

WI-CARH/Rural Development Liaison Meeting
Tuesday, February 11, 2020
Rural Development State Office - Stevens Point, WI

Those in attendance from Rural Development (RD) were Donna Huebner, Lori Lewandowski, Bob Hernandez, and Dirk Williams. Russ Endres, Mark Stay, George Petak, representing WI-CARH were in attendance and Russ Kaney and Diane Hamm were on the phone.

2020 Budget Effects on Programs: Donna Huebner reported that the budget passed the same as last year. There will be four pillars to RD realignment which they will have completed by September 30. This will be a nationalized program and will be set up with:

- 1) Outreach and marketing
- 2) Processing/Underwriting
- 3) Servicing
- 4) Special Assets

Update CARH's Mid-Year Meeting: Russ Kaney and Rob Dicke attended the meeting in New Orleans. CARH will be offering a June meeting for state associations.

Multi-Family Preservation and Revitalization (MPR) & Changes to Program: MPR funding is coming in and has plenty of money.

Voucher Program Update: Wisconsin is the number one state using these and Lori Lewandowski is recognized nationwide. Voucher renewal and change of ownership. Renewal comes ahead of new ownership. They do not get back pay and it takes about 3-4 months.

USDA-RD Training for 2020/2021: WAHA will be holding their Director's Spring Training in April 29. WI-CARH will have their spring training and annual conference. Donna at this point does not have funding to send staff but they could attend as a speaker.

General Training Needs for Borrowers: Management transition plans and compliance would be topics for the future.

Spring Training/Fall Conference: WI-CARH will be offering a spring training on May 12 called "Fair Housing." The training will take place at Madison Marriott West in Middleton. The Fall Conference will be on October 27 at the Wilderness.

Lease & Amendment Review/Feedback: Kevin Martin did the lease this year and it went very smoothly. Kevin will be doing the lease again for us.

Other Topics & General Discussion: George Petak will be retiring from WHEDA. 538/515 refinancing and new construction can be a problem. For one project out of Indiana, Petrie is looking to lend in Wisconsin. Foreclosures still working with group in Darlington trying to get tax credits.

Next Liaison Meeting: Our next liaison meeting is scheduled for August 12, 2020 from 10:00 – noon.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:52 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Russ Endres, Secretary