



I. Meeting Opening & Roll Call

Chair Bacoate opened the Special Board session at 1:02 PM

HACA Mission Statement and Core Values were read.

Quorum was present. Board Members Present: Chair Mychal Bacoate, Vice-Chair Kimberly Collins, Commissioner Sean Aardema, Commissioner Carol Goins, Commissioner David L. Robinson, Commissioner Maggie Slocumb, Commissioner Laura Sotelo-Garcia, Commissioner Kidada Wynn.

Also in attendance: HACA Interim ED Rhodney Norman, HACA COO Ella Santos, Susan Russo-Klein, Attorney, Roberts & Stevens, P.A., Cherin Marmon-Saxe Executive Assistant.

Not in Attendance: Commissioner Scott Farkas

II. Approval of Agenda:

Vice Chair Kimberley Collins moved to accept the Special Session Meeting Agenda as presented.

Commissioner Sean Aardema seconded. All Ayes, No Nays; The Commissioners unanimously approved the meeting agenda as presented.

III. New Business

Vice Chair Kimberly Collins reviewed the process that Gans, Gans and Associates took HACA to find the best candidate for the President and CEO position. She then introduced Ms. Ella Santos as the new President & CEO of the Housing Authority of the City of Asheville.

At the September 24, 2025, meeting, the Board resolved to make an offer of employment to Ella Santos as President & CEO of HACA, and authorized Chair Mychal Bacoate to negotiate the employment agreement. HACA attorney Susan Russo Klein reviewed the negotiated employment agreement with the Board, noting that it includes standard terms and conditions for a public housing authority executive under North Carolina law.

The Board reviewed and discussed the agreement and authorized Chair Mychal Bacoate to execute the employment contract with Ms. Santos. The action was unanimously approved.

The Board and meeting attendees expressed appreciation to Rhodney Norman for his leadership during the transition.

Ms. Santos thanked the Board for its confidence and reaffirmed her commitment to HACA's mission to provide safe, supportive housing for the community.

Meeting Adjournment at 1:21 PM



Asheville Housing Authority
Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Minutes: October 8, 2025
Meeting Location: 165 S. French Broad Ave., Asheville, 28801

Mychal Bacoate, Board Chair

Date:

ATTEST:

Rhodney Norman, Associate Secretary

Date:
