

# TEXAS PUBLIC FINANCE AUTHORITY

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Billy M. Atkinson, Jr., Chair  
Ramon Manning, Vice Chair  
Rodney K. Moore, Secretary  
Shanda G. Perkins  
Jay A. Riskind  
Brendan Scher  
Benjamin E. Streusand



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Lee Deviney

## MAILING ADDRESS:

Post Office Box 12906  
Austin, Texas 78711-2906

## PHYSICAL ADDRESS:

300 West 15th Street, Suite 411  
Austin, Texas 78701

TELEPHONE: (512) 463-5544

FACSIMILE: (512) 463-5501

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TEXAS PUBLIC FINANCE AUTHORITY

**March 4, 2021**

The Board of Directors (the "Board") of the Texas Public Finance Authority (the "Authority") convened in open meeting, notice duly posted pursuant to law (a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A") at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, March 4, 2021, via video conference call.

Present were: Mr. Billy M. Atkinson, Jr., Chairman; Mr. Ramon Manning, Vice Chair; Ms. Shanda G. Perkins, Member; Mr. Jay A. Riskind, Member; and Mr. Benjamin E. Streusand, Member.

Representing the Authority's staff were: Lee Deviney, Executive Director; John Hernandez, Deputy Director; Kevin Van Oort, General Counsel; Pamela Scivicque, Director of Business Administration; and John Barton, Sr. Financial Analyst.

In attendance were the following persons, representing the indicated entities: Hasan Mack, McCall Parkhurst & Horton LLP; Andrew Bethune, Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP; Chris Allen, RBC Capital Markets, LLC; Karlos Allen, Dan Kardish, Thomas Lastrapes, Bruce Rideaux, and Caleb Thibodeaux, PFM Financial Advisors LLC; Keith Richard, Siebert Williams Shank & Co., LLC; Tim Peterson and Kyle Cottrell, Jefferies LLC; Beck Bruun, UBS; Anderson Bynum, Mesirow Financial, Inc.; Randy Bates and Willie Coleman, Bates & Coleman, P.C.; Karen Price, Ramirez & Co., Inc.; Craig Hrinkevich, Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated; Humberto Aguilera, Escamilla & Poneck, LLP; and Barron Wallace, Bracewell LLP.

Mr. Atkinson called the meeting to order at 10:11 a.m. and noted the presence of a quorum.

### **Item 1. Confirm meeting posting compliance with the Open Meetings Act.**

Mr. Atkinson confirmed that the meeting was duly posted with the Secretary of State. Due to Governor Abbott's March 13, 2020 proclamation declaring a state of disaster due to the coronavirus and March 16, 2020 suspension of certain provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act, this meeting of the Texas Public Finance Authority was being held via video conference call, as authorized under Section 551.127 of the Texas Government Code.

**Item 2. Excuse absences of board members, if necessary.**

**Action:** Motion by Mr. Riskind to excuse the absences of Mr. Manning, Mr. Moore, and Mr. Scher. Second by Mr. Streusand.

The motion passed unanimously.

**Item 3. Review and approval of the minutes of the January 26, 2021 Board meeting.**

Mr. Atkinson asked the board if they had any corrections to the minutes. None were noted.

**Action:** Motion by Mr. Streusand to approve the minutes of the January 26, 2021 meeting. Second by Ms. Perkins.

The motion passed unanimously.

[Mr. Manning joined the meeting at 10:15 a.m.]

[Agenda item 5 was considered out of order.]

**Item 5. Status Report: Financing for the Texas Military Preparedness Commission.**

Mr. Van Oort reminded the Board members that the Request for Financing was previously approved by the Board and provided an update on the status of the request. Mr. Van Oort reported that TPFA and McCall Parkhurst & Horton L.L.P. are working with the Port Authority of San Antonio's (PASA) attorney on the bridge loan to ensure that the state's security interest is not impeded.

No action was taken on this item.

**Item 4. Consideration, discussion, and possible action to on a request submitted by Texas Southern University to refund the currently outstanding Texas Southern University Revenue Financing System Bonds, Series 2011; selection of a method of sale; appointment of outside consultants, if necessary; and taking other necessary related action.**

Mr. Deviney described the request for financing from Texas Southern University (TSU) to refund the outstanding 2011 Revenue Financing System Bonds in the amount of approximately \$17.6 million for savings of approximately \$4 million over the life of the bonds.

