTION THAT THE RHA BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVE A COMMITMENT FOR FIVE YEARS FOR THE TREATMENT OF BED BUD SERVICES AT THE AMOUNT OF \$2,075,620 (TWO MILLION SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED TWENTY DOLLARS).

Commissioner Sanchez moved that the RHA Board of Commissioners approve a commitment for five years for the treatment of bed bud services at the amount of \$2,075,620

(Two million SEVENTY-FIVE thousand six hundred twenty dollars. Vice Chair Grimmert seconded the motion.

Ayes: Commissioners: Sanchez, Grimmert, Cameron, DiBenedetto

Nays: None

MOTION APPROVED

R.A.B – RESIDENT ADVISORY BOARD

Ken Oliver, RAB President

- **Naloxone Training at Park Terrace:**

Ken Oliver reported that a successful event was held at Park Terrace to educate residents on the proper use of Naloxone (Narcan) for individuals who may be experiencing an overdose.

- **NAMI Support Group Turnout:**

The NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) support group continues to see a good turnout from residents, demonstrating strong engagement and interest in mental health resources.

- **Podiatrist Request:**

Residents have expressed interest in scheduling a visit from a podiatrist to address their foot health concerns.

- **Fire Safety Education:**

The local fire department may be visiting tomorrow to speak with residents about how to handle fire emergencies and other natural disasters, offering crucial safety information.

- **Northern Illinois Food Bank Compliance Issue:**

For the past three weeks, the Northern Illinois Food Bank has listed RHA as non-compliant due to unreturned calls. Ken Oliver and other staff members are now certified to receive food boxes, but in order to secure delivery, each site must request 20 or more boxes.

At 5:40 pm, with no further business, Commissioner Sanchez made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Cameron seconded the motion.

Ayes: Commissioners: Sanchez, Cameron, Grimmert, DiBenedetto

Nays: None

MOTION PREVAILED

Chairman, Jeff DiBenedetto

Board Secretary, Laura Snyder