

Pine Bluff Urban Renewal Agency
Regular Board Meeting
December 15, 2020

The Pine Bluff Urban Renewal Agency (PBURA) held its regular monthly meeting on December 15, 2020, 5:30pm., at the Donald W. Reynolds Community Services Center.

The following commissioners were in attendance:

Jimmy Dill, Chair
Rita Conley, Vice Chair
Lloyd Franklin, Sr., Treasurer
Travis Martin
Kirby Mouser, Secretary

Commissioners absent:

None

Other in attendance:

Maurice Taggart, Executive Director
Chandra Griffin, Recorder
Leigh Cockrum
Ryan Watley
Chris Rittenhouse
E. Colvin, Press
S. B. Mays Jr.
Steven Mays Sr.
Glen Brown Sr.
Mayor Washington
Mr. Ezieme
Donald Hatchett

Chairman Dill called the meeting to order.

Motion made and seconded to approve the minutes for November 17, 2020 meeting. Motion was APPROVED.

Executive Director made a request to add two items to the agenda.

1. Request to partner with the city and PBHA for affordable housing project and to transfer resources.
2. Request to approve additional funds for blight properties in urban renewal area.

Commissioner Franklin made a MOTION to accept agenda with additional items. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mouser and was APPROVED.

Commissioner Franklin reviewed October 2020 financial statement.

Commissioner Mouser made a MOTION to approve October 2020 financial statement as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Martin and was APPROVED.

Commissioner Franklin tabled November 2020 financial statement.

Executive Director Taggart presented change order for 316 Main St. Storefront Glass System. The existing system was to remain and be reglazed. After further evaluating the existing system can not be used and it is recommended to install a new glass system.

Commissioner Conley made a MOTION to accept the changed order as presented. The MOTION was seconded by Commissioner Martin and was APPROVED.

Executive Director Taggart presented Christmas bonuses for URA staff which consist of 3 full time and 2 part time employees. The 3 fulltime have been with URA for all of 2019 and the 2-part time are both less than 3 months. Fulltime to receive \$1,000 net, part time \$250 net after taxes.

Commissioner Martin made the MOTION to approve Christmas bonuses as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Conley and was APPROVED.

Executive Director Taggart presented the 2021 Operational Plan. Agency is in good standing.

Commissioner Franklin made a MOTION to table 2021 Operational Plan for further evaluation by the Commissioners. The motion was seconded by Conley and was TABLED.

Executive Director Taggart presented request to partner with the city and PBHA for affordable housing project and to transfer resources. The floor was yielded to Mayor Washington for further input. The request of \$60,000-\$70,000 for soft cost to begin the affordable housing project at potential site location on Ohio street. This is URA area and is a needed housing development in the heart of the city and PBHA will manage.

Commissioner Franklin made the MOTION to approve URA partnership. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Martin and was APPROVED.

Executive Director Taggart presented additional resources for blight property and the floor was yielded to Mayor Washington. The Mayor presented an opportunity to purchase a blight property on E. Harding and the fact the price has dropped significantly. Mayor also gave her vision for the that property.

Commissioner Franklin made a motion to give Executive Director Taggart authorization to enter into a contract to purchase the property. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Martin and was APPROVED.

Executive Director Taggart presented executive report.

*Downtown housing project for private housing has stalled and the board needs to make a decision on how to move forward. Developer has two bank approvals but no other steps has to taken to move forward.

Commissioner Mouser made a MOTION to resend the notice of intent and a vote of no confidence be issued to the developer. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Martin. The motion passed with majority vote and one NO.

Public Comments:

Chairman Dill thank all in attendance to the meeting and asked each if they would like to speak and some did speak.

Commissioner Conley made a motion to ADJORN. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Martin and it was APPROVED.

/s/ Chandra Griffin
Chandra Griffin
Recorder

/s/ Wm. Kirby Mouser
W. Kirby Mouser
Secretary