

STATE OF CONNECTICUT HEALTH AND EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES AUTHORITY and  
STATE OF CONNECTICUT HIGHER EDUCATION SUPPLEMENTAL LOAN AUTHORITY  
Minutes of Special CHEFA/CHESLA Board Strategic Planning Session  
January 25, 2024

The State of Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority and the State of Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority held a special meeting in-person on Thursday, January 25, 2024.

The special meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m. by Mr. Peter W. Lisi, Chair of the Board of Directors of CHEFA and CHESLA. Those present and absent were as follows:

**PRESENT,**

**CHEFA BOARD:** Peter W. Lisi, Chair  
Michael Angelini, Vice Chair  
Lawrence Davis  
Kimberly Kennison (*Designee for OPM Secretary Jeffrey Beckham*)  
Susan Martin  
Alan Mattamana  
Sarah Sanders (*Designee for CT State Treasurer Erick Russell*)

**PRESENT,**

**CHESLA BOARD:** Peter W. Lisi, Chair  
Laura M. Baker (*Designee for Chief Workforce Officer Kelli-Marie Vallieres*)  
Bettina Bronisz (*Designee for Connecticut State Treasurer Erick Russell*)  
Martin L. Budd  
Andrew Foster  
Michael Izadi (*Designee for Connecticut OPM Secretary Jeff Beckham*)  
Kerry A. Kelley (*Designee for CT State Colleges and Universities President Terrence Cheng*)  
Julie B. Savino, Vice Chair  
Jeanette W. Weldon (*Executive Director CHEFA and CHESLA*)

**ABSENT:** Steven L. Elbaum, CHEFA Board  
Mark Varholak, CHEFA Board

**ALSO, PRESENT:** Denise Aguilera, General Counsel, CHEFA  
Charles Bodie, Managing Director of Finance and Operations, CHEFA  
Dan Giungi, Government Relations & Communications Specialist, CHEFA  
Rebecca Hrdlicka, Administrative Services Assistant, CHEFA  
Josh Hurlock, Assistant Director, CHESLA  
Dan Kurowski, Manager of Program Development & CHEFA CDC, CHEFA  
Michael F. Morris, Managing Director, Client Services, CHEFA  
Kara Stuart, Manager of Administrative Services, CHEFA

**INVITED GUESTS:** Marc Lombardi, Partner, Shipman & Goodwin LLP  
Scarlett Lara-Alcantara, Associate, Shipman & Goodwin LLP

Mr. Marc Lombardi and Ms. Scarlett Lara-Alcantara of Shipman & Goodwin LLP joined the special meeting at 1:05 p.m.

### **INTRODUCTIONS**

Board members and CHEFA/CHESLA staff introduced themselves.

Ms. Weldon stated that CHEFA and CHESLA staff will be on-call as needed to answer questions. CHEFA and CHESLA staff, except for Ms. Weldon, left the special meeting at 1:15 p.m.

### **BOARD ENGAGEMENT SURVEY, PRESENTATION, AND DISCUSSION**

Mr. Lisi stated that the first portion of the meeting will be an interactive discussion regarding the Board Engagement Survey that was collected by Shipman & Goodwin prior to the meeting. Mr. Lisi then introduced Mr. Marc Lombardi and Ms. Scarlett Lara-Alcantara from Shipman & Goodwin.

Ms. Kelley left the special meeting at 1:17 p.m.

Mr. Lombardi provided a brief overview of the survey and noted the high functionality of the Board. The survey was conducted with a series of questions that contained a scaled response of strongly agree, agree, neutral, disagree, and strongly disagree. Mr. Lombardi reported that no answer had below a neutral response.

Mr. Lombardi gave a presentation on the following information:

- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)
- Board meetings and environment
- New Board member orientation and information
- Meeting material organization/preparation, distribution, presentation, and substance
- Committee reports to the Board
- Performance review process of the Executive Director
- Board Chair feedback and management

During the presentation, an interactive discussion ensued and the following activity occurred:

- Ms. Kelley returned to the special meeting at 1:38 p.m.
- Mr. Davis left the special meeting at 1:39 p.m.
- When the interactive discussion transitioned into the topic regarding the Board Chair, Mr. Lisi recused himself and left the special meeting at 2:04 p.m.
- Mr. Lisi returned to the special meeting at 2:07 p.m.

Ms. Weldon and Mr. Lisi thanked Mr. Lombardi and Ms. Lara-Alcantara for their time and presentation. Mr. Lombardi and Ms. Lara-Alcantara left the special meeting at 2:10 p.m.

At 2:10 p.m. Mr. Lisi stated that a break will be taken, and all parties were asked to return to the special meeting by 2:15 p.m.

### **BREAKOUT GROUPS**

Ms. Weldon noted that the Board members would be separating into brainstorming groups to discuss strategic priorities. Breakout group discussion ensued.

Mr. Davis returned to the special meeting at 2:43 p.m.

At 3:23 p.m., all Board members and Ms. Weldon returned from the brainstorming groups. Ms. Aguilera, Mr. Bodie, and Mr. Morris also returned to the special meeting for the breakout reports.

**BREAKOUT REPORTS**

Each group reported on their ideas. Ms. Weldon thanked all four groups for their participation, thoughts, and ideas. A discussion ensued.

Mr. Budd left the special meeting at 4:11 p.m.

**SHARE IDEAS AND NEXT STEPS**

Ms. Weldon presented some of the ideas developed during the CHEFA/CHESLA Staff Strategic Planning Session regarding CHEFA, CHESLA, and CHEFA Community Development Corporation (CHEFA CDC). A discussion ensued.

Ms. Weldon then reported on next steps, stating that this information will be combined with input from CHEFA staff and management. Senior management will then develop a draft of a proposed strategic plan for the next three-year period and present to each of the Boards in March for final comments. Ms. Weldon reported that actionable items relating to the operating and capital budgets will be presented for approval to each of the Boards in June.

Mr. Lisi thanked the Board members and CHEFA staff for a great meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Ms. Baker moved to adjourn the meeting and Ms. Kennison seconded the motion.

Upon a voice vote, the “Ayes,” “Nays” and “Abstentions” were as follows:

**AYES**

**NAYS**

**ABSTENTIONS**

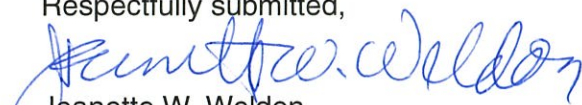
- Michael Angelini
- Laura M. Baker
- Bettina Bronisz
- Lawrence Davis
- Andrew Foster
- Michael Izadi
- Kerry A. Kelley
- Kimberly Kennison
- Peter Lisi
- Susan Martin
- Alan Mattamana
- Sarah Sanders
- Julie B. Savino
- Jeanette W. Weldon

None

None

The special meeting adjourned at 4:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeanette W. Weldon  
Executive Director

