Approved: June 18, 2025

# STATE OF CONNECTICUT HEALTH AND EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES AUTHORITY Minutes of Special Audit-Finance Committee Meeting February 19, 2025

The Audit-Finance Committee of the State of Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority held a special meeting via videoconference and in-person on Wednesday, February 19, 2025.

The special hybrid meeting was called to order by Mr. Peter Lisi, Board Chair, at 12:05 p.m. and, upon roll call, those present and absent were as follows:

PRESENT:

Michael Angelini

Peter W. Lisi, Board Chair Susan Martin, Committee Chair<sup>1</sup>

Sarah Sanders (Designee for CT State Treasurer Erick Russell)

ABSENT:

Lawrence Davis

Mark Varholak

ALSO, PRESENT:

Jeanette W. Weldon, Executive Director

Denise Aguilera, General Counsel

Charles Bodie, Managing Director of Finance and Operations

Jessica Carducci, Administrative Services Assistant Michael F. Morris, Managing Director, Client Services

JoAnne Mackewicz, Controller

Julia Pollano, Operations Reporting Analyst<sup>2</sup> Kara Stuart, Manager of Administrative Services

of the Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority

**INVITED GUESTS:** 

Katharine Balukas, Senior Manager, BerryDunn

Alan Goodwin, Manager, BerryDunn

Omar Jarrar, Senior Consultant, BerryDunn<sup>3</sup> Thomas Goldfuss, Partner, Whittlesey<sup>4</sup> Nicole Pelletier, Manager, Whittlesey<sup>5</sup>

Lisa Wills, Partner, Whittlesey<sup>6</sup>
Justin Leroux, Partner, AAFCPA<sup>7</sup>
Andrew Puricelli, Partner, AAFCPA<sup>8</sup>

# **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Lisi requested a motion to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2024 meeting of the Audit-Finance Committee. Mr. Angelini moved for approval of the minutes, which was seconded by Ms. Sanders.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Ms. Martin participated in the meeting via teleconference that permitted all parties to hear each other.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Ms. Pollano participated in the meeting via teleconference that permitted all parties to hear each other.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Mr. Jarrar participated in the meeting via teleconference that permitted all parties to hear each other.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Mr. Goldfuss participated in the meeting via teleconference that permitted all parties to hear each other.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Ms. Pelletier participated in the meeting via teleconference that permitted all parties to hear each other.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Ms. Wills participated in the meeting via teleconference that permitted all parties to hear each other.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Mr. Leroux participated in the meeting via teleconference that permitted all parties to hear each other.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Mr. Puricelli participated in the meeting via teleconference that permitted all parties to hear each other.

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Upon a voice vote, the "Ayes," "Nays" and "Abstentions" were as follows:

AYES
Peter W. Lisi

None

ABSTENTIONS
None
None

Michael Angelini Sarah Sanders

Ms. Martin joined the special hybrid meeting at 12:12 p.m.

### INTERNAL AUDIT TESTING RESULTS

Mr. Bodie introduced Ms. Katharine Balukas and Mr. Alan Goodwin of BerryDunn. Ms. Balukas and Mr. Goodwin gave a presentation on the third quarter of the 2025 internal audit results for the review of Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable/Billing, and Investments. The following was reported:

- Accounts Payable
  - Previous low and medium risk recommendations have been resolved or partially resolved, there are no current recommendations, and an adequate rating was given for the process.
- Accounts Receivable and Billing
  - Previous medium risk recommendation has been partially resolved, there are no current recommendations, and an adequate rating was given for the process.
- Investments
  - No previous or current recommendations, and a strong rating was given for the process.

Ms. Balukas stated that the fourth quarter of the 2025 internal audit results will be presented at the June 18 Audit-Finance Committee meeting and will cover Capital Assets & Capital Expenditure Approval, Account Reconciliations, and Internal and External Reporting. The floor was opened to questions and a brief discussion ensued.

Mr. Lisi thanked BerryDunn for their efforts and report. Ms. Balukas and Mr. Goodwin left the special hybrid meeting at 12:29 p.m.

#### STATE AUDIT RESULTS

Mr. Bodie reported that the Authority's state audit will be released next week, and we received a clean audit report for FY 2022 and 2023. Mr. Bodie thanked the team for all of their hard work throughout the state audit process.

# EXECUTIVE SESSION: CONSIDERATION OF RESPONSES TO INDEPENDENT AUDITOR RFP AND INTERVIEWS OF TWO RESPONDENTS

Mr. Lisi requested a motion to go into Executive Session at 12:32 p.m. to discuss responses to the Independent Auditor RFP and interviews of two respondents. Mr. Angelini moved to go into Executive Session and Mr. Lisi seconded the motion.

Upon a voice vote, the "Ayes," "Nays" and "Abstentions" were as follows:

AYES NAYS ABSTENTIONS

Peter W. Lisi None None

Michael Angelini Susan Martin

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### Sarah Sanders

At 12:33 p.m., all Staff members and meeting attendees left the special hybrid meeting so that only those invited to the Executive Session (all Board members, Ms. Aguilera, Mr. Bodie, Ms. Mackewicz, Mr. Morris, and Ms. Weldon) were present.

Mr. Goldfuss, Ms. Pelletier and Ms. Wills joined the Executive Session at 12:39 p.m. and left at 12:56 p.m. Mr. Leroux and Mr. Puricelli joined the Executive Session at 12:57 p.m. and left at 1:18 p.m.

All Staff members and meeting attendees returned to the special hybrid meeting at 1:22 p.m. No votes were taken during Executive Session.

### **APPOINTMENT: INDEPENDENT AUDITOR**

Mr. Lisi requested a motion to approve Whittlesey as Independent Auditor for a period of three years. Mr. Angelini moved for approval, which was seconded by Ms. Sanders.

Upon a voice vote, the "Ayes," "Nays" and "Abstentions" were as follows:

AYES

NAYS None

**ABSTENTIONS** 

None

Peter W. Lisi Michael Angelini Susan Martin Sarah Sanders

## <u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

There being no further business, Mr. Angelini moved to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Lisi seconded the motion.

The special hybrid meeting adjourned at 1:24 p.m.

W. a Kldon

Respectfully submitted.

Jeanette W. Weldon Executive Director