

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF THE REDEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF BERKS**

November 14, 2023

Chairman, Glenn Yeager called the meeting of the Board of the Redevelopment Authority of the County of Berks to order at 4:30 P.M. on November 14, 2023, at the offices of the Redevelopment Authority of the County of Berks, 400 E. Wyomissing, Avenue, Ground Floor, Suite 2, Mohnton, Pennsylvania 19540 and via Zoom telecommunications.

1. **Roll Call:**

The following Board members were present during the meeting:

Glenn Yeager, Chairman
Diodato Bassano, Treasurer
Jorge Diaz, Assistant Secretary/Assistant Treasurer
Thomas Ruth, Secretary

Also in attendance were:

Daniel Becker, Esquire of Kozloff Stoudt, Solicitor
Kenneth Pick, Executive Director
Tyler Reese, Facilities & Housing Manager
Jaime Perez, Housing Planner
Kathy Miller, Fiscal Officer
Kyre Maxwell, Assistant Fiscal Officer
Michele Hummel, Assistant Fiscal Officer
Susan Buono, Executive Assistant

2. **Reading and approval of minutes of the meeting of October 24, 2023:**

Upon motion made by Diodato Bassano and seconded by Thomas Ruth, all members of the Board present voted to approve the October 24, 2023 minutes of the Board.

3. **Report of Treasurer:**

Diodato Bassano presented the Profit & Loss Statement and the Balance Sheet as of October 31, 2023. Mr. Bassano also presented the Statement of Activities from January 2023 through October 2023. A copy of the report is attached to these Minutes. Upon motion by Glenn Yeager and seconded by Thomas Ruth, all Board members present voted to accept the report of the Treasurer, including said Profit & Loss Statement and Balance Sheet, subject to audit.

4. **Bills and Communications:**

Diodato Bassano presented the list of payments to creditors representing the period of October 25, 2023 through November 14, 2023. A copy of the report is attached to these Minutes. Upon motion by Glenn Yeager and seconded by Mr. Ruth, all Board members present voted to approve and/or ratify the list of payments to creditors.

There were no communications.

5. **Reports of Committees:**

There were no committee reports presented.

6. **Unfinished Business:**

a) **Rentals (Susan)**

- a. Susan Buono advised there were no new updates on the rental properties at this time and all maintenance issues have been addressed by Ethan Giorgio.

b) **Colebrookdale Railroad:** Mr. Pick advised of the following:

- a. We are still going through a lot of the paperwork for the two grants and loans. We are getting concerned that the cost seems to be increasing. Mr. Pick advised that we are currently researching and discussing whether this is going to be financially feasible, worthwhile pursuing, and what impact this could have on our borrowing.

- c) **Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP).**
 - a. Kyre Maxwell reported the following statistics since the October 22, 2023 Board meeting: there are 0 applications in progress, 0 applications submitted, 0 applications under review, 7 cases needing reapplication approved, 84 reapplications approved, 4 have been withdrawn, 1,483 have been denied, 58 are in payment status with BCRA, 0 are in payment status with BCEH. Total assistance ended is 3,482.
- d) **Armorcast.** Mr. Pick reported that the next step is to prepare bidding documents for the demolition and removal of the station. Once that has been done, we will transfer the property to the borough. This will most likely take place in the springtime.
- e) **Whole Homes Repair Program (WHRP).** Tyler Reese advised the Board of the following:
 - a. The County has 29 active cases and Habitat for Humanity has 16 ongoing projects. Mr. Reese reported that to date, the current total cost of repairs for the County is \$539,000.00. Habitat for Humanity has spent \$28,000.00 on repairs.
- f) **Major Systems Program.** Tyler Reese reported the following statistics to the Board: There are 6 active projects. To date, the total cost of repairs is \$357,000.00.

7. **New Business:**

- a. **Agreement #1** A motion was made by Glenn Yeager and seconded by Thomas Ruth for the reapproval of the RCI Program.
- b. **Resolution #2023-19** A motion was made by Mr. Yeager and seconded by Mr. Bassano to approve an application to the State-wide Local Share Account Program for \$500,000.00 on behalf of a project by Habitat for Humanity of Berks County and authorizing officers to execute related documents.
- c. **Resolution #2023-20** A motion was made by Mr. Yeager and seconded by Mr. Diaz to authorize the acquisition of 1953 Fairview Avenue, Mt. Penn.
- d. **Agreement #2** A motion was made by Mr. Yeager and seconded by Mr. Bassano for the approval of an administrative agreement for the ByHeart Project in Exeter Township.

- e. **Strategic Planning Event:** Mr. Pick advised he thinks it would be beneficial for the Board to meet with him for a strategic planning event to discuss the structure of our organization. Mr. Pick will send out an email with possible dates and will most likely be held sometime in January or February 2024.

8. **Adjournment:**

There being no further business of this Authority, a motion was made by Glenn Yeager to adjourn the meeting of this Authority. The motion was seconded by Diodato Bassano and all members of this Authority present voted in the affirmative. The next meeting of the Board will be on December 12, 2023. This meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.



Glenn A. Yeager, Chairman-