



**ROCK COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY**  
**Monday, February 1, 2010 - 8:30 A.M.**  
**P & D Conference Room 270**  
**Second Floor, East Wing**  
**Rock County Courthouse**  
**Janesville, WI**

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Brian Christianson called the meeting to order at 8:45 A.M, after confirming that notices of the meeting have been published.

**Members Present:** Chair Brian Christianson, Anda O'Connell, Jackie Wood; Vice Chair Billy Bob Grahn, Anna Marie Johnson

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Members Present:** David Somppi, Neale Thompson

**Staff Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** None

2. **Adoption of Agenda:** Motion to approve agenda for meeting of February 1, 2010, by Com'r. Grahn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Com'r. O'Connell. Motion carried.

3. **Minutes of Annual Meeting from November 9, 2009.** Motion to approve the annual meeting minutes of that meeting from November 9, 2009, by Com'r. Wood, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Com'r. O'Connell. Motion approved.

4. **Minutes of meeting from December 7, 2009.** Motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of the monthly meeting from December 7, 2009, by Com'r. Grahn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Com'r. Wood. Motion approved.

5. **Secretary's Report:** Mr. Somppi reported that the staff of the Planning Department has completed the basic accounting for 2009 so it is ready to move into the new year. Secondly, the staff is prepared to close on 3 projects of the Hazard Mitigation "Flood Buyout" program, although there are 3 more projects in other stages of development. Two projects are in Fulton Township and one is in Rock Township. After purchase, Rock County will own the land and various committees will determine the disposition of the property. After discussion of this program, Com'r. Grahn made a motion, seconded by Chair Christianson, for the staff to prepare a draft of suggestions and recommendations from the RCHA to convey to the County regarding the future use of these purchased properties. Thirdly, the staff and Com'r. Grahn participated in the Rock County Homeless Count on January 27, 2010. The effort had 118 volunteers (up from 63 last year) that included students from Beloit College and Parker High School. It was discussed how most shelters, except for Janesville's GIFT program, serve family units with children. Numerical results from the count will be forwarded to the committee. Vice Chair Grahn noted the new development of squatters in the many foreclosed houses and vacant apartments. Com'r. O'Connell confirmed this activity. Finally, staff will meet later this morning with the state and other government and agency representatives regarding a new Lead Hazard Reduction (LHR) Program that covers Rock and Dane counties. It is focused on families with children under six that live in older housing.

6. **Rock County HOME Activities:** This area was included in the above discussion.

7. **Review of Loan Request - #06071:** After correcting the location of this project as the City of Beloit and discussion of this Home Purchase Assistance Loan in the Merrill neighborhood in cooperation with

Community Action, the board supported this \$5,000 0% interest home purchase assistance loan. Com'r. Wood made the motion that was seconded by Com'r. Grahn. The motion passed.

8. **Review of Loan Request - #6072:** After discussion of this Home Rehab loan in the Town of Beloit, the board supported this \$6,500 0% interest home loan. Chair Christianson made the motion that was seconded by Com'r. O'Connell. The motion passed.

Potential Conflict of Interest - **None**

9. **Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements:** Chair Christianson noted that he was working with John Ramstad and the Beloit Daily News to gain a story and good publicity about the homes in the Merrill Project that the RCHA is supporting. Com'r. Wood reported that she now has an email address that she checks on Fridays and asked about the new home construction by the Southeastern Wisconsin Housing Corporation that had a cover story in the Janesville Messenger. Mr. Thompson noted that this Department of Agriculture housing program had to be in rural areas and required a large amount of sweat equity (30 hours per week for 28 weeks) that is different from Habitat for Humanity. Dave Somppi reported that the 2009 HOME Consortium had approximately \$60,000 left to spend. Com'r Grahn opened a discussion about the City of Beloit apartment buildings where evictions occurred just before Christmas and all the violations and fines levied against the absentee owner from Chicago. He planned to put forth a Rock County Board Resolution to authorize agencies to be able to do something about this situation and also the potential closing of a trailer park in Orfordville. Chair Christianson reported that, thanks to some phone calls from Com'r Wood, he is now on the Board of Directors for the Beloit Snappers.

10. **Set Date for Next Meeting:** Next meeting date was set for Monday, March 8, 2010 at the County Planning Department.

112. **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by Com'r. Grahn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Chair Christianson. The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Neale Thompson, Assistant Secretary

(Planning\Housing Specialist\HA Meetings\Minutes\Minutes-02-01-10)

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