

RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA, April 29, 2019

The Special Meeting of the Richmond Rent Board was called to order at 6:01 P.M.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL

Present: Boardmembers Finlay, Maddock, and Chair Gray.
Absent: Vice Chair Gerould.

STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

AGENDA REVIEW

None.

PUBLIC FORUM

Cordell Hindler invited the Rent Board to attend community events that will be held during the month of May. He also mentioned that he may have confirmations from some of the Neighborhood Councils in regards to Rent Program Staff Members providing a presentation on rent control at their meetings. Those confirmations are still pending. He also mentioned that he will reach out to the Laurel Park Neighborhood Council to see if they are interested in Rent Program Staff Members providing an overview of rent control at their meeting. He also mentioned that he will reach out to the Richmond Neighborhood Coordinating Council to work out the logistics and he will provide more information at the next Rent Board meeting.

CONSIDERATION OF APPEALS

F-1. Staff Attorney Charles Oshinuga presented on the matter of Appeal regarding Consolidated Petition No. RC18-T012 and RC18-T013. Landlord appeals a Hearing Examiner's decision that granted Tenants' excessive rent petition and found that Landlord collected rent in excess of the permissible levels. On Appeal, Landlord challenges the sufficiency of the evidence relied on by the Hearing Examiner to reach his decision. All parties of the case were present. Initially, the Rent Board extended both parties' time to present due to translation assistance; however, the

Respondents declined translation assistance and the appellant objected to the extended amount of minutes allowed for both parties. Exercising its discretion under Richmond Rent Board Regulation 842(E), the Board extended the time given to the appellant and respondent to present their matter. Each party was given 14 minutes to present its case. The timing was broken down as follows: Appellant presents first with 10 minutes, then Respondent presents with 14 minