

**HOUSING AUTHORITY OF NEW ORLEANS  
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
APRIL 27, 2021**

The Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of New Orleans met via Zoom (Meeting ID: 829 8070 7161; Password: 367437) at 4:00pm on the 27th day of April, 2021.

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Evette Hester, HANO Executive Director  
Kevin Oufnac, HANO General Counsel

Judith Moran, McCormick Barron  
Donna Johnigan  
Michelle  
Dolfinette Martin

Isabella  
Cynthia Wiggins  
Maguina Journee  
Rene'e Cornist

**I. STATEMENT BY GENERAL COUNSEL**

**II. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by President Joseph 4:11 pm.

**III. ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT**

President Joseph  
Vice President Barrios  
Commissioner Johnson  
Commissioner McKay  
Commissioner Rouselle

**ABSENT**

Commissioner Foret  
Commissioner Jasper  
Commissioner Moore  
Commissioner Piper

**A quorum was present.**

**IV. COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT**

President Joseph welcomed everyone and wished everyone well on the zoom call. She also stated that she was appreciative of the work from Ms. Hester, HANO Executive Director and the HANO Staff.

**V. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**Motion: To Approve the Agenda**

Motion by: Commissioner Johnson

Second by: Commissioner Rouselle

Call for Vote: All in favor; none opposed

**Motion passed. Agenda approved**

**VI. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**Motion: To Approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting Held on February 23, 2021**

Motion by: Commissioner Rouselle

Second by: Vice President Barrios

Call for Vote: All in favor; none opposed

**Motion passed. Minutes approved**

**VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- **Executive Director's Report** - Presented by Evette Hester, Executive Director
  - **Update on Ross Grant** – Presented by Jedidiah Jackson, Director of Client Services
  - **Update Community Healthcare Workers Pilot Program** – Presented by Jedidiah Jackson, Director of Client Services
  - **Update on Kellogg Foundation for Racial Equity Initiative** – Presented by Shelly Smith, Deputy Executive Director
  - **Update the Annual Plan** – Presented by Shelly Smith, Deputy Executive Director
  - **Update on Financials** – Acting Deputy Director of Administration/Chief Financial Officer

**VIII. COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

- **Residents' Advisory Board (RAB) Report**
- **Landlords' Advisory Committee Report** - No Report

**IX. COMMITTEE REPORT(S)**

- **Development Committee Report** – Presented by Commissioner Johnson
- **Motion: To Schedule a Development Committee Meeting with an Executive Session to Discuss the Issues at Fischer Housing Development**

Motion by: Commissioner Johnson

Second by: Commissioner Rouselle

No vote for the above motion. The motion died. The motion was changed to the motion below.

- **Motion: To Schedule a Special Meeting with an Executive Session to Discuss the Issues at Fischer Housing Development Regarding Maintenance Issues and Personnel Issues**

Motion by: Commissioner Johnson

Second by: Commissioner Rouselle

Public Comment: None

Call for Vote: All in favor; none opposed

**Motion passed.**

- **Asset Management and Operations Committee Report** - Presented by Commissioner Rouselle

**X. NEW BUSINESS**

**Items for Approval**

**Authorizations**

**Resolution #2021-08 - Approval of Contracts for On-Call Legal Services** - approves and authorizes HANO's Executive Director, Evette Hester, to enter into negotiations to contract with Ballard Spahr, LLP; Burglass & Tankersly, LLC; Butler Law Firm, LLC; Coats Rose, PC; DeCuir Clark & Adams, LLP; Deutsch Kerrigan, LLP; Reno & Cavanaugh, PLLC; Rodney & Etter, LLC; and Stone Pigman Walther Wittmann, LLC for the purpose of securing on-call legal services for HANO for an initial period of one (1) year, with an option to extend any contract for as many as two (2) additional one-year periods at HANO's sole discretion.

**Motion: To Approve Resolution #2021-08 - Approval of Contracts for On-Call Legal Services**

Motion by: Commissioner Rouselle

Second by: Vice President Barrios

Discussion: President Joseph

Public Comment: None

Call for Vote: All in favor; none opposed

**Motion passed. Resolution No. 2021-08 is approved.**

**XI. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- **Public Comment(s)**
  - Dolfinette Martin
  - Judith Moran, McCormick Barron
- **Board of Commissioners Comment(s)**
  - Vice President Barrios stated her appreciation to look over the Criminal Background Check policy

**XII. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMINDERS**

**XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- Pursuant to La. R.S. 42:17(A)(2), Executive Session to Discuss the following Litigation Matter: HANO v Trinity Christian Community, No. 2018-00864, Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans.

**Motion: To Move into Executive Session**

Motion by: Commissioner Moore

Second by: Commissioner Rouselle

Call for Vote: All in favor; none opposed

**Motion passed.**

**The Board of Commissioners entered into Executive Session at 5:28pm and returned to the meeting at 5:37pm.**

**Motion: To Approve what was Discussed in Executive Session**

Motion by: Commissioner Johnson

Second by: Vice President Barrios

Call for Vote: All in favor; none opposed

**Motion passed.**

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by: Commissioner Johnson

Second by: Commissioner Rouselle

**No objections. Meeting adjourned at 5:39p.m.**

**APPROVED:**



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**DEBRA JOSEPH  
PRESIDENT, BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**