

**WINNEBAGO COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY**  
**MAY 18, 2017**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**Call to Order, Roll Call, Pledge of Allegiance**

Vice Chairman Getty called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m. (The meeting was held at the Rockford Police Resident house owned by Winnebago Homes Association located at 1007 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Rockford, Illinois) Following the call to order, roll call was taken.

The following Board Members were in attendance.

Present:	Vice Chairman Dina M. Getty Commissioner Ron Ballard (arrived at 5:40 p.m.) Commissioner Alanna D. Conard Commissioner Pearl Hawks Commissioner James E. Hughes
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Absent:	Chairman Fred S. Wescott
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Also present: Executive Director Alan Zais, Finance Director Vickie Huwe and James R. Pirages and Carol Lockwood of the law firm of Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP.

Following roll call, Vice Chairman Getty led those in attendance in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Introduction of Guests**

Vice Chairman Getty introduced Officer Eric Thurmond of the Rockford Police Department. Officer Thurmond is the Officer who will reside in the house located at 1007 15<sup>th</sup> Street in Rockford as part of the Rockford Police Resident program.

**Changes to Agenda**

Vice Chairman Getty suggested that the Agenda be changed to introduce Officer Thurmond and allow him to discuss his plans for the house and take the Commissioners on a tour of the house. By consensus, the Board agreed to this change to the Agenda.

Officer Thurmond noted that he has been with the Rockford Police Department for approximately one (1) year and is originally from Bolingbrook. When he learned of the Police Resident program and the house on 15<sup>th</sup> Street, he said that he jumped at the opportunity and that since he has been in the neighborhood he has received great feedback from the residents. He explained that he plans on being engaged in various activities at nearby Nelson School and that a neighborhood block party will be held on June 27 from 4-7 p.m. He said that he also will attend the Keith Creek Association meetings and that he is involved in other activities to get to know those living in the neighborhood as well as to work with the landlords in the neighborhood to encourage them to do a better job screening their tenants. He added that there have been 100 tickets donated for a basketball game in Chicago that he will be using in connection with his

neighborhood-related activities. He said that there will eventually be a sign in front of the house noting his name, phone number and e-mail address. He also noted that he wants to sponsor “clean-up days” in the neighborhood to involve the youth of the neighborhood in more constructive activities. He also indicated that he is open to ideas from the Commissioners as to other activities that they might suggest.

Commissioner Hawks noted the Sharefest Program and its plans to improve Levings Park. She said that Sharefest is looking for volunteers and suggested to Officer Thurmond that neighborhood youth could be involved in the Sharefest activities at Levings.

After Officer Thurmond concluded his comments, he took the Commissioners on a tour of the house at 1007 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Rockford.

### **Public Comments**

None.

### **Executive Director’s Report**

Executive Director Alan Zais was momentarily absent from the meeting so this item was moved to the end of the Agenda. (See below).

### **Consent Agenda**

A motion to approve the item on the Consent Agenda was made by Commissioner Conard. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Hughes. The items on the Consent Agenda were approved by unanimous roll call vote of the five (5) Commissioners present with none against and one (1) Commissioner absent.

### **Financial Report**

Finance Director Vickie Huwe noted that the financial reports that were part of the Board packet reflect the extra payments to employees that had been approved by the Board at the March meeting. She also stated that the unaudited financial statements will be submitted by the end of the month.

### **Old Business**

None.

### **New Business**

None.

### **Commissioner Comments**

None.

**Executive Session**

None.

**Action Taken from Executive Session**

None.

**Executive Director's Report**

Alan indicated that his written report was included with the Board packet materials that the Commissioners had previously received. He noted that a revision to the standard lease and a policy on the issue of firearms on WCHA premises will soon be distributed for the Board's review. He also said that the property at 715 Trenton has been offered to the Winnebago County Sheriff's Department for a deputy resident (similar to that in which the Rockford Police Department is participating) but that he has not heard back from the Sheriff's Department on that issue and that, as a result, he will soon suggest that the WCHA move on to secure another tenant if a response from the Sheriff's Department is not received in the very near future.

Commissioner Hughes asked if there was anything else the Board could do to assist with the upcoming block party for the 15<sup>th</sup> Street property. Officer Thurmond noted that they have already received lots of donations. Executive Director Alan Zais noted that he will check with Assistant Deputy Chief Carla Redd to see if additional assistance may be provided by the WCHA.

**Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Hawks and that motion was seconded by Commissioner Hughes. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of five (5) Commissioners present with none against and one (1) Commissioner absent. The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Alanna Conard, Recording Secretary