

**HOUSING AUTHORITY OF NEW ORLEANS
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 26, 2014**

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-14

WHEREAS, The Housing Authority of New Orleans (HANO) was organized pursuant to the provisions of the Louisiana Housing Authorities Law, La. R.S. 40:381, et.seq; and

WHEREAS, the assets, projects, and programs of HANO has been under the control of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) since February of 1996; and

WHEREAS, the City of New Orleans (City), HANO, and HUD entered into that certain Transition and Oversight Agreement (Agreement), dated May 28, 2014 that provides the terms by which HANO's assets, projects, and programs will be transferred from HUD to a locally appointed Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the Agreement provides that the transition from HUD to the Board of Commissioners is projected to be July 1, 2014; and

WHEREAS, as part of the Agreement, HANO and the City, through its appointed Advisory Board, agreed to interview and select an Executive Director for HANO with an effective employment date in July, 2014; and

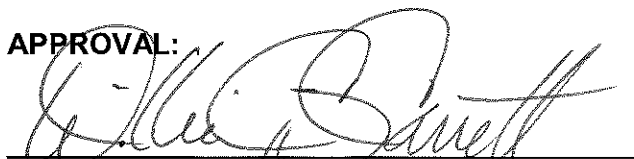
WHEREAS, HANO and the Advisory Board have completed their interviews and have selected Mr. Gregory Fortner as the new Executive Director of HANO and have negotiated an employment contract with Mr. Fortner, as required by the provisions of Section 539 of the Housing Authorities Law, which provides for an effective date of July 7, 2014; and

WHEREAS, HANO is still subject to the terms and conditions of the Administrative Receivership established by HUD as of February 21, 2002, and the current HUD appointed Board of Commissioners, acting in accordance with the provisions of Section 539 of the Housing Authorities Law, has the legal authority to approve the employment contract for the Executive Director.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of New Orleans does hereby approve the selection of Mr. Gregory Fortner as the Executive Director and does hereby authorize the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners to execute said contract for HANO effective July 7, 2014.

Executed this 26th day of June, 2014

APPROVAL:



**WILLIE C. H. GARRETT
CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**



June 26, 2014

MEMORANDUM

**To: Willie C. H. Garrett
Chairman, Board of Commissioners**

**From: Marilyn O'Sullivan
Administrative Receiver**

RE: Approval and Execution of Executive Director Contract

The Housing Authority of New Orleans (HANO) has been under federal control since February, 1996 for violations of its obligations under its Annual Contributions Contracts (ACC) with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Recently, HANO was assigned a "standard" designation by HUD under the Public Housing Assessment System (PHAS), and therefore has been removed from "troubled" status. As such, the determination has been made by HUD, with the agreement of the City of New Orleans (City), that HANO has satisfactorily resolved the defaults of the ACC, and that the enhanced Administrative Receivership implemented by the Secretary of HUD in February 2002 can be terminated.

As part of the transition back to local control, the Mayor of New Orleans appointed an Advisory Board to work with HANO and HUD to recruit a new Executive Director to take the leadership role when the transition is completed. Also, on May 28, 2014, HUD, the City and HANO entered into a Transition and Oversight Agreement that established a transition effective date of July 1, 2014, at which time control of HANO will transfer from HUD to the HANO Board of Commissioners.

The Advisory Board, with the concurrence of the City and HANO, has completed the executive director search and interviews and has recommended Mr. Gregory Fortner for the position. La. R.S. 40:539(C)(1) of the Housing Authorities Law provides that the executive director is to be selected by the Board of Commissioners and that the "authority shall enter into an employment contract with the executive director for a term not to exceed five years. The contract shall fix the compensation of the executive director and such other terms of employment as the authority may determine." Subsequent to the offer of employment to Mr. Fortner by the Advisor Board and HANO, an employment contract was negotiated and all terms and conditions have been agreed to by the parties. The effective date of the contract is July 7, 2014.

In accordance with the provisions of the Transition and Oversight Agreement and the Louisiana Housing Authorities Law, the current Board of Commissioners has the legal authority to execute the employment contract and bind HANO.

It is respectfully requested that the Board of Commissioners approve the selection of Mr. Gregory Fortner for the position of Executive Director and that the Chairman of the Board be authorized to execute the contract, which shall be effective July 7, 2014.