

**School District of the City of Muskegon Heights**  
**Receivership Transition Advisory Board Meeting**

Wednesday, August 19, 2020  
Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Meeting

**MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order**

- a. Chair Jessica Thomas called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

- a. Members Present: 5
  - 1. Jessica Thomas
  - 2. Patrice Johnson
  - 3. Clinton Todd
  - 4. John Schrier – Arrived at 4:09 p.m.
  - 5. Dale Nesbary
- b. Members Absent: None.
- c. Governor Whitmer’s Executive Order 2020-154 provides authorization of remote participation in public meetings and hearings in accordance with the Opening Meetings Act (OMA). A quorum was present.

**3. Approval of RTAB Minutes**

- a. Motion by Mr. Todd to approve the draft minutes. Motion moved and seconded by Dr. Nesbary. The RTAB approved the July 15, 2020 meeting minutes.

**4. Old Business – None.**

**5. New Business**

**a. District Updates**

- 1. Mr. Lewis provided an overview of the August reports aligning with the monthly financial report.

**b. August 19, 2020 Monthly Reports**

- 1. Liabilities Report
  - a. Mr. Lewis reported no changes from the prior report.
- 2. Cash Flow Projections
  - a. Mr. Lewis reported cash is stable for the district and stated that he expects no major delays in receiving tax revenues. He also informed the city that he is willing to obtain any debt service checks in person due to the postal service delays. Mr. Lewis also noted the cash flow accounts for a per pupil decrease and will know a better impact on the authorizer fees in the near future. The district is on track with meeting all debt obligations.

3. Comparison of Budgeted Revenue and Expenditure to Actual
  - a. Mr. Lewis provided an overview on FY 2019-20. The district will be receiving higher tax revenues than what was stated on the final budget amendment. The board of education costs will be higher than what projected due to a service payment by Middle Cities Risk Management Trust. Mr. Lewis provided a brief overview on FY 2020-21. The district projects general fund revenues of \$1,351,270, general fund expenditures of \$1,235,870, and general fund balance of \$603,824.
- c. PSA Board Appointments
  1. Chair Thomas stated that the District made a request to the RTAB regarding the removal of the Muskegon Heights Public School Academy System Board and the Academy has also made a request to the RTAB to appoint a candidate to the Academy Board. Chair Thomas opened this matter up for discussion to the RTAB to define and develop a process regarding the appointments.
  2. Board President Scott presented to the RTAB how the District concluded to remove the PSA Board members.
  3. Discussions on how the district board defines the qualifications of candidates to sit on the board.
  4. Discussion on potential candidate interviews.
  5. Request for a legal opinion from counsel about the validity of removing the entire board vs. appointing members.
  6. Discussion to consider the existing board members as candidates.
  7. Discussion on the authority of the RTAB and if this should be a local decision or an RTAB decision.
  8. Request was made for both Board Presidents to attempt to resolve the matter locally
  9. Next Steps:
    1. Obtain a legal opinion
    2. Create a packet of all PSA and District candidates for RTAB consideration if required.
    3. Request for the District and the PSA to provide additional data if desired for RTAB consideration.

## **6. Public Comment**

- a. Rané Garcia, Superintendent, Muskegon Heights Public School Academy System
- b. Garland Kilgore, Board President, Muskegon Heights Public School Academy System
- c. Kimberly Sims, Resident of Muskegon Heights
- d. Trinell Scott, Board President, Muskegon Heights Public Schools
- e. Joseph Urban, Attorney for Muskegon Heights Public School Academy System, Clark Hill PLC
- f. Christopher Dean, Secretary, Muskegon Heights Public School Academy System
- g. Joe Moore, Resident of Muskegon Heights
- h. Renell Cooper, Resident of Muskegon Heights
- i. Brianna Scott, Attorney for Muskegon Heights School District, Brianna T Scott Associates, PLLC

**7. Board Comment**

- a. Dr. Nesbary expressed gratitude to the school district, public school academy, and public for providing more context regarding the PSA board appointments. He reiterated that upon review, the RTAB will make an informed decision.

**8. Adjournment**

- a. There being no further business, Chair Jessica Thomas adjourned this meeting at 5:22 p.m.