

**WINNEBAGO COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY
DECEMBER 17, 2015 REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES**

Call to Order, Roll Call, Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Wescott called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Following the call to order, roll call was taken.

The following Board members were in attendance:

Present:	Chairman Fred Wescott Vice Chairman Dina Getty Commissioner Ron Ballard Commissioner Alanna Conard Commissioner Pearl Hawks Commissioner Phyllis Spiess
Absent	Commissioner Jim Hughes

Also present: Executive Director Alan Zais, Assistant Executive Director Linda Cornell, Finance Director Vickie Huwe, Director of Operations Felicia Davis and James R. Pirages of the law firm of Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP. Also present was insurance broker Don Conness.

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

Public Hearing on the 2016 Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy, Administrative Plan, FY 2016 Annual Agency Plan and FY 2016-2020 Five Year Agency Plan

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Getty to open a public hearing on the 2016 Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy, Administrative Plan, FY 2016 Annual Agency Plan and FY 2016-2020 Five Year Agency Plan; that motion was seconded by Commissioner Hawks and approved by unanimous voice vote of all six (6) Commissioners present with none against and one (1) Commissioner absent. Executive Director Alan Zais noted that the public hearing had been the subject of a Notice of Public Hearing that was published in advance and that no comments had been received from the public in response to the notice and that no one was present at the public hearing to address the Plans and/or Policy.

The public hearing closed at 5:32 p.m. (upon motion of Vice Chairman Getty to close the public hearing, that was seconded by Commissioner Conard and approved by unanimous voice vote of all six (6) Commissioners present with none against and one (1) Commissioner absent).

Introduction of Guests

Insurance broker Mr. Don Conness was introduced by Executive Director Alan Zais.

Changes to Agenda

Executive Director Alan Zais asked the Board to allow Mr. Conness to address the proposed health insurance and dental insurance program that is the subject of one of the proposed resolutions on the Consent Agenda (Resolution No. 15 R 36). Mr. Conness directed the Board's attention to the materials that had accompanied the Board packet. He noted that the dental rates through Aetna had decreased by .72% but that the medical premiums through Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois had increased by 15%. While this health insurance number has increased substantially, Mr. Conness noted that the premiums being charged by Blue Cross and Blue Shield for 2016 were still less than the renewal rate that had been proposed by Humana in late 2014 (for 2015 coverage) and the current Blue Cross and Blue Shield proposal covers three (3) more people than were subject of the 2014 Humana proposal.

Mr. Conness outlined the major provisions of the plan, noting that the deductibles were \$1,000.00 per participant for in-network and \$2,000.00 per person for out of network. He noted that in-network coverage is available through OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center and through SwedishAmerican Hospital and that while Rockford Memorial Hospital is out of network, participants may still obtain services at Rockford Memorial at approximately the same cost as in-network provided that they are willing to complete some additional "leg work" necessary to secure the lower rates. Commissioner Ballard asked whether the affiliation between Rockford Memorial and Mercy Hospital may change this; Mr. Conness said that he did not know the specifics on this issue at this time.

Mr. Conness noted that the deductible for the family has to be satisfied by three (3) individuals but that there is a \$3,000.00 out-of-pocket maximum per individual (\$9,000.00 per family); he noted that the co-pays are applied towards the out-of-pocket maximum but not against the deductible. He said that coverage is available at 80% for in-network and 60% out of network but that preventive services are covered at 100%. The premium to be charged for this coverage is \$18,638.32 (up from \$16,077.78 in 2015) and that this compares favorably to the \$19,800.00 proposal received from Humana at the end of 2014 (that covered three (3) fewer individuals). Vice Chairman Getty asked how much the employees contribute for family coverage and Finance Director Huwe noted that employees contribute 15% of the premium. Mr. Conness than left the meeting.

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Alan Zais noted that his comprehensive written report was previously submitted to the Commissioners and accompanied the Board packet. There were no questions asked regarding the materials in the Executive Director's report.

Consent Agenda

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made Commissioner Conard. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Ballard. The items on the Consent Agenda were approved by unanimous vote of the six (6) Commissioners present with none against and one (1) Commissioner absent.

Financial Report

Finance Director Vickie Huwe noted that the WCHA has made over \$10,000.00 through the rental of the bedbug equipment that was previously purchased by the Authority. Executive Director Alan Zais noted that Linda Cornell had recently completed a round of educational programs on bedbug avoidance for the residents at D'Agnolo, Collier and Johnston Garden Apartments.

Old Business

None.

New Business

None.

Commissioner Comments

None.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Getty to go into Executive Session pursuant to the provisions of 5 ILCS 120(c)(1) to consider the "appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity". That motion was seconded by Commissioner Ballard and approved by unanimous voice vote of the six (6) Commissioners present with none against and one (1) Commissioner absent. The Executive Session opened at 5:53 p.m. A motion to come out of Executive Session was made Commissioners Hawks, seconded by Commissioner Spiess and approved by unanimous voice vote of the six (6) Commissioners present with none against and one (1) Commissioner absent. The Executive Session closed at 6:03 p.m.

Action Taken from Executive Session

A motion to approve a \$1,000.00 per year increase to the compensation paid to employee Christina Coon based upon the additional responsibilities that she is accepting in managing the Family Self-Sufficiency Program was made by Commissioner Ballard. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Hawks. The motion was approved by unanimous vote of all six (6) Commissioners present with none against and one (1) Commissioner absent.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Spiess and that motion was seconded by Commissioner Ballard. That motion was passed by unanimous voice vote of all six (6) Commissioners present with none against and one (1) Commissioner absent. The meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis Spiess, Recording Secretary