

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING OF
THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH
MAIN OFFICE AT 4731 NORTH BOULEVARD
June 13, 2024 AT 12:00 PM**

The Board of Commissioners for the Housing Authority of East Baton Rouge Parish convened in a Regular Session on Thursday, June 13, 2024, at 12:00 pm at the main office 4731 North Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806.

Meeting Called to Order **Commissioner Dianna Payton, Chair**

Invocation **Commissioner Chris Brown**

Roll Call:

Members Present **Commissioner Al Barron, Vice Chair**
 Commissioner Chris Brown
 Commissioner Lynn Farris
 Commissioner Justin Gaudet
 Commissioner Terry Landry, Jr.

Members Absent **Commissioner Brandon Kelly**

QUORUM PRESENT

Public Comments

The floor was opened for public comments. None were voiced. The public comment period was closed.

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 1:

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH HOUSING AUTHORITY HELD MAY 9, 2024

A motion was made by Commissioner Barron to approve, and Commissioner Gaudet seconded the motion. No abstentions or oppositions were noted. No further discussion was made.

MOTION PASSED

Mission Statement

To provide and develop quality affordable housing opportunities for individuals and families while promoting self-sufficiency and neighborhood revitalization

**AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 2:
PRESENTATION OF FY2023 INDEPENDENT AUDIT
RESOLUTION NO. 2024-05**

The item will be deferred to the next board meeting.

MOTION PASSED

**AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 3:
ASSET REPOSITIONING CLARKSDALE DISPOSITION APPLICATION
RESOLUTION NO. 2024-06**

Mr. Daniels presented the item. The agenda item requires approval of the proposed disposition application of Clarksdale. Based on experience, the process may take up to 18 months. A motion was made by Commissioner Barron and seconded by Commissioner Brown. No abstentions or oppositions were noted. No further discussion was made.

MOTION PASSED

**AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 4:
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT
a. EXECUTIVE UPDATE**

Mr. Daniels updated the Board on the Administrative item regarding the CLA audit, which has shown significant improvement on the scheduled timeline which included an extension of sixty (60) days. HUD's Quality Assurance Division audited our Housing Choice Voucher Program and concluded that the agency is in good shape and well run. Mr. Daniels introduced the addition to our new team members, a Staff Accountant, Asset Manager, and Communications Director. Concerning our technology infrastructure, on August 1st, 2024, the organization will implement a new software system, YARDI, which will streamline processes to enable overall improvements. INSPIRE inspections are ongoing, currently, we are about 60% complete and all scores have been above 90%. On the development side, Mr. Daniels highlighted the progress of Cypress River Lofts, which will be completed by October 2024. Mr. Daniels reviewed the legislative sessions that impact our families and organization. HB 955 will be presented again with the proper advocacy and verbiage to ensure transparency and consistency across all channels. Senate Bill 462 procured the appointment of a new Board Chairman for the Louisiana Housing Corporation, Stephen Dwyer. Commissioner Payton asked if there were any further questions. None were voiced.

**AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 5:
DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS
a. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS & REPORTS (APRIL 2024)**

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Mr. Daniels addressed the April 2024 financials as they relate to the departments and the overall budget.

- b. CHIEF HOUSING OFFICER REPORT**
 - i. HOUSING CHOICE**
 - ii. AFFORDABLE HOUSING**
- c. CAPITAL FUND PROGRAM**
- d. HUMAN RESOURCES**

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 6: BR CHOICE NEIGHBORHOOD REPORT

Ms. Brown updated the board on the status of CNI related to closings and funding. A meeting is scheduled with our partners to discuss the financial gaps and HUD requirements. A discussion of additional funding was suggested to ensure that developments are amicable for seniors of the properties. When asked if there were any questions, none were voiced.

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 7: PARTNERS SOUTHEAST COO REPORT

Ms. Brown was excited to update the Board regarding preliminary communication regarding Wards Creek funding application awards anticipated within the next couple of months. She mentioned the cultivation of the relationship with Regions Bank as the equity investor. They will be our equity investor for the final three phases of Cypress at Ardendale. When asked if there were any questions, none were voiced.

The departmental reports were included in the board packets and distributed to the board members prior to the board meeting. This concluded the departmental reports.

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 8: NEW BUSINESS

No new business was voiced.

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 9: ADJOURNMENT

No new business was voiced.

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MEETING ADJOURNED

APPROVED:

Dianna Payton
Chair
East Baton Rouge Parish Housing Authority

J. Wesley Daniels, Jr.
Secretary/Chief Executive Officer
East Baton Rouge Parish Housing Authority

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