



## Board Meeting Minutes

May 24, 2023  
Fayetteville, Arkansas

**Board Members Participating:** Chris Page, Billy Hix, Donna Kay Yeargan, Max Sprinkle, Salomon Torres. Debby Warren participating via Zoom

**Staff Members Participating:** Kim Griffey, Debra Williams, Ines Polonius. Audra Butler participated via Zoom.

8:30 Call to Order

**Approval of Minutes** from meeting on March 24, 2023. Billy Hix moved to approve the minutes. Donna Kay Yeargan seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**Board Resolution** for Loan for \$250,000 from the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word. Salomon Torres moved to enter the resolution in the minutes. Dominique Gomez seconded the motion. The resolution was passed unanimously.

**Financial Report** for YTD FY 2023 through March 31, 2023. The CFO reviewed the dashboard and the financial statements with the board drawing their attention to the amount of Deferred Revenue and reminding them of our request for a fixed indirect rate that has not yet been approved. Billy Hix moved to accept the financial report as presented. Salomon Torres seconded the motion. The financial reports were accepted unanimously.

**Lending Report:** In Bryn Bagwell's absence, Debra Williams, Senior Economic Development Officer, delivered the lending report. She explained that interest rates were raised to 7% on water/wastewater loans which reduced demand and forced us to lower them back to 6%. Donna Kay Yeargan moved to accept report. Max second. Unanimous.

**Review of Ends Policies:** The board discussed the Ends Policies. Ines will incorporate new language and take statement to the OLT for their input. Ends Policies will be presented at September meeting for a vote.

**Housing Update** was provided by Audra Butler, Area Director for Housing. She educated the board on the new CU community housing assessment and plan. She provided an update on WE Build in Pine Bluff, AR setting up for the manufacturing of volumetric, modular homes.

Dominique Gomez educated the board and staff on HUD upgrading its requirements around the energy burden of the house. Audra discussed BC Workshop's green design standards used for MiCasita/WE Build homes. Dominique further educated the board on the opportunities through the Green House Gas Reduction Fund and the Climate Pollution Reduction grants.

Audra than informed the board that NeighborWorks had opened up their affiliate application process and will select 5 new members. Board composition requirements are aspirational but don't take it so literally. They may require the addition of board members representative of low income individuals in our footprint.

**NeighborWorks Resolution:** – Billy Hix moved to approve the board resolution required for application and authorized staff to continue the application process. Donna Kay seconded the motion. The resolution was approved unanimously.

**Upcoming CDFI Re-Certification Process:** The CEO discussed the new requirements of board composition for the CDFI re-certification.

**Strategy Discussion:** CU Board Composition. CEO will set up spreadsheet for advisory board and board members.

Board discussed expectations for the Organizational Consultant so CEO can provide guidance.

#### **Policy Monitoring by CEO**

- General Limitations
- Consumer Treatment – Chair reported that we are
- Staff Treatment

**Non-Compliance:** CEO reported that one program director did not complete consumer treatment form nor staff treatment form prior to board meeting. Update: Director of Lending submitted both forms upon her return from vacation.

Donna Kay Yeargan moved to accept the monitoring report. Dominique Gomez seconded the motion. The monitoring report was accepted unanimously. Unanimous.

#### **Monitoring of Policies by Board**

- Board Members' Code of Conduct -
- Unity of Control
- Global Governance Commitment
- Governing Style
- Board Job Description

The board monitored its policies. It asked that reflections on the board process and performance be added to the next board agenda.

#### **CEO Updates:**

- Legal Complaint: Elizabeth Lilly, et.al. vs Barton-Lexa Water Assoc, Phillips County Sewer, CU dismissed in June 2023.
- DEI Team formed under leadership of LaKetter Cannon. Call themselves the Change Agents.
- Review of progress on Operations Plan
- Board inquired about CU's role in helping communities transition to green energy economy.

Confirming board meetings for 2023

- Planning for September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – Zoom
- November 1st to 3rd, 2023 – Montgomery, site visit and meeting.
- Discussion: One or two site visits per year

2:56 p.m.      Board meeting adjourned

DocuSigned by:



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9/8/2023

Billy Hix

CU Board Secretary/Treasurer