AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
   A. Regular Meeting Minutes, April 19, 2012
   B. Executive Session Minutes, April 19, 2012

III. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

   Public testimony on any item relevant to this agenda shall be taken at this time. Pursuant to section 92-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and section 17-2000-18, Hawaii Administrative Rules, the Board may limit public testimony to three minutes.

IV. FOR ACTION
   A. Motion: To Adopt Board Resolution No. 56 Authorizing the Executive Director to Execute an Inter-Governmental Agreement and all Necessary Documents with the Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority (AMHA) for the Section 8 Performance Based Administrator Program (PBCA)

V. REPORTS
   A. Board Task Force Reports on Redevelopment at Mayor Wright Homes
   B. Executive Director’s Report:

      Updates and Accomplishments Related to Public Housing Occupancy, Maintenance Repairs; Design and Construction Project Updates; Media Inquiries, Contracts & Procurements Executed During April 2012; Rent Collections and Evictions.
VI. FOR DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

A. For Information:  *Kolio, et al v. State of Hawaii, Hawaii Public Housing Authority Denise Wise in Her Official Capacity As Executive Director* (Civil Case No. CV11-00266 and Civil No. 11-1-0795)

The Board may go into executive session pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes sections 92-4 and 92-5(a)(4) to consult with the Board’s attorneys on questions and issues pertaining to the Board’s powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities as related to *Kolio, et al v. State of Hawaii, Hawaii Public Housing Authority; Denise Wise In Her Official Capacity As Executive Director* (Civil Case No. CV11-00266 and Civil No. 11-1-0795)

B. For Information:  Utility Allowances for Fiscal Year 2012 – 2013

C. For Discussion:  Discussion with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development on Vacant Units and Sustainability Plan for the Hawaii Public Housing Authority

If any person requires special needs (i.e., large print, taped materials, sign language interpreter, etc.) please call Ms. Taryn Chikamori at (808) 832-4690 by close of business two days prior to the meeting date. Meals will be served to the Board and support staff as an integral part of the meeting.
The Board of Directors of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority met for their Regular Board Meeting at 1002 North School Street, on Thursday, May 17, 2012 at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson David Gierlach and on roll call, those present were as follows:

**PRESENT:**
- Director David Gierlach, Chairperson
- Director Roger Godfrey
- Director Desiree Kihano
- Director Patricia McManaman
- Director Debbie Shimizu
- Director Travis Thompson
- Director George Yokoyama

  Executive Director, Hakim Ouansafi
  Deputy Attorney General, Jennifer Sugita

**EXCUSED:**
- Director Matilda Yoshioka, Vice-Chair
- Director Jason Espero, Secretary
- Director Trevor Tokishi

**STAFF PRESENT:**
- Barbara Arashiro, Executive Assistant
- Rochelle Akamine, Resident Services Program Specialist
- Clarence Allen, Acting Chief Financial Management Advisor
- Nicholas Birck, Chief Planner
- Daniel Carona, Property Management Specialist
- Becky Choi, State Housing Development Administrator
- Diane Johns, Property Management Specialist
- Joanna Renken, Acting Public Housing Supervisor
- Rick Sogawa, Contracts and Procurement Officer
- Taryn Chikamori, Secretary to the Board

**OTHERS:**
- Kenneth Asahan, private Resident
- Jerry Ballard, Punchbowl Homes Resident
- Ira Calkins, Punchbowl Homes Resident
Proceedings:

Chairperson Gierlach declared a quorum present.

The business of the Board proceeded with approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of April 19, 2012.

**Director Kihano moved to approve the minutes.**

The minutes were unanimously approved.

Chairperson Gierlach deferred the approval of the Executive Session Meeting Minutes until later in the meeting.

**Public Testimony**

Kenneth Asahan, private resident, stated there is a Section 8 tenant living next to him who is blatantly abusing the Section 8 voucher, and has a restraining order against the tenant. He stated he has made numerous calls to Norhana Schumacher and Ms. Schumacher has not returned his calls. He also reported he has brought the matter to the attention of Stephanie Fo but has not called her yet. He reported that United States Housing Act 1937 supports self sufficiency, not to enhance their lavish life styles.

