

**BOARD MEETING #596  
July 20, 2022**

The regular meeting of the Housing Authority of the County of Union was held on July 20, 2022. Tom Beck, chairperson, called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm. Members present were Gale Reish, Matt Schumacher, Diane Meixell, and Gina Melone. Also, present were Sharon Leon, Executive Director, Melissa Lobos, Solicitor and Allyson Weaver, Secretary.

An Executive Session was held prior to the public meeting at which time 2 Legal issues were discussed.

**Call to Order:** 2:00 pm

1. Gale Reish made a motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting 595 held June 15, 2022. Diane Meixell seconded same, and the Board unanimously passed by those present.
  
2. **TREASURER'S REPORT & FINANCIAL:**
  - a. UCHA is currently transitioning to a new accountant and will provide a report for June and July at the next meeting.
  
3. **HOUSING STAFF REPORTS:**

Diane Meixell made a motion to accept Housing Authority staff reports for June 2022. Gale Reish seconded same, and the Board unanimously passed by those present.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

1. Richard Owen and Michael Hanyak participated via zoom.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. The Interagency Agreement is with the Snyder County PHA for review and approval. They will not be holding a Board meeting in July.
  
2. Gale Reish made a motion to approve taking the Agreement for Services with Rural Housing Works off the table. Matt Schumacher seconded same, and the Board unanimously passed by those present.
  
3. Gale Reish made a motion to approve putting the Agreement for Services with Rural Housing Works back on the table. Matt Schumacher seconded same, and the Board unanimously passed by those present.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Sharon Leon, *Executive Director* | Martin & Lobos, *Solicitor* | Allyson Weaver, *Secretary*  
**AUTHORITY MEMBERS:** Thomas Beck, *Chairperson* | Dr. W. Gale Reish, *Vice-Chairperson*  
Diane Meixell, *Treasurer* | Matt Schumacher | Gina Melone



1. Gale Reish made a motion to approve Housing Choice Voucher Payment Standards. Diane Meixell seconded same, and the Board unanimously passed by those present.
  - a. HUD allowed Housing Authorities to submit a waiver to increase Payment Standards to 120% of the Fair Market Rents through the end of December 2022. This is an effort to increase utilization of the Housing Choice Program vouchers.
2. Gale Reish made a motion to approve a HOME 8 grant application. Matt Schumacher seconded same, and the Board unanimously passed by those present.
  - a. This is an Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation Grant through the county with administration by the Housing Authority. We are currently utilizing HOME 7 grant funds, which will end by May of 2023.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

1. An All-Staff Meeting will be held July 21, 2022. All offices will be closed from 11:30am to 4:00pm for staff training.
2. The Housing Authority has won an Award of Merit from the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials. This award recognizes the implantation and success of the Healthy Hands and Healthy Homes program, funded by a grant with Union County CARES funds. The program assisted 123 families at five housing sites with COVID supplies and education to help them stay safe and healthy during the pandemic. Additionally, food pantries were started at 3 sites, which include Penn Commons, Meadow View Apartments and the Community Services Center. Congratulations and thanks to all of the staff at the Union County Housing Authority!

**ADJOURNMENT:**

1. Gale Reish made a motion to adjourn.

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Allyson Weaver, Secretary