City of Manistee Housing Commission Special Meeting Minutes May 10, 2010

The Special Meeting of the City of Manistee Housing Commission was held on Monday, May 10, 2010 in the Conference Room at the City of Manistee Housing Commission administrative office. The meeting was called to order by President Dale Priester at 4:05pm.

Members Present: President Dale Priester, Vice-President Doug Parkes, Treasurer Elbert Purdom, Commissioner Donna Korzeniewski and Commissioner Harvey Good.

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Clinton Mckinven-Copus, Executive Director/Commission Secretary, and Brandon Jensen, Deputy Director

Discussion Items

<u>Financial Report of the Housing Commission by Treasurer Purdom and Commission Secretary McKinven-Copus.</u>

Elbert reported that we recently received a new financial statement from our current fee accountants. This financial statement shows many found errors that were not matching the year end back reconciliation. There are also signs of incorrect figures again being produced by our fee accountant in many other accounts that show on the balance sheet. El questioned the capabilities of the fee accountants to produce a trustworthy statement since we have not received an accurate financial statement for over a year. Donna and Dale asked about the operating procedures of the CMHC staff and the effect that this has on the accounting. Clinton responded by stating that all items produced in house are correct and the errors are occurring on the accounting side after it leaves the CMHC office when it is in the fee accountant's hands, or in the software system, being Tenmast. El continued by reporting that over \$212,000.00 has been spent over the past 5 years on new software, updates, staff training and fee accountants. The board agreed that is an inexcusable amount of funding spent in these areas and asked if there was a way to lower this figure. Clinton explained that our previous fee accountant, Darrin Vieth of Housing Authority Account Specialists, has already been contacted and has been brought up to speed on our accounting errors that have occurred because of our current fee accountant. Clinton went on to explain the past correspondence with our current fee accountant, Rector, Lindsay and Reeder regarding the apparent fee accounting errors. Clinton and El both agreed that there is an obvious loss of confidence in our current fee accountants and alternative options need to be seriously explored. Doug made the motion to engage in contractual negotiations and contract with Housing Authority Account Specialists, Darrin Veith. Donna seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. Motion Carried.

Clinton continued by stating that the software has also been a major problem in the accounting errors that have occurred. Clinton also stated that it is his recommendation that we merge back to Housing Data Systems (HDS) to manage our tenant accounting systems. He has received preliminary cost estimates and they are far lower in cost as compared to Yardi or Tenmast.

Doug made the motion to engage in contractual negotiations and contract with Housing

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Data Systems to supply and maintain our tenant accounting software. Donna seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. Motion Carried.

Donna made the motion to adjourn at 4:46pm. Elbert Seconded. All voted in favor. Motion Carried.

Dale Priester

President

Clinton McKinven-Copus

Executive Director/Commission Secretary