Chairperson Gierlach informed Mr. Asahan that his concern will be turned over to the Attorney General’s (AG’s) office to confirm what authority the agency has over a Section 8 tenant.

Fetu Kolio, Mayor Wright Homes Resident, stated that in March and April the tenant association had a meeting and a service provider created chaos. The Honolulu Police Department (HPD) had to be called. He stated service providers should not interfere with the meeting.

Jerry Ballad, Punchbowl Homes Resident, stated that he feels there should be honor and respect to those in authority whether a tenant agrees or disagrees with management. He feels that residents should work side by side with management and not against management. He
understands that being a manager is a difficult job and he appreciates what he has because public housing residents receive benefits unlike those who are not in public housing.

Augafa Ene, Mayor Wright Homes Resident, stated he would like to thank the Board and staff for all that they have done. He also stated he feels that a service provider should not come to the tenant association meeting and control the meeting.

**Director McManaman arrived at 9:32 a.m.**

Ira Calkins, Punchbowl Homes Resident, stated that Ms. Fo quoted from the rental agreement “Not make any alterations or additions to the dwelling unit, including the installation of any additional locks, bolts, screws or other fixtures, or any decorations therein which shall damage or deface the doors, windows, or floors with obtaining Management’s prior written consent;”. He stated Ms. Fo’s quote applies to the inside of the unit. He stated that he requested to be provided the rule that states that tenants are not allowed to post anything outside of the unit.

Matthew Taufetee, Peacemakers, stated that management attended the Mayor Wright Homes (MWH) tenant association meeting but because two gentlemen did not follow the rules and were disruptive, HPD had to be called. He stated that the MWH tenant association is getting out of control. There was a physical altercation between one of the gentlemen and an elderly man where they had to be separated. Mr. Taufetee noted that the meeting minutes will reflect what occurred.

Todd Comellison, Punchbowl Homes Resident, stated that residents should get managers approval for election materials candidates want posted. He also stated that he did not tear down Nancy Schroeder’s signs, even though TAPS claimed he did. He stated that Bob Loren filed a harassment charge against him because he was taking pictures of his dogs off their leash to show management as proof.

Monique Ocampo, Nanakuli Homes Resident, President of the Nanakuli Tenant Association, and RAB Chairperson, urged the Governor to veto HR 77 and HR 102. Regarding smoking on public housing property, she stated that the research material provided by Senator Chun Oakland is not accurate. She asked, “How can 71% of people support no smoking in public housing but only a small percentage supports no smoking in a car when a child is present?”

**For Action:**

Director Thompson moved,

To Adopt Board Resolution No. 56 Authorizing the Executive Director to Execute an Inter-Governmental Agreement and all Necessary Documents with the Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority (AMHA) for the Section 8 Performance Based Administrator Program (PBCA).
Mr. Ouansafi reported that since 2004, Bremerton managed the Section 8 vouchers on behalf of the HPHA. Bremerton offered to provide its services again, and proposed that it could pay HPHA $200,000. The HPHA also negotiated with another housing agency – Akron Housing Authority – which has a 100 point rating. Akron offered to pay the HPHA $250,000 the negotiations also included a complete audit of the Section 8 program.

Director Thompson asked what the procurement process was. Mr. Ouansafi reported that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) issued and RFP. There were several agencies that approached the HPHA. Some bid $70,000 while others were troubled agencies. It came down to Bremerton and Akron. Akron does consulting for HUD. This will be an inter-agency agreement.

Director Shimizu asked if there are any evaluations on Bremerton. Mr. Ouansafi reported that Burmington was performing and there were no major issues, but that Bremerton does not have the expertise to provide the services the HPHA is looking for and Akron would be paying the HPHA $50,000 more.

Director Shimizu asked how long the contract with Akron will be. Mr. Ouansafi reported that the contract will be a two year agreement.

Director Thompson asked what additional work Akron will be providing. Mr. Ouansafi asked to go into executive session because the contract is still being finalized. Director Thompson withdrew his question.

