

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

September 26, 2023

Chairman, Glenn Yeager called the meeting of the Board of the Redevelopment Authority of the County of Berks to order at 4:30 P.M. on September 26, 2023, 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 Chair
Diodato Bassano, Treasurer
Jorge Diaz, Assistant Secretary/Assistant Treasurer
Thomas Ruth, Secretary - Absent

Also in attendance were:

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

2. **Reading and approval of minutes of the meeting of August 22, 2023:**

Upon motion made by Glenn Yeager and seconded by Diodato Bassano, all members of the Board present voted to approve the August 22, 2023 minutes of the Board.

3. **Report of Treasurer:**

Diodato Bassano presented the Profit & Loss Statement and the Balance Sheet as of August 31, 2023. Mr. Bassano also presented the Statement of Activities from January 2023 through August 2023. A copy of the report is attached to these Minutes. Upon motion by Glenn Yeager and seconded by Eileen Kastura, all Board members present voted to accept the report of the Treasurer, including said Profit & Loss Statement and Balance Sheet, subject to audit.

4. **Bills and Communications:**

Diodato Bassano presented the list of payments to creditors representing the period of August 24, 2023 through September 26, 2023. A copy of the report is attached to these Minutes. Upon motion by Jorge Diaz and seconded by Diodato Bassano, all Board members present voted to approve and/or ratify the list of payments to creditors.

There were no communications.

5. **Reports of Committees:**

There were no committee reports presented.

6. **Unfinished Business:**

a) **Rentals (Susan)**

- a. Susan Buono advised there were no new updates on the rental properties at this time and all maintenance issues have been addressed by Ethan Giorgio.

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

- a. We still meet every week with our consultant regarding the National Environmental Protection Act documents. We also meet on a regular basis with the US Department of Transportation. Mr. Pick advised that we are looking at potentially closing on the two grants and loans in spring 2025.

c) **Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP).**

- a. Kyre Maxwell reported the following statistics since the August 22nd Board meeting: there are 0 applications in progress, 0 applications submitted, 0 applications under review, 3 pending financial review, 1 pending application info, 64 are in payment status with BCRA, 5 are in payment status with BCEH. Total assistance ended is 3,451.

- d) **Armorcast.** Mr. Pick reported that we have signed the settlement and made the payment. The next step will be to prepare documents and to catalog the railroad station as a historical structure.

- e) **Whole Homes Repair Program (WHRP).** Tyler Reese advised the Board of the following:
 - a. The county has 8 completed projects, 34 ongoing. Habitat for Humanity has 8 ongoing projects and 0 completed. Mr. Reese reported that the current total cost of repairs as of 9/22/23 is \$336,897.46. There have been 104 denials with the majority due to lack of documentation. Habitat for Humanity has had 17 denied because of cost overruns.

- f) **Major Systems Program.** Tyler Reese reported the following statistics to the Board: There are 8 ongoing projects. We are not accepting applications at this time. To date, the total cost of repairs is \$320,813.22.

7. **New Business:**

- a. **Agreement #1** A motion was made by Glenn Yeager and seconded by Jorge Diaz to approve Agreement with Berks Coalition to End Homelessness providing \$50,000.00 from the County's Act 137 fund.

- b. **Amendment #1** A motion was made by Diodato Bassano and seconded by Eileen Kastura to approve the Amendment to Funding Agreement with RACC providing any additional \$150,000 from the CDBG Program.

- c. **Amendment # 2** A motion was made by Jorge Diaz and seconded by Eileen Kastura to approve the Amendment to Funding Agreement with RACC providing an additional \$2m from the CDBG Program.

8. **Executive Session:** The Board entered into executive session at 5:00 p.m.

9. **Adjournment:**

There being no further business of this Authority, the Board a motion was made by Glenn Yeager to adjourn the meeting of this Authority. The motion was seconded by Diodato Bassano and all members of this Authority present voted in the affirmative. The next meeting of the Board will be on November 14, 2023. This meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.



Glenn A. Yeager, Chairman