

STATE OF CONNECTICUT HEALTH AND EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES AUTHORITY

Minutes  
Grant Committee Meeting  
May 17, 2017

The Grant Committee of the Board of the Directors of the State of Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority met in session at the office of the Authority at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 17, 2017.

The Meeting was called to order by Dr. Estela Lopez, Committee Chair, at 12:00 noon, and upon roll call, those present and absent were as follows:

PRESENT: Dr. Estela Lopez, Committee Chair  
Dr. Peter Lisi, Board Chair  
Sarah K. Sanders (Rep. for Denise Nappier)<sup>1</sup>

ABSENT: Patrick Colangelo  
Barbara Lindsay

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESENT: John Biancamano  
Robert Dakers<sup>2</sup>  
Elizabeth Hammer  
Barbara Rubin  
Mark Varholak<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Ms. Sanders attended the meeting via conference telephone that permitted all parties to hear each other.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Dakers joined the meeting at 12:26 p.m.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Varholak joined the meeting at 12:25 p.m.

ALSO PRESENT: Jeanette W. Weldon, Executive Director  
 Denise Aguilera, General Counsel  
 Dan Kurowski, Financial Analyst  
 Eileen MacDonald, Senior Transaction Specialist  
 JoAnne Mackewicz, Controller  
 Michael Morris, Managing Director  
 Kathy Owens, Administrative Assistant  
 Cynthia Peoples, Managing Director  
 Debra M. Pinney, Manager, Administrative Services  
 Betty Sugerma Weintraub, Grant Program Manager  
 David Wasch, Legislative Liaison/ECE Program Specialist  
 of Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. Lopez requested a motion to approve the April 19, 2017 Grant Committee minutes. Dr. Lisi moved to approve the minutes and Ms. Sanders seconded the motion.

Upon roll call, the “Ayes,” “Nays,” and “Abstentions” were as follows:

#### AYES

Dr. Peter Lisi

#### NAYS

None

#### ABSTENTIONS

Dr. Estela Lopez<sup>4</sup>  
 Sarah Sanders<sup>5</sup>

### NONPROFIT GRANT PROGRAM UPDATE

Dr. Lopez opened the meeting by pointing out that grant recommendations for the FY 2017 Nonprofit Grant Program would not be reviewed. She stated that Ms. Weldon would be sharing with the Committee the latest developments concerning the State and the Nonprofit Grant Program.

Ms. Weldon stated that she received an email message forwarded by Bob Dakers from Kerry Kelley of the Budget Division of the Office of Policy and Management. In that message, Ms. Kelley requested that Ms. Weldon suspend action on grant awards for the FY 2017 Nonprofit Grant Program because the State would be sweeping as part of its deficit mitigation plan for FY 2017 the \$875,000 that CHEFA previously budgeted for this purpose. Ms. Weldon discussed this matter further by phone with Ms. Kelley and Mr. Dakers.

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<sup>4</sup> Dr. Lopez was not present at the April 19, 2017 Grant Committee Meeting.

<sup>5</sup> Ms. Sanders was not present at the April 19, 2017 Grant Committee Meeting.

Ms. Weldon reported that the feedback she received from Ms. Kelley was generally supportive of CHEFA's grant programs but Ms. Kelley indicated that the circumstances made the sweep unavoidable. Ms. Weldon stated that Ms. Kelley acknowledged that this would be a disappointment for the CHEFA staff involved in reviewing and recommending grants. . .A discussion ensued.

Ms. Rubin expressed her disappointment at the suspension of the Nonprofit Grant Program. Further discussion ensued.

Dr. Lopez expressed optimism for the future of the programs and added that Ms. Weintraub has suggested that the Grant Committee look forward and considers the grant programs in the context of CHEFA's strategic plan.

Ms. Weintraub reported that Ms. Weldon has drafted a letter to the nonprofit applicants for the FY 2017 Nonprofit Grant Program. This letter will be emailed, at the conclusion of the board meeting to each of the 44 grant applicants to apprise them of the current grant program status. Further discussion ensued.

Dr. Lisi asked Ms. Weldon if it was clear that the State would be sweeping funds for the Nonprofit Grant Program for the FY 2017 cycle. Ms. Weldon stated that it was clear that the sweep pertained to FY 2017 non-profit grant program dollars and CHEFA was being asked to suspend action on those awards. .

Ms. Sanders added that she believes most people are very supportive of the CHEFA Grant Programs. The Committee agreed to meet in September to discuss the program's future efforts and strategic focus.

Dr. Lopez requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Lisi moved to adjourn; Ms. Sanders seconded the motion.

Upon roll call, the "Ayes," "Nays," and "Abstentions" were as follows:

**AYES**

Dr. Estela Lopez  
Dr. Peter Lisi  
Sarah Sanders

**NAYS**

None

**ABSTENTIONS**

None

The meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Estela Lopez, Committee Chair