The motion was unanimously carried.
RESOLUTION NO. 56
HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY
STATE OF HAWAII

TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE AN INTER-GOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT AND ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS WITH THE AKRON METROPOLITAN HOUSING AUTHORITY (AMHA) FOR THE SECTION 8 PERFORMANCE BASED CONTRACT ADMINISTRATOR (PBCA) PROGRAM

WHEREAS, pursuant to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development’s ("HUD") Notice of Fund Availability ("NOFA") issued on March 15, 2012, for the Section 8 PBCA to commence on December 1, 2012 with available funding for two years;

WHEREAS, under the NOFA all Public Housing Agencies ("PHA’s") are required to re-compete and apply to the HUD to be the Program Administrator for their respective Section 8 program, by June 11, 2012;

WHEREAS, AMHA has proposed to administer the HPHA’s Section 8 PBCA program, to assist HPHA in its PBCA application to HUD and to provide other consultant services for HPHA’s Section 8 program, provided that the HPHA is awarded the Section 8 PBCA by HUD and is designated the Program Administrator for the State of Hawaii;

WHEREAS, any compensation to AMHA will be derived from the Earned Management fees authorized by the HUD, but in no event more than 2% of the Section 8 multi-family budget allocated to the HPHA by the HUD, beginning December 1, 2012;

WHEREAS, AMHA guarantees the HPHA $250,000 per annum paid monthly from the HUD administrative fee proceeds received and 50% of the earned incentive fee in the I-IDD PBCA Section 8 program, based on a bid of 2% and an award and payment by the HUD of the same percentage;

WHEREAS, the HPHA is willing to accept AMHA’s offer and to execute an Inter Governmental Agreement, which is exempt from the Procurement Code, and all necessary documents with AMHA, to delegate the Section 8 Program Administration to AMHA, beginning December 1, 2012;

WHEREAS, if approved, AMHA has also proposed that it will retain as a subcontractor, Summit Multifamily Housing Corporation, D & A RFS MS8 LLC also known as Multifamily Asset Managers to assist with the scope of work;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Executive Director is hereby authorized to enter into and execute an Inter Governmental Agreement with AMHA and all necessary documents to allow AMHA to qualify for and administer the HPHA’s Section 8 PBCA pursuant to the March 15, 2012 HUD NOFA;

AND, NOW BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Executive Director is directed to assure that if AMHA subcontracts any of the scope of work for which it was retained, any of AMHA’s contractors or subcontractors be qualified and comply with all applicable Federal and State of Hawaii laws, rules and regulations, including but not limited to tax clearances and corporate establishment.

The UNDERSIGNED, hereby certifies that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the Directors of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority on May 17, 2012 in Honolulu, Hawaii.

DAVID L. GIERACH
CHAIRPERSON
Reports:

**Board Task Force Reports:** Chairperson Gierlach deferred the Mayor Wright Task Force report.

**Executive Director’s Report:**

Mr. Ouansafi complimented the staff for all the hard work. Properties are inspected at all times of the day and night and stated that there has been great improvements but the HPHA has a long way to go. Mr. Ouansafi reported the two major problems are the financials and vacant units. The HPHA has a handle on the financials and is focusing on the vacant units.

Mr. Ouansafi reported that the HPHA has reached out to the Army Corp of Engineers, the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) and the Corrections Department. DAGS will have about 9 staff members working on weekends to help fix vacant units. The Corrections Department has 5 teams with 10 people on each team. They have completed four units at Mayor Wright Homes (MWH).

Mr. Ouansafi reported that the HPHA is also conducting mass certification. The HPHA also approved overtime for staff and certifications will also be held on Saturdays or after hours.

Mr. Ouansafi reported that there is a backlog on transfers. He reported that the HPHA had 120 transfers in past 5 months. There has been a temporary stop to transfers except for reasonable accommodations or what is required by law.

Mr. Ouansafi reported that the HPHA has about $16 million from 2007 and 2008 that has not been spent. The HPHA may lose some of the funds, but is working with DAGS to retain some of the funds. HPHA and DAGS will be discussing this matter with their respective deputies at the AG’s office.

