

FINAL -- Draft Posted August 20, 2021

VHFA Board of Commissioners Meeting

Vermont Housing Finance Agency
164 St. Paul Street, Burlington, Vermont
August 18, 2021

VHFA Board Members Present:

Commissioners: Katie Stuart-Buckley (Chair), Lamont Barnett, Gus Seelig, Jill Rickard (designee for Michael Pieciak), Tom Leavitt, Fred Baser, Josh Hanford (designee for Lindsay Kurrle) and Michael Clasen (designee for Beth Pearce) (all attended by electronic means).

Staff Present:

Maura Collins, Chris Flannery, George Demas, Alejandro Flores-Howland (all attended by electronic means, except Mr. Demas who was at VHFA's offices)

Guests:

Rebecca Johnson (Speridian); Scott D'Aniello (Reframe); Greg Amatto (Reframe); Debra Starbuck (ProLink); Seth Klaskin (Reframe); Liam Cranley

BOARD MEETING

Ms. Stuart-Buckley called the Board meeting to order at 11:32 a.m.

Staff confirmed that a Notice of this meeting was provided to the requesting parties and was posted on the Agency website and with State Department of Libraries, and that the Agenda for this meeting was provided to the requesting parties and posted on the Agency website, all within the statutory time requirements.

Staff confirmed that Minutes to all prior meetings had been posted on the Agency website not less than 5 days after the meetings as required.

Ms. Stuart-Buckley asked if anyone had any changes to the Agenda and there were none.

Ms. Stuart-Buckley confirmed that the Commissioners attending by electronic means could hear the conduct of the meeting and be heard throughout the meeting by the other attendees. Ms. Stuart-Buckley noted that Commissioners would have to vote by roll-call since there were Commissioners participating by electronic means.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Stuart-Buckley opened the meeting to public comment, and there were none.

HOMEOWNER ASSISTANCE FUND

Mr. Demas reviewed his memo regarding the development of the Vermont Homeowner Assistance Program. Mr. Demas reviewed the proposed HAF Plan that described the program and benefits, the contract with the State of Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development pursuant to which the Agency would be receiving funding for the program. Finally, he reviewed the Master Services Agreement and Statement of Work with Speridian Technologies, LLC to develop and website and management system for and provide program

management for the HAF program. Mr. Demas noted that the HAF Plan would be subject to a final public review meeting on Thursday August 19 and then was expected to be submitted to the US Treasury for final review and approval on August 20. He noted that the US Treasury could require changes to the program and that Board approval for the program should allow flexibility for any required changes to be made.

The Commissioners engaged in a general discussion that included the HAF Plan and the contracts regarding whether various budgeted amounts would ultimately reflect the actual need and the scope for adjustment of the program in the future. Additionally, the Commissioners discussed with Staff the RFP process that led to the choice of Speridian and the Staff's criteria for its final choice was discussed as well as the importance of adding a program for home repair if funds become available for that use in future.


Mr. Seelig then moved that the Commissioners approve the HAF Plan, the State Grant Agreement and the Speridian contract, and authorize the Executive Director, the Chief Financial Officer and the General Counsel, or any one of them, to make such amendments or modifications to any of those documents, and to enter into any other agreements, as they may determine to be reasonably necessary for the successful development, management and operation of the Vermont Homeowner Assistance Program. Mr. Barnett seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote, except that Mr. Hanford limited his approval to the HAF Plan and the Speridian contract, and recused himself as to the State Grant Agreement.

Ms. Stuart-Buckley confirmed with Staff that Minutes of the meeting had been kept and would be posted to the Agency's website within five days.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion made by Mr. Leavitt seconded by Mr. Hanford, and unanimously approved by roll call vote, the meeting was adjourned at 12:14 p.m.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the Minutes of the Vermont Housing Finance Agency Board of Commissioners meeting held on August 18, 2021. The Minutes were approved at a lawful meeting of the Commissioners held on August 30, 2021.



Maura Collins
Executive Director and Secretary
Vermont Housing Finance Agency