



ROCK COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY
Monday, August 2, 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 8:40 A.M, after confirming that notices of the meeting have been published.

Members Present: Chair Brian Christianson, Vice Chair Billy Bob Grahn, Anda O'Connell, Jackie Wood

Members Absent: Anna Marie Johnson

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 August 2, 2010, by Com'r. Grahn, 2nd by Com'r. Wood. Motion carried.

3. **Minutes of Meeting from March 29, 2010.** Because Chair Christianson and Com'r. Grahn were not at the last meeting, they could not participate. Motion to approve the minutes of the meeting from May 3, 2010, by Com'r. Wood, 2nd by Com'r. O'Connell. Motion passed, unless it had to be held over to the next meeting if a quorum of members present is needed to pass the minutes.

4. **Secretary's Report:** Mr. Somppi reported about the status of all the programs implemented by the staff. **HOME Program** – As of today, the 2010 allocation for these HOME Consortium funds have not been released by the Federal government. After the three projects of this meeting are approved, the funding will be down to about \$18,000. Expenditures will be rationed for the near future. Last year's funding was \$108,316 less administration of 10%. **HMG Hazard Mitigation Grant** – The County Board is set to approve the final two flood buyout projects at the August 12th meeting. The flooding recently has raised further worries and complicated the demolition of some properties. One house has concrete pylons that raise additional DNR (Dept. of Natural Resources) regulations. All projects are expected to be done by December 31st. **CDBG-EAP Program** has received about \$1.545 million as an amendment for additional flood repair projects and three local government flood projects, such as storm water and sewage work. These funds are to be used this year and in 2011. **CDBG Small Cities** – New grants have been awarded from this funding source to the City of Edgerton (\$650,000) and Rock County (\$650,000) for rehab loans and selected demolition as needed. These large grants could add up to 60 new jobs in the future that will require a new LTE (Limited Term Employee) position and hopefully an intern to help accomplish the work load. The commissioners applauded this new funding with an official "Yea" from Com'r. Grahn. Director Paul Benjamin added that there are many issues for the RCHA to tackle and wondered how the members weighed such issues. Chair Christianson mentioned that the Action Plan gets renewed every year, but they have basically stayed the same. Director Benjamin mentioned the Comp Plan or Comprehensive Plan looking to 2035 that is available to the members of the RCHA. Chair Christianson said that the RCHA has been doing a few good things and is settled into doing them well. Com'r Grahn said they have big visions that often have to be set aside given the limited funding. Paul Benjamin hoped that the RCHA along

with the Rock County Planning Department could work for long-term cooperation between the County and the Cities of Janesville and Beloit. Other Programs – Staff attended the area’s Summer Homeless Count recently that went well but did have fewer volunteers because students are off for the summer. Com’r. Grahn suggested that the new funding could help the homeless find housing and maybe home ownership. Mr. Somppi said the new funding did not identify any specific projects but hopefully could help this sector of the local population. The group discussed the expenditures of up to \$26,000 in societal costs for 3 months for a homeless person (jail, emergency room, legal, services). Com’r. Wood noted that a women’s mural was planned for the courthouse and that she had heard about a Fort Collins, Colorado plan to eliminate homelessness. It was explained that every locality has a ten-year plan to end the problem.

The RCHA annual 2011 budget on an attached sheet was explained and discussed. Com’r. Grahn made the motion to approve the budget, seconded by Com’r Wood. The motion passed.

5. **Review of Loan Request - #06076 CO:** After discussion of this Change Order for a Home Rehab loan in the Town of Lima, the board supported the increase to a \$14,165 0% interest deferred home loan. Com’r. Wood made the motion that was seconded by Com’r. O’Connell. The motion passed.
6. **Review of Loan Request - #06078 D-1:** After discussion of this Home Rehab loan in the Village of Orfordville, the board supported this well and septic system \$16,567 0% interest deferred home loan Com’r. Wood made the motion that was seconded by Com’r. O’Connell. The motion passed.
7. **Review of Loan Request - #06079 D-1:** After discussion of this Home Rehab loan in the Town of Spring Valley, the board supported this \$5,865 0% interest deferred home loan. Com’r. Grahn made the motion that was seconded by Com’r. O’Connell. The motion passed.

Potential Conflict of Interest - **None**

8. **Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements:** Mr. Thompson informed the members about the new City of Janesville Home Energy Assessment program for residents with houses older than 1970. Information was distributed about the House Tour of the 4th Ward scheduled for Sunday, August 29, 2010. Com’r. Wood talked about the “Yard/Garden of the Month” promoted by the Neighborhood Action Team (NAT) covering the 4th Ward and the Look West neighborhood.
9. **Set Date for Next Meeting:** Next meeting date was set for Monday, September 13, 2010, hopefully in Edgerton at 9:00 am. Mr. Somppi to arrange and notify the committee.
10. **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by Com’r. Grahn, 2nd by Chair Christianson. The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Neale Thompson, Assistant Secretary

(Planning\Housing Specialist\HA Meetings\Minutes\Minutes-08-02-10)

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