1. Mr. Ouansafi reported that for the Institute for Human Services (IHS) anniversary, IHS has selected the HPHA as the agency to team up with. IHS will help the HPHA reach out to the community to help get units rent ready.

Mr. Ouansafi reported that Maui was supposed to have 20 units ready in August, but the HPHA was informed that the units will be ready even earlier - in July. There will be four units under modernization and eight units will be under a contract shortly.

Mr. Ouansafi reported that the HPHA hired a manager for Kauai who will be starting next month.

Mr. Ouansafi reported that the HPHA’s weakness is on the neighbor islands, and the HPHA is addressing the issue. A bill that passed the Legislature which exempts the HPHA from civil service will help the HPHA will this problem, and the HPHA will be hiring 70-80 people to work
on units for as long as they are needed. Once the units are rent ready, the HPHA should generate approximately $3.7 million from the federal government.

Director Thompson stated that Maui always has about 40-45 vacant units. Mr. Ouansafi reported that there is currently 37 vacant units in Maui, five units are being repaired by HPHA staff, 20 are already under contract, four will be under modernization and eight will be under contract shortly.

Director Yokoyama asked about the status of the Big Island housing and Lanikila. Mr. Ouansafi reported that the HPHA is waiting on the official letter from HUD to confirm that there will be no penalties assessed if the HPHA “un-demolishes” the units at Lanikila. He reported that staff has scoped the work that needs to be completed at Lanikila. The HPHA is also working on a public private partnership to build elderly friendly buildings.

Director Yokoyama stated that he is concerned that when he or State Senators ask the asset management project (AMP) managers questions, the response is that they can’t give the information out. Mr. Ouansafi reported that staff has been instructed not to release information and that all requests from Board members, the Legislature, or media needs to be communicated from the Executive Director’s office.

Director Godfrey asked when the occupancy rate will go up since the units that are rent ready are going up. Mr. Ouansafi responded that all but 11 rent ready units are occupied. The HPHA has started mass certification and as soon as units are rent ready they will be occupied. The mass certification will certify 200-300 families and have them ready to be placed as soon as a unit is ready.

Mr. Ouansafi reported that the HPHA has cut the turnaround time from 280 days to 40 days. The HPHA’s goal is to have the turnaround time down to two weeks. In the past the HPHA would wait for a unit to be rent ready before certifying a family, and this has now changed.

Mr. Ouansafi reported that in the last five months the HPHA moved 146 families in and transferred 120 families.

Director Thompson stated he looked at private sector management vs. public housing management and private sector management’s turnaround time is two days whereas public management is 40 days, and that it is possible to cut the turnaround time down. Mr. Ouansafi stated that he agrees but public management has other issues that private management does not have and private sector management manages about 140 units where public housing managers currently manage about 720 units.

Mr. Ouansafi reported the HPHA will be hiring 19 new staff members, four will be property managers, four will be assistant managers, and the remainder will be plumbers and electricians.

Mr. Ouansafi reported that if the smoking ban is signed by the Governor, it will take effect July 1, 2012. Management will not be able to enforce the bill. There is also concern about
lawsuits. The HPHA has met with the Department of Human Services (DHS) and Tobacco Free Hawaii to help create a program.

Director McManaman stated that the public testimony at the Legislature was very compelling and there was little opposition from public housing tenants. She asked that if the bill is vetoed, the HPHA make creating a program a high priority. Mr. Ouansafi reported that the HPHA has made creating the program a high priority.

Director McManaman stated that Hawaii prisons are smoke-free.

Director Yokoyama reported he believes that the HPHA should create designated smoking areas.

Chairperson Gierlach called for a recess at 10:15 a.m. and reconvened at 10:25 a.m.

Chairperson Gierlach reported that the Senate has honored the HPHA with a recognition for providing outstanding service to the people of Hawaii for the “I have a Dream Project.”

Director Thompson stated that there are 491 people delinquent on rent and the HPHA has only evicted 35 families. Mr. Ouansafi reported that the Legislature passed a bill allowing the HPHA to streamline the process and use the federal rules. The HPHA has also started a task force to help notify tenants as soon as they become past due. The HPHA has a payment plan with families and has reduced the debt by $2 million.

