



Meeting Date: 11/18/2008

ACTION	TYPE OF ITEM
<input type="checkbox"/> Approved Recommendation	<input type="checkbox"/> Info/Consent
<input type="checkbox"/> Ord. No(s). _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Report
<input type="checkbox"/> Res. No(s). _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing (Info/consent)
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Council Business

Prepared By: Melissa Hettena *MH* Agenda Item No. N-1

Reviewed By: City Manager *YLB* City Attorney *JD* Finance *RTH for CS* Other: _____

DATE: November 6, 2008

TO: City Council

FROM: William E. Wilkins, Housing Director
Housing Department *[Signature]*

SUBJECT: Selection of Two Resident Commissioners

RECOMMENDATION

That the Oxnard City Council appoint two Resident Commissioners to the Housing Authority Board of Commissioners to serve a two-year term.

DISCUSSION

Housing Authority staff has solicited candidates from the general resident population of the public housing and Section 8 programs to fill the two Resident Commissioners positions on the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority. The six candidates have expressed an interest in serving as a Resident Commissioner and have submitted their applications for consideration. From staff's review of the candidates, all meet the minimum qualifications and are presented to the City Council for consideration for appointment as Resident Commissioners.

Housing Authority staff solicited candidates during a 30-day period from August 29, 2008 through September 30, 2008. During this period six candidates expressed an interest in becoming a Resident Commissioner. The two-year terms of Resident Commissioners Gaudencio Digos and Carlos Soria are scheduled to expire on July 31, 2009. The two commissioner positions are currently vacant as a result of the passing of Mr. Soria, and the resignation of Mr. Digos, for health reasons. Staff is recommending that two commissioners be appointed to serve starting December 1, 2008.

State law requires that the two Resident Commissioners be tenants of the housing authority. State law also requires that one of the Resident Commissioners be 62 years of age or older. Although Section 4(b) of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 (QHWRA) does not expressly provide for the preemption of State laws governing Housing Authority Board membership, HUD has indicated that Congress intended the preemption of State law where there is a direct conflict with the Federal Resident Board membership requirements.

Staff evaluated and determined that all candidates meet the minimum qualifications for the Resident Commissioner positions. The following is a brief description of each candidate. The applications of the candidates more fully describes their qualifications and experience.

1. Mr. Bob McCarty, 820 South "E" Street (Section 8)

Mr. McCarty has been a resident of Oxnard for 30 years. His most recent employment was with the Carson City Nugget in Carson City Nevada, as the Executive Chef. His previous employment includes the Camarillo State Hospital and USAF in Lackland, Texas as a dinner cook. Mr. McCarty has obtained his GED.

2. Ms. Carmen Ortega, 420 Linden Drive (Section 8)

Ms. Ortega currently works for Edsall and Norris, a law office in Camarillo and will be receiving a degree from Santa Barbara College in Para-legal Studies in December of 2008. Her previous work experience includes working as an office assistant and in accounts payable.

3. Mr. James Rojo, 1201 West Gonzales Road (Section 8)

Mr. Rojo is a life-long resident of Oxnard (over 35 years). He currently works for Nabisco Brands located in Oxnard as a machine operator. His previous employment includes employment with the County of Ventura as a custodian and Gentry International as a machine operator. Mr. Rojo has obtained his GED.

4. Mr. Francisco Vega, 1265 Felicia Court (Public Housing)

Mr. Vega has been a resident of Oxnard for 30 years. He is a high school graduate with training in the area of computer repair. He has been employed by the Oxnard Housing Authority for the past 13 years in the Resident Initiatives Program-Barrio Productions (and is currently employed in this position), and has been involved with the Colonia Village Tenants Association for the past three years.

5. Ms. Pamela Flynn, 801 South C Street (Public Housing)

Ms. Flynn has been an Oxnard resident for 26 years. She holds an Associate Degree in Accounting and Business Administration and currently works for Child Development Resources as an Accounts Payable Financial Clerk. Her previous employment includes working for Bank of Aleo's/First Interstate/Wells Fargo as a mutual funds trader.

6. Mr. Jose Andrade, 103 Bernarda Court (Public Housing)

Mr. Andrade has been a resident of Oxnard for 35 years. He has been employed by Hiji Bros., Inc., in Oxnard as an agricultural laborer. He has served as the Colonia Village Tenant Association Vice President, been a member of the Colonia Village Task Force and OHA Program Coordinating Committee Member.

Staff is requesting that the City Council appoint two Resident Commissioners to serve two-year terms from December 1, 2008 through November 30, 2010.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The appointment of two Resident Commissioners will not have a financial impact on the Housing Authority's budget or upon the City of Oxnard budget, other than that which has already been contemplated in the current year's budget.

Attachment #1 – Applications of Candidates for Appointment to Housing Authority Board of Commissioners.

Note: Attachment #1 has been provided to the City Council. Copies are available for review at the Circulatory Desk in the Library after 6:00 p.m. on the Thursday prior to the Council Meeting and at the City Clerk's Office after 8:00 a.m. on Monday.