**Action:** Motion by Mr. Manning to approve the Request for Financing submitted by TSU to refund the certain outstanding revenue bonds previously issued as Texas Southern University Revenue Financing System Bonds, Series 2011. Second by Ms. Perkins.

The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Deviney discussed the qualifications of the service providers for the transaction. The staff recommended the selection of PFM as financial advisor for the transaction based on the size of the firm and their knowledge of this type of credit. The Bracewell law firm is recommended as bond counsel based on their experience working with TSU and the Authority. The firm of Bates & Coleman will serve as co-bond counsel based on prior experience with the Authority and their work as underwriter's council on previous transactions. Orrick Harrington & Sutcliff is recommended as disclosure counsel based on their knowledge of the Authority and their work on higher education financings. Finally, staff recommended the selection of Mesirow Financial, Inc. as senior manager and Loop Capital Markets LLC as co-manager, based on their individual prior performance on TPFA transactions.

**Action:** Motion by Mr. Manning to appoint PFM Financial Advisors LLC as financial advisor; the law firms of Bracewell Patterson LLP as bond counsel; Bates & Coleman, P.C. as co-bond counsel; Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP, as disclosure council; and to designate an underwriting syndicate consisting of Mesirow Financial, Inc. as senior manager and Loop Capital Markets LLC as co-manager to sell the bonds in a negotiated sale. Second by Mr. Riskind.

The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Item 6. Post-Sale Report: TPFA Lease Revenue and Refunding Bonds (Texas Facilities Commission), Taxable Series 2020.**

Mr. Keith Richard with Siebert Williams Shank & Co., LLC presented details of the bond pricing. The bonds were sold with an all-in TIC of 1.962%, 64 participating institutional investors, and good participation from the remaining underwriting syndicate.

Mr. Deviney concurred with the Chairman that that this was the best interest rate the Authority has received on a transaction with a 20-year term.

Mr. Riskind requested a detailed list of investor participation and about other taxable transactions for the same week. Mr. Deviney indicated that staff would provide the Board with the detailed underwriter report and Mr. Richard provided a summary of other issues in the market the same week.

#### **Item 7. Appointments to the Charter School Finance Corporation.**

Mr. Deviney reviewed with the Board the different programs managed by the Charter School Finance Corporation (CSFC). The CSFC Board currently has five members, each serving for a term of 2 years. Mr. Deviney advised the Board that Mr. Miller's term and Mr. Humble's term both expire on May 1, 2021 and that both have agreed to continue serving for an additional two years on the CSFC Board. Mr. Deviney continued, David Miller currently serves as the President of the CSFC and Monty Humble serves as a member.

**Action:** Motion by Mr. Streusand to reappoint Monty Humble and David Miller to the CSFC Board, each for a 2-year term ending on May 1, 2023. Second by Mr. Manning.

The motion passed unanimously.

## **Item 8. Staff Update:**

### **a. Bond Pricing: TPFAs Lease Revenue Bonds (Texas Department of Transportation – Austin Campus Consolidation Project), Taxable Series 2021**

Mr. Deviney reported on the successful bond pricing, which resulted in a true interest cost of 2.45%. Mr. Deviney stated a full report will be provided at a future meeting.

### **b. Personnel update**

Mr. Deviney reported that Eric Benson has been hired as the System Analyst for the Authority.

### **c. Legislative update and state budget process**

Ms. Scivicque provided a report on a teleconference she participated in with state agencies and the Office of the Governor regarding reopening of the State, one year after the COVID-19 pandemic began. A few of the items discussed include:

1. Changes to conducting open meetings requirements are under review;
2. Protocols for Capitol access may remain unchanged;
3. Agencies may open up to 100% on March 10, 2021;
4. Telework may continue provided the same or better service level;
5. Masks are not required but strongly encouraged, if unable to social distance; and,
6. Reasonable accommodations should be provided to staff.

Mr. Deviney reported Mr. Moore represented the Authority at the Senate Finance Committee hearing and Mr. Atkinson represented the Authority at House Appropriations Committee Hearing and the House Committee on Pension, Investments, and Financial Services (PIFS) Committee. Mr. Deviney reported the PIFS Committee took an interest in learning more about TPFAs Master Lease Purchase Program.

Mr. Deviney discussed a variety of bills the Authority is monitoring, which include tuition revenue bonds, to G.O. bond proposals, a bill that would allow the Texas A&M system to absorb Midwestern State University, and a bill that would allow for a program similar to the Master Lease Purchase Program for school districts.