Director Thompson asked that a column be added for the people on payment plans.

Mr. Ouansafi reported that the HPHA will be writing off $2.4 million in debt for families that vacated public housing.

Director McManaman asked what the total is in uncollected rent. Mr. Ouansafi reported $2.4 million in vacated tenants and $1.2 in non-vacated tenants.

Chairperson Gierlach stated that tenants pay 30% of their income and sometimes their income fluctuates, and that the HPHA needs to come up with a system that adjusts families’ rent quicker.

Director McManaman asked what is being done to collect the rent from tenants who have already been evicted. Mr. Ouansafi responded that the HPHA has a collection agency and also asked the AG’s office to use tax intercept.

Director McManaman asked what is preventing someone who left owing the HPHA money from reapplying. Mr. Ouansafi reported that they are not allowed to reapply.

Director Thompson asked if the Board needs to approve the write-offs. Mr. Ouansafi responded no because the AG’s office approves the write offs.
Director Godfrey moved at 10:36 a.m.

Motion: To go into Executive Session pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes sections 92-4 and 92-5(a)(4) to consult with the Board’s attorneys on questions and issues pertaining to the Board’s powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities as related to:

1. Approval of Executive Session Minutes of April 19, 2012;

2. For Information: Kolio, et al v. State of Hawaii, Hawaii Public Housing Authority; Denise Wise In Her Official Capacity As Executive Director (Civil Case No. CV11-00266 and Civil No. 11-1-0795);

The motion was unanimously carried.

The Board reconvened from Executive Session at 11:00 a.m.

Chairperson Gierlach reported that the Board approved the April 19, 2012 executive session minutes and received an update from its attorney on the Kolio case.

For Information:

Discussion with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development on Vacant Units and Sustainability Plan for the Hawaii Public Housing Authority

Michael Flores of HUD stated that he last reported to the Board of Directors at the January 19, 2012 meeting. During that meeting, Mr. Flores discussed the public housing assessment system (PHAS) with the Board. Mr. Flores noted that the PHAS covers three items. First is occupancy which is a priority for the administration and the HPHA. HUD feels that every unit is important and every unit should be filled. HUD has been providing Mr. Ouansafi with a weekly progress report of the occupied units. According to HUD, the HPHA has a 91.94% occupancy rate. Mr. Flores reported that the numbers will not add up because there are also 626 units in demolition status. After Kuhio Park Terrace’s (KPT) renovation is completed there will only be 347 public housing units. The HPHA staff is working on inputting all the information. KPT and Kuhio Homes have 748 units combined. Kuhio Homes has 134 units and the remaining units are the high rise towers and low rise. Michaels Development has the high rise towers. There are 17 units being demolished which leaves about 555 units. Of the 555 units, there will be 347 public housing units, 150 will be project based voucher units, and 58 tax credit units. These changes will need to be inputted into the system.

Mr. Flores stated that in March, the HPHA went from 429 vacant units to 310 units that could be occupied.
Mr. Ouansafi stated that the HPHA has certain information that needs to be entered into the Public and Indian Housing Information Center (PIC) system, and the HPHA is experiencing problems in inputting some of the information. The HPHA is working with a contractor on figuring out the errors on the PIC system and correcting them. Mr. Flores stated that HUD uses the PIC system information to provide the HPHA with funding, determining the occupancy rate, etc.

Chairperson Gierlach asked if the staff is confident that the HPHA is above 93% for its occupancy rate. Mr. Ouansafi responded that he thinks the HPHA is about 97%, and is working on having HPHA’s figures match HUD’s calculations and figures.

Mr. Flores stated that although the HPHA received a passing score in 2010, it was considered substandard due its scores in the physical and financial areas. Because the HPHA was substandard in these two areas, the HPHA is considered as a troubled agency by HUD. Mr. Flores noted that because the 2011 score is different because the scoring system changed, and that the new 2011 scores were recently released to the HPHA.

