

Nebraska Commission on Housing and Homelessness (NCHH)

**Nebraska Investment Finance Authority (NIFA) Board Room
1230 'O' Street, 2nd Floor
Lincoln, NE 68508**

Minutes of Thursday, November 30, 2017 1:30 p.m.

Notice Published: Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar
NCHH Website

Open Meetings Act – A copy of the Open Meetings Act was located on the table as you enter the room.
All votes were taken by roll call of the members.

I. Roll Call

Pamela Otto called roll.

Twelve of fifteen Commissioners were present:

Nancy Bentley; Charles Coley; Ryan Durant; Paul Hamelink; Lee Ann Heflebower; Thomas Judds; Kathy Mesner; Judy Pederson; Judy Petersen; Carna Pfeil; Sara Tichota; and John Turner.

Absent Commissioners: Suzanne Brodine; Roger Nadrchal; and Brent Williams.

Guests present were: Jerry Pesek, USDA Rural Development; Tobias Orr, Assistive Technology Partnership; Joel Anderson, Excel Development Group; Matthew Cavanaugh, Nebraska Housing Developers Association; Paula Rhian, Horizon Bank; Robin Ambroz, Nebraska Investment Finance Authority; and Courtney Dentlinger, Dave Rippe, Dan Curran, Pam Otto, Leslie Coleman, Bob Jones, Evan Clark, and Anissa Rasmussen, DED.

II. Call meeting to order:

Chair Turner declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.

Chair Turner indicated the Opening Meetings Act was on the table by the sign in sheet.

III. Introductions

IV. Public Comment

None

V. Approved September 26, 2017 meeting minutes.

Motion: Commissioner Coley moved that the September 26, 2017 meeting minutes be approved.
Commissioner Petersen seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

YES – Nancy Bentley; Charles Coley; Lee Ann Heflebower; Thomas Judds; Kathy Mesner; Judy Petersen; Sara Tichota; and John Turner.

NO – None

ABSTAINED: Durant; and Pfeil

Motion carried with a 8-0-2 vote.

VI. Executive Committee

Commissioner Turner stated that the Executive Committee met to discuss the Vice-Chair position. The Committee decided to have a vote by email that Pam Otto from DED sent out.

Motion: Commissioner Coley moved that Ryan Durant become the new Chair of NCHH and Lee Ann Heflebower become the new Vice-Chair of NCHH. Commissioner Bentley seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

YES – Nancy Bentley; Charles Coley; Ryan Durant; Lee Ann Heflebower; Thomas Judds; Kathy Mesner; Judy Pederson; Judy Petersen; Carna Pfeil; Sara Tichota; and John Turner.

NO – None

ABSTAINED – None

Motion carried with a 11-0-0 vote.

Commissioner Mesner asked about expiring terms and when the term limits expire. Pam Otto informed the Commission that she would send out an email to those with expiring terms and term limits run from July 1st-June 30th.

VII. Report from Standing Committees

1. Continuum of Care Committee (CoC)

Commissioner Turner reported Commissioner Coley has stepped down from being Co-Chair of the committee. Commissioner Coley stated that it is a conflict of interest with his new job. Commissioner Turner stated that he is willing to Co-Chair with Commissioner Heflebower. Durant stated that no vote is needed according to the by-laws. Commissioner Heflebower state the last Continuum of Care meeting was held on November 14th, with 45 attending. The meeting changed the format to include front line staff to discuss the day to day work. Commissioner Heflebower stated the change in format was beneficial and more people attended the meeting and the next meeting will have the same format. The Continuum of Cares meet twice a year. Ending homelessness needs to have a community approach. People attending the meeting shared experiences, successes, and challenges. They discussed panhandling and how it changes the vision of homelessness. Commissioner Turner stated that the Balance of State Continuum of Care has a strategy available to end Veteran Homelessness by having housing available and ready for the population. Commissioner Turner stated that the Balance of State CoC has ended Veteran homelessness with this strategy. The next Point in Time Count will be held on January 23rd for the State of Nebraska.

2. Education and Awareness Committee

Commissioner Pederson reported that the proclamation was very successful with the Governor and thanked Commissioner Turner for his role in the Proclamation. There was also a small proclamation held in North Platte. Commissioner Pederson stated that the committee did not meet this quarter. Commissioner Durant has some good ideas for the committee.

3. Policy and Issues Committee

Motion: Commissioner Durant moved that Judy Petersen become the new Chair of the Policy and Issues Committee. Commissioner Pederson seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

YES – Nancy Bentley; Charles Coley; Ryan Durant; Paul Hamelink; Lee Ann Heflebower; Thomas Judds; Kathy Mesner; Judy Pederson; Carna Pfeil; Sara Tichota; and John Turner.

NO – None

ABSTAINED – Petersen.

Motion carried with a 11-0-1 vote.

Motion: Commissioner Durant moved that Matthew Cavanaugh be added to the Policy and Issues Committee. Commissioner Tichota seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

YES – Nancy Bentley; Charles Coley; Ryan Durant; Paul Hamelink; Lee Ann Heflebower; Thomas Judds; Kathy Mesner; Judy Pederson; Judy Petersen; Sara Tichota; and John Turner.

NO – None

ABSTAINED – Pfeil.

Motion carried with a 11-0-1 vote.

Commissioner Petersen reported on the Policy and Issues Committee meeting regarding the Nebraska Affordable Housing Trust Fund (NAHTF) Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP). Pam Otto from DED reported that the public comment period for the NAHTF QAP is from December 4th through January 3rd. The Public Hearing is scheduled for December 6th at DED. Commissioner Petersen went through the PowerPoint that was provided to the Policy and Issues Committee by DED. The amount of funding for the 2018 program year for the NAHTF will be \$11.25 million with \$550,000 for State Admin, and \$3.21 million per district. Commissioner Mesner stated she would like to have a meeting scheduled to discuss the NAHTF QAP and the Rural Workforce Housing Fund (RWHF). Commissioner Tichota recommended a doodle be sent out to schedule a date.

VIII. Reports from Agencies and Organizations

Assistive Technology Partnership – Tobias Orr

Department of Economic Development – Leslie Coleman

Nebraska Chapter of Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials – Nancy Bentley

Nebraska Housing Developers Association – Matthew Cavanaugh

Nebraska Investment Finance Authority – Sara Tichota

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development – Jerry Pesek

IX. Other Business/Next Meeting

Leslie Coleman went through the RWHF.

X. Adjourn

Chair Turner adjourned the meeting on November 30, 2017 at 3:55 p.m.