### **d. Market update**

Mr. Barton presented the market update. He shared with the Board the commercial paper rates have been low, while the long-term rates are rising slightly but are still historically low.

**Item 9. Future transactions and market conditions.**

There was no discussion on this agenda item.

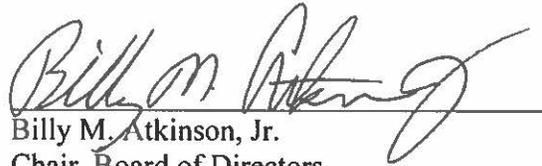
**Item 10. Future agenda items and meeting dates.**

Mr. Deviney asked the Board members to save April 8 and May 6 as potential meeting dates.

**Item 11. Adjourn.**

Mr. Atkinson adjourned the meeting at 11:02 a.m.

The foregoing minutes were approved and adopted by the Board of Directors on this 6<sup>th</sup> day of May 2021.

  
Billy M. Atkinson, Jr.  
Chair, Board of Directors

ATTACHMENT: Posting Notice



John Barton

[Log Off](#)

## Open Meeting Submission

**TRD:** 2021001248  
**Date Posted:** 02/24/2021  
**Status:** Accepted  
**Agency Id:** 0113  
**Date of Submission:** 02/24/2021  
**Agency Name:** Texas Public Finance Authority  
**Board:** Texas Public Finance Authority  
**Date of Meeting:** 03/04/2021  
**Time of Meeting:** 10:00 AM ( ###:## AM Local Time)  
**Street Location:** Via Video Conference Public access information available on the TPFA website at: <http://www.tpfa.texas.gov>  
**City:** Austin  
**State:** TX  
**Liaison Name:** John Barton  
**Liaison Id:** 5  
**Additional Information Obtained From:** Donna Weinberger at 512-463-5544  
**Agenda:** Texas Public Finance Authority  
Board Meeting  
Thursday, March 4, 2021 - 10:00 A.M.

Via Video Conference  
Public access information available on  
the TPFA website at: <http://www.tpfa.texas.gov>

Due to Governor Greg Abbott's March 13, 2020 proclamation of a state of disaster affecting all counties in Texas due to the coronavirus and the Governor's March 16, 2020 suspension of certain provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act, this meeting of the Texas Public Finance Authority will be held via video conference call, as authorized under Section 551.127 of the Texas Government Code.

### AGENDA

The Board may discuss and take action regarding any of the following matters:

1. Confirm meeting posting compliance with the Open Meetings Act.
2. Excuse absences of Board members, if necessary.
3. Review and approval of the minutes of the January 26, 2021 Board meeting.
4. Consideration, discussion, and possible action to on a request submitted by Texas Southern University to refund the currently outstanding Texas Southern University Revenue Financing System Bonds, Series 2011; selection of a method of sale; appointment of outside consultants, if necessary; and taking other necessary related action.
5. Status Report: Financing for the Texas Military Preparedness Commission.
6. Post-Sale Report: TPFA Lease Revenue and Refunding Bonds (Texas Facilities Commission), Taxable Series 2020.
7. Appointments to the Charter School Finance Corporation.
8. Staff Update:
  - a. Bond Pricing: TPFA Lease Revenue Bonds (Texas Department of Transportation - Austin Campus Consolidation Project), Taxable Series 2021
  - b. Personnel update
  - c. Legislative update and state budget process
  - d. Market update
9. Future transactions and market conditions.
10. Future agenda items and meeting dates.
11. Adjourn.

THE BOARD MAY GO INTO CLOSED SESSION REGARDING ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA IF PERMITTED UNDER THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT, GOVERNMENT CODE CHAPTER 551.

An electronic copy of the agenda is available at <http://www.tpfa.texas.gov/agenda.aspx>. A recording of the meeting will be available after the meeting. To obtain the recording, please contact Donna Weinberger, at 512/463-5544.

Information regarding use of the Zoom webinar application can be found on the TPFA website: at <http://www.tpfa.texas.gov>. Further technical information regarding the Zoom webinar application can be found at the Zoom Help Center: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/115004954946-Joining-and-participating-in-a-webinar-attendee->.

Information regarding accessing the meeting via a toll-free dial-in number is also available on the TPFA website at: <http://www.tpfa.texas.gov>.

New Submission

HOME

TEXAS REGISTER

TEXAS ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

OPEN MEETINGS