Mr. Flores stated that the new PHAS scoring system started in January, and on February 17, 2012, the HPHA received its PHAS score for 2011. The HPHA received 29 out of 40 for the physical area. The HPHA also passed on its unaudited financial statement. The score might change after the audit is audited. The HPHA is considered substandard on management as the HPHA received a score of 14 out of 25.

Chairperson Gierlach asked about the time period for the PHAS scores. Mr. Flores responded that the period ended on June 30, 2011.

Director Shimizu asked about the capital fund scoring. Mr. Flores responded that the capital fund is divided into two parts, and each is worth five points, and reflects how the HPHA spends funds and its occupancy.

Mr. Flores explained that previously, the management score was based on the self-certification by the Public Housing Agencies, but with the new system, the score is based on information from the HPHA’s financial statements.

Mr. Flores stated that there are three parts for the management scoring: occupancy, tenant account receivables, and accounts payable. The two troubled areas are occupancy and account receivables, resulting in the HPHA being designated substandard. HUD is currently developing a national recovery agreement template. Once the template is developed, the HPHA and HUD will be entering into a Recovery Agreement.

Ms. Sugita asked if the recovery agreement will supersede the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), Improvement Plan and the Corrective Action Order (CAO). Mr. Flores responded that the Improvement Plan and the MOA have been extinguished. The CAO remains in place.
Ms. Sugita asked if the CAO was amended and if the HUD can provide documentation of the amendment. Mr. Flores responded the HUD will look at how the amendment was made and provide the HPHA with documentation.

Mr. Flores stated that the HPHA needs to fully utilize the funding and the funds in the net restricted asset (NRA) for the Housing Choice Voucher Program. Mr. Flores explained that NRA contains the remaining funds that are not used from the previous year.

Mr. Flores explained that because the HPHA had a NRA balance of $1.8 million last year, the HPHA received $1.8 million less this year. He also stated that this is the trend with the Housing Choice Voucher programs across the nation.

Mr. Flores stated that as of February, the HPHA is utilizing 71.6% of its NRA. The goal is for HPHA to be as close to 100% by the end of the calendar year to avoid another offset of funding for the following year.

Mr. Flores reported that the HPHA should use a HUD computer system tool that allows the HPHA to plug in numbers and figure out many vouchers the HPHA needs to issue to be at 100% utilization by the end of the year.

Mr. Ouansafi reported that the HPHA is now in the 93% range and the HPHA just did a mass certification of 150 vouchers and should be at 97% or 98%. He also stated that Hawaii does not issue as many vouchers as other states because the rent in Hawaii is so high.

Mr. Flores stated before 2004, the funding for the vouchers was done differently by HUD. Before 2004, if the HPHA was not using 100% of the vouchers, it would not receive funding for all of the vouchers. HUD changed this system, and the HPHA is no longer penalized for not using all of its vouchers. Currently, the HPHA is entitled to about 3000 vouchers, but the HPHA is being funded for about 1800.

Director McManaman stated that the HPHA should look into getting a law passed that requires landlords to accept Housing Choice Vouchers.

Mr. Ouansafi reported that the HPHA contracted an outside agency to conduct a study on the utility allowance and published the report in the newspapers statewide for public comment.

With no further business for the Board to conduct,

**Director Godfrey moved to adjourn,**

The motion was unanimously carried.

The meeting adjourned at 11:35 p.m.

**MINUTES CERTIFICATION**
For Discussion:

Discussion with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development on Vacant Units and Sustainability Plan for the Hawaii Public Housing Authority

Mr. Ouansafi reported that the HPHA contracted an outside agency to conduct a study on the utility allowance and published the report in the newspapers statewide for public comment.

With no further business for the Board to conduct,

    Director Godfrey moved to adjourn,

    The motion was unanimously carried.

The meeting adjourned at 11:35 p.m.

MINUTES CERTIFICATION

Minutes Prepared by:

[Signature]
Taryn T. Chikamori
Secretary to the Board

Approved by the Hawaii Public Housing Authority Board of Directors at their Regular Meeting on JUN 21 2012.

[Signature]
Jason Espero
Director/Board Secretary

[Signature]
Date
JUN 21 2012