



City of Milwaukee

P.O. Box 324
Milwaukee, WI 53201-0324

Meeting Minutes

HOUSING AUTHORITY EXECUTIVE SEARCH COMMITTEE

CHARLOTTE HAYSLETT, CHAIR

Karen Goetzler, Vice Chair

Michelle Bryant, Pstr. Willie Davis and Betty Newton

Friday, January 16, 2026

3:00 PM

Hillside Family Resource Center
1452 N. Seventh St., Milwaukee WI 53205

The mission of the Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee (HACM) is to foster strong, resilient and inclusive communities by providing a continuum of high-quality housing options that support self-sufficiency, good quality of life, and the opportunity to thrive.

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 3:04 p.m.

Roll Call

Present 5 - Gotzler, Hayslett, Bryant, Newton, Davis

1. [R13718](#) Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the HACM Executive Search Committee Held on January 6th, 2026

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Attachments: [January 6, 2026 HACM Exec Search Cmte Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

A motion was made Betty Newton and seconded by Vice Chair Gotzler that this Motion be Approved. This motion PREVAILED by Voice Vote

2. [R13719](#) Discussion Regarding Rating and Ranking of Candidates and Possible Determination of Additional Candidates for an Initial Interview or Recommendation of Candidates for the Consideration of the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Patricia Dee, HACM's Administrative Services Supervisor, explained that the Closed Session and Resolution on the agenda were included in case the Board would choose, as the discussion unfolds during Item #2, R13719, to utilize them. The Committee could take up one, both or neither, as they see fit as the discussion proceeds.

There was some initial discussion amongst the Committee regarding what the Committee Members wanted to hear from each other and to accomplish at today's meeting. It was decided that the Committee would go into Closed Session.

After the end of the closed session and the continuation of Item #2, R13719, members came to a consensus that they would retain the two candidates that they had previous put forward to the HACM Board of Commissioners, but felt they should provide additional options to the Board that the Committee was also comfortable putting forward. The discussion about numbers and the specific candidates to recommend to the HACM Board of Commissioners is included in Item #3, R13720.

The Board may receive a motion to convene in closed session to evaluate applicants for the position of Secretary-Executive Director of the Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee, pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(c) Wis. Stats. to consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. The Board will then reconvene in open session concerning any such item following the closed session.

3. [R13720](#)

Resolution Approving a Recommendation of Secretary-Executive Director Candidates for the Consideration of the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

After agreeing, during the discussion of Item #2, R13719, that the Committee did want to select and recommend candidates to the HACM Board of Commissioners at this meeting, there was discussion amongst the members about the number, and identity, of the candidates to include. They could not come to a unanimous agreement, but most members felt that moving forward all five candidates interviewed would be the best course of action, as they presented a varied set of skills for the Board's consideration and there had been consensus when the Committee selected those five candidates for further exploration via the Committee's interviews. One Committee Member preferred to just put forward three candidates.

The resolution was amended to 1) insert the names of Berdie Cowser, Harold Ince, Keon Jackson, Ralph Jordan and Rick Toney into the paragraph listing the candidates to be brought forward to the HACM Board, and 2) to add a Further Resolved clause "FURTHER RESOLVED, that HACM's Executive Search Committee hereby withdraws Resolution File Number R13705, approved January 6, 2026, which contains certain recommendations made to the Board that the Board has yet to formally receive and accept, and replaces the recommendations in that resolution with the recommendations made herein; and, be it".

A motion was made by Karen Gotzler and seconded by Michell Bryant that this Resolution be AMENDED. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 4 - Gotzler, Hayslett, Bryant, and Davis

No 1 - Newton

A motion was made by Karen Gotzler, seconded by Pastor Willie Davis, that this Housing Authority Resolution be ADOPTED. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 4 - Gotzler, Hayslett, Bryant, and Davis

No 1 - Newton

4. [R13721](#)

Schedule Next Meeting of HACM's Executive Search Committee

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

The Committee Members decided they would hold off on scheduling a future meeting at this time. For now, they will wait and see if the Board might request further action from the Committee. As the rest of the process unfolds with the HACM Board, individual Committee Members said they may decide to attend some of the suggested public meetings.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Commissioner Bryant made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:34 p.m. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion carried.

Minutes prepared by Patricia Dee.

Upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of persons with disabilities through sign language interpreter or auxiliary aids. For additional information or to request this service, contact the Housing Authority ADA Coordinator at 286-5824, (FAX) 286-0833, (TDD) 286-3504 or by writing to the Coordinator at PO Box 324, Milwaukee, WI 53201-0324.

Be hereby notified that three (3) members of the Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee Board of Commissioners or the Crucible, Inc. Board of Directors may be present at the meeting of the HACM Executive Search Committee, as some members serve on both boards. While quorum of the HACM Board or Crucible, Inc. Board may be present at the HACM Executive Search Committee meeting, they will not exercise the responsibilities, authority, or duties vested in the HACM Board of Commissioners or the Crucible, Inc. Board of Directors.

In the event that Common Council members who are not members of this committee attend this meeting, this meeting may also simultaneously constitute a meeting of the Common Council or any of the following committees: Community and Economic Development, Finance and Personnel, Judiciary and Legislation, Licenses, Public Safety and Health, Public Works, Zoning, Neighborhoods & Development, and/or Steering and Rules. Whether a simultaneous meeting is occurring depends on whether the presence of one or more of the Common Council member results in a quorum of the Common Council or any of the above committees, and, if there is a quorum of another committee, whether any agenda items listed above involve matters within that committee's realm of authority. In the event that a simultaneous meeting is occurring, no action other than information gathering will be taken at the simultaneous meeting.

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