

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF THE REDEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF BERKS**

May 21, 2024

Chairman, Glenn Yeager called the meeting of the Board of the Redevelopment Authority of the County of Berks to order at 4:34 P.M. on May 21, 2024, at the offices of the Redevelopment Authority of the County of Berks, 400 E. Wyomissing, Avenue, Ground Floor, Suite 2, Mohnton, Pennsylvania 19540 and via Zoom telecommunications.

1. **Roll Call:**

The following Board members were present during the meeting:

Glenn Yeager, Chairman
Eileen Kastura Vice-President
Diodato Bassano, Treasurer
Dr. Thomas Ruth, Secretary
Jorge Diaz, Assistant Secretary/Assistant Treasurer

Also in attendance were:

Daniel Becker, Esquire of Kozloff Stoudt, Solicitor
Kenneth Pick, Executive Director
Susan Buono, Executive Assistant
Tyler Reese, Facilities & Housing Manager
Ethan Giorgio, Maintenance Technician
Kathy Miller, Fiscal Officer
Kyre Maxwell, Assistant Fiscal Officer
Michele Hummel, Assistant Fiscal Officer
Jaime Perez, Housing Planner
Jowanna Gary, Redevelopment Generalist
Pauline Klopp, Redevelopment Generalist
Marisol Martinez, Redevelopment Generalist

2. **Public Comment:**

There were no members of the public that attended the meeting. No public comment was made.

3. **Announcement of Executive Session for Personnel Matters held on 4/23/24**

4. **Reading and approval of minutes of the meeting of April 23, 2024:**

Upon motion made by Mr. Bassano and seconded by Mr. Diaz, all members of the Board present voted to approve the April 23, 2024 minutes of the Board.

5. **Report of Treasurer:**

Diodato Bassano presented the Profit & Loss Statement and the Balance Sheet as of April 30, 2024. A copy of the report is attached to these Minutes. Questions were asked and clarifications were provided. Upon motion made by Ms. Kastura and seconded by Mr. Diaz, all Board members present voted to accept the report of the Treasurer, including said Profit & Loss Statement and Balance Sheet, subject to audit.

6. **Bills and Communications:**

Diodato Bassano presented the list of payments to creditors representing the period of April 25, 2024 through May 22, 2024. A copy of the report is attached to these Minutes. Questions were asked and clarifications were provided. Upon motion made by Mr. Diaz and seconded by Dr. Ruth all Board members present voted to approve and/or ratify the list of payments to creditors.

7. **Reports of Committees:**

There were no committee reports presented.

8. **Unfinished Business:**

a) **Rentals (Susan)**

- a. Susan Buono advised that there were no updates on rentals and is continuing to work with Jaime, Ethan and Tyler on the new leases and with Buildium.

b) **Colebrookdale Spur:** Mr. Pick advised of the following:

- a. We received a CRISI grant from the US Department of Transportation in the amount of \$14 million. We declined the grant because we were not able to revise the scope of work within that grant. After declining the grant, I was required to revise the scope of the work within the Crossing Grant and RIF Loan

application. I resubmitted to the US Department of Transportation. They will be reviewing those revisions within 30 days.

- c) **Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP).**
 - a. Kyre Maxwell reported that we have paid our last ERAP case, and the program has now come to an end.

- d) **Armorcast.** Mr. Pick advised that we are working to disassemble the building, allow the current owner to take whatever elements he would like, and after that, remove the building and transfer the property over to the Borough of Bernville.

- e) **Whole Homes Repair Program (WHRP).** Tyler Reese advised the Board of the following:
 - a. To date, the RDA has spent \$800,000 on repairs and Habitat for Humanity has spent \$260,000 on repairs. There are 31 cases completed and 61 cases in progress.

- Major Systems Program.** Mr. Reese advised that we have completed one case this month and have three remaining cases. To date, the RDA has spent \$390,000 on repairs.

- f) **Staff Introductions.** The Board had previously asked to get to know more about the staff here at the RDA. Mr. Pick chose to have employees Jowanna Gary and Ethan Giorgio give a presentation relating to their positions and daily duties.

9. **New Business:**

- a. **Agreement# 1** A motion was made by Ms. Kastura and seconded by Mr. Yeager for the ratification of hiring Jaime Perez as Deputy Director, effective May 8, 2024.

- b. **Resolution# 2024-2** A motion was made by Mr. Bassano and seconded by Dr. Ruth relating to the Section 108 loan for the Oley Project.

10. **Executive Session:** The Board entered into executive session at 5:07 P.M. to discuss personnel & real estate matters and reconvened the regular meeting at 6:05 P.M.

11. **Adjournment:**

There being no further business of this Authority, a motion was made by Mr. Yeager to adjourn the meeting of this Authority. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kastura and all members of this Authority present voted in the affirmative. The next meeting of the Board will be on June 25, 2024. This meeting was adjourned at 6:10 P.M.



Glenn A. Yeager, Chairman-