# Louisiana Housing Authority Minutes of the **LA BOSCOC Board Meeting** August 4, 2020 – 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

**Location of Meeting:**

Held by conference call:

PHONE: 1-877-223-6370

CODE: 414-157-5810

**Present at meeting:**

Addie Duval

Tarek Polite

Victoria Johnson

Weston Schild

Winona Connor

Mariah Wineski

Laura Hasenstein

Randy Nichols

Gail Gowland

Kaneisha Keena

Kat Mcgraw

Gloria Winchester

Chris Nichols

Josh Dean

Carrie Patterson

Aundrea Braniff

The meeting of the LA BOSCOC Board was called to order at 1:05 pm on August 4, 2020 by Gordon Levine

* Agenda
  + Discussion and potential vote: waiving the Good Standing requirement and Good Standing data-keeping until further notice in light of the COVID-19 pandemic
  + Discussion and potential vote: waiving all Regional Board seat elections until further notice in light of the COVID-19 pandemic
  + Discussion: HUD's proposed amendment to the Equal Access Final Rule
  + Discussion: PIT Count 2021
* Proposals to board
  + Vote to suspend the good standing requirements for all purposes until the board chooses to reinstate after the COVID 19 pandemic.
    - Difficult to keep track of some of the elements & requirements for the ‘good standing report’ due to the COVID 19 pandemic. Easing burden of keeping track.
    - Requirements will be waived, not meetings
      * Topics raised by members: During these time it is important to maintain good habits. Added guidance to uphold standards instead of eliminate
      * Board Members In Favor (Aye- To waive good standing requirement): 4
        + Winona, Mariah, Laura, Gail
      * Board Members Against (Nay- To not waive good standing requirement): 3
        + Weston, Addie, Tarek
  + Vote to suspend Board elections through the end of December 2020.
    - Any seats up for re-elections will be available at the 1st quarterly meeting of 2021
    - Board members in favor (Aye- Accepting Waiver): Winona, Mariah, Laura, Addie, Gail, Weston, Tarek,
    - Board members oppose(Nay – Denying Waiver)d: 0
    - Voted unanimously
* Equal Access Final Rule
  + A requirement that almost all HUD funded projects are required to serve all people irrespective of gender, sex, or sexual orientation
  + Projects are not allowed to separate families under any circumstances
    - A family is defined as any group of people that presents as a unit for services, regardless of blood relation, or family relations
  + Childs age cannot be used as a basis of determining eligibility
  + Outlined that projects are required to make a determination about a participants gender they are allowed to incorporate as eligibility criteria they must accepts the participates determination of gender at face value
  + New proposed amendment
    - Housing projects may determine gender based on a set of criteria
      * Advocate that LHC submit a public comment in opposition to the amendment
      * Submit to board to submit public comment in opposition to amendment
      * State wide council of COC have agreed in concept and will be ratifying to public comment in opposition
  + BOS Written Standards already incorporates the same protections that the Equal Access Rules currently
    - Regardless of change made at HUD level the written standards are the controlling regulation’s for board purposes
  + Dylan W. has offered assistance for public comments
* PIT Count 2021
  + Possibly no PIT count in 2021
  + Awaiting HUDs advisement
  + No additional information provided from board
* No additional comments form board members
* Meeting ended at 1:58 pm