



June 24, 2019

Agenda Item 1

REPORT TO THE COMMISSIONERS

FROM: Sharmarke Issa, Board Chair

SUBJECT: Appointment of Interim Executive Director / CEO

Previous Directives: On November 16, 2016, this Board appointed Gregory P. Russ to the position of Executive Director and principal operating administrator of the Agency, effective February 17, 2017.

Resident Council Review/Recommendation: This Report will be discussed with the Resident Advisory Board (RAB) immediately prior to the Board's July 8, 2019 meeting.

Budget Impact: N/A

Affirmative Action Compliance: N/A

Procurement Review: N/A

RECOMMENDATION: Pursuant to its authority under Section 420.90(1), Minneapolis Code of Ordinances, it is recommended that the Board of Commissioners appoint Tracey Scott as the Agency's Interim Executive Director and principal operating administrator, effective August 3, 2019, subject to confirmation by the Minneapolis City Council. It is further recommended that, upon Ms. Scott's appointment and confirmation, the Board of Commissioners authorize the Board's Chair to establish the terms and conditions of the Interim Executive Director's employment.

Background

Gregory P. Russ was appointed Agency Executive Director and principal operating administrator, effective February 17, 2017. On June 19, 2019, Mr. Russ notified the Board of his resignation, having found opportunity elsewhere. His anticipated last day as MPHA Executive Director is August 2, 2019. I thank Mr. Russ for his service and wish him all the best in his future endeavor.

Given Mr. Russ' departure date and in the interest of continuity of governing authority and operations, it is necessary to appoint an Interim Executive Director; for service during the search, selection, recommendation and appointment of a permanent¹ Executive Director. MPHA will retain an executive search services firm to conduct the search for a new Executive Director. It is anticipated this process will take approximately four (4) months.

Recommendation:

Ms. Scott joined MPHA on August 14, 2017 as Deputy Executive Director after a nine-year tenure at the Atlanta Housing Authority. She has served as Acting Executive Director on several occasions during her tenure with MPHA. She has, through her roles as both Acting and Deputy Executive Directors, exhibited knowledge of the industry, and as importantly, competency and capabilities in all areas of MPHA operations. Most notably, her work with both MPHA staff and community partners played a critical role in the successful opening of Minnehaha Townhomes, a 16-unit townhome project dedicated to families experiencing persistent homelessness. She is a worthy and suitable choice for Interim Executive Director.

Ms. Scott's resumé is attached to this Report for your review and consideration.

This Report was prepared by Lisa R. Griebel, General Counsel. For further information, please contact Ms. Griebel at (612) 342-1395 or lgriebel@mplspha.org.

¹ Not to imply permanent employment. The Executive Director serves at the pleasure of the Board.