

**Nebraska Commission on Housing and Homelessness (NCHH)**

**La Vista Conference Center  
12520 Westport Parkway  
Omaha, NE 68128**

**Minutes of Monday, March 18, 2019**

**10:00 a.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 out of fifteen Commissioners were present:

Ryan Durant; Paul Hamelink; Lee Ann Heflebower; Thomas Judds (arrived at 10:45 a.m.);  
Kathy Mesner; Roger Nadrchal; Judy Pederson; Judy Petersen; Sara Sunderman; Amy  
Thelander; Sara Tichota; and John Turner.

Absent Commissioners: Nancy Bentley; Charles Coley; and Brent Williams.

Guests present were: Jill Divelbess; Paula Rhian; Carol Bodeen; Jeff Chambers; Alex  
Labenz; Matthew Cavanaugh; Brian Gaskill; Evan Clark, Lynn Kohout, Kristi McClung, and  
Pam Otto DED.

**II. Call meeting to order:**

Chair Durant declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.  
Chair Durant indicated the Opening Meetings Act was on the table by the sign in sheet.

**III. Introductions**

**IV. Public Comment**

None

**V. Approved November 27, 2018 meeting minutes.**

**Motion:** Commissioner Pederson moved that the November 27, 2018 meeting minutes  
be approved.

Commissioner Petersen seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

YES – Ryan Durant; Paul Hamelink; Lee Ann Heflebower; Kathy Mesner; Roger  
Nadrchal; Judy Pederson; Judy Petersen; Sara Sunderman; and John Turner.

NO – None

Abstain – Amy Thelander; and Sara Tichota  
Motion carried with a 9-0-2 vote

## **VI. Executive Committee**

Commissioner Durant stated there are a few spots open on the Commission and encouraged Commissioners to reach out to anyone who may be interested in joining the Commission. Commissioner Durant showed the NCHH Nebraska Affordable Housing Trust Fund award that will be awarded to three grantees at the lunch on Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup> at that NIFA Conference.

## **VII. Report from Standing Committees**

### **1. Continuum of Care Committee (CoC)**

Commissioner Heflebower stated the Annual Point in Time count was conducted in January during a snow storm. The numbers are not completely compiled but should be by next meeting. There is concern on how the flooding will affect homeless individuals and rents of apartments for those affected. The next Continuum of Care meeting is May 14<sup>th</sup> at the Community Action location in Lincoln.

### **2. Education and Awareness Committee**

Commissioner Pederson stated the committee is working on completing the Nebraska Affordable Housing Trust Fund one-pager. Once it is completed with accurate data, the document will be distributed to the Commissioners for feedback.

### **3. Policy and Issues Committee**

Commissioner Petersen discussed some of the bills in the Legislature currently and the status of those bills. Matthew Cavanaugh provided a brief summary regarding LB86, LB694, and LB737. The Commission discussed LB86.

**Motion:** Commissioner Nadrchal moved that the Commission write a letter of support of LB86.

Commissioner Pederson seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

YES – Ryan Durant; Paul Hamelink; Lee Ann Heflebower; Kathy Mesner; Roger Nadrchal; Judy Pederson; Judy Petersen; Sara Sunderman; Amy Thelander; Sara Tichota; and John Turner.

NO – None

Abstain – None

Motion carried with a 11-0 vote

The Commission discussed LB694 and the consensus was no action would be taken by the Commission.

## **VIII. Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program**

Jeff Chambers provided an update and overview on the program. The plan has been approved by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and is now moving into accepting applications for the funds, with the application being due on April 26<sup>th</sup>.

## **XI. Blueprint Nebraska**

Commissioner Mesner provided an update on the current housing report draft from the Council. During the NIFA Conference, there is a session for Blueprint Nebraska where this information will be discussed.

## **X. Reports from Agencies and Organizations**

Department of Economic Development – Lynn Kohout  
Nebraska Housing Developers Association – Matthew Cavanaugh  
Nebraska Investment Finance Authority – Sara Tichota and John Turner  
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development – Jill Divelbess  
Nebraska Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence – Rebekah Ehly

## **IX. Other Business/Next Meeting (June 2019)**

## **X. Adjourn**

Chair Durant adjourned the meeting on March 18, 2019 at 11:55 a.m.