

STATE OF CONNECTICUT HEALTH AND EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES AUTHORITY

Special Audit-Finance Committee Meeting

Minutes

March 19, 2019

The Audit-Finance Committee of the Board of Directors of the State of Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority met in session on Wednesday, March 19, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.

The special meeting was called to order by Mr. Mark Varholak, Committee Chair, at 2:02 p.m. and, upon roll call, those present and absent were as follows:

PRESENT: Mark Varholak, Chair<sup>1</sup>  
Michael Angelini<sup>2</sup>  
Peter Lisi, Board Chair<sup>3</sup>  
Barbara Rubin<sup>4</sup>

ALSO PRESENT: Jeanette W. Weldon, Executive Director  
Denise Aguilera, General Counsel  
JoAnne Mackewicz, Controller  
Cynthia D. Peoples-H., Managing Director  
Kelli Petrone, Administrative Assistant  
Gwen Willingham, Administrative Assistant

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<sup>1</sup> Mr. Varholak participated in the meeting via conference telephone that permitted all parties to hear each other.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Angelini participated in the meeting via conference telephone that permitted all parties to hear each other.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Lisi participated in the meeting via conference telephone that permitted all parties to hear each other.

<sup>4</sup> Ms. Rubin participated in the meeting via conference telephone that permitted all parties to hear each other.

## **APPROVAL OF INDEPENDENT AUDIT FIRM**

Mr. Varholak stated that the special meeting was called to review the additional information that was requested at the February 20<sup>th</sup> Audit-Finance Committee meeting. Mr. Varholak stated that the Committee had asked Ms. Peoples to solicit additional information on fees from two of the respondents to the RFP, Blum Shapiro and CohnReznick, for services to be provided to the Community Development Corporation (CDC), which had not been initially requested in the RFP.

Ms. Peoples provided a memo to the Committee which outlined the additional fees in the addendums provided by CohnReznick and Blum Shapiro. She informed the Committee that the fees provided are not to exceed amounts for the CHEFA CDC audit and tax services for the Fiscal Years Ending 2019, 2020 and 2021. Ms. Peoples indicated that based on the initial response and with the new information provided, management continues to recommend CohnReznick as the independent auditor for another three-year term.

Mr. Varholak asked what CohnReznick's proposed audit fees were for the next three years, excluding the CDC fees. Ms. Peoples indicated that the fees (\$89,900 for year 1, \$92,450 for year 2 and \$94,900 in year 3), are in line with the Authority's current fees.

Mr. Varholak asked if Ms. Peoples had solicited the feedback of the CDC consultant with regard to the CDC audit fees. Ms. Peoples stated that the CDE consultant considered the fees reasonable for the services to be provided.

Mr. Varholak asked for a motion to approve management's recommendation to reappoint CohnReznick as CHEFA's auditor for the next three years. Mr. Lisi moved to approve the motion and Ms. Rubin seconded.

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

**AYES**

Michael Angelini  
Peter Lisi  
Barbara Rubin  
Mark Varholak

**NAYS**

None

**ABSTENTIONS**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Varholak thanked everyone for their time and requested a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Mr. Angelini moved to adjourn. Ms. Rubin seconded the motion.

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

**AYES**

Michael Angelini  
Peter Lisi  
Barbara Rubin  
Mark Varholak

**NAYS**

None

**ABSTENTIONS**

None

The meeting adjourned at 2:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanette W. Weldon  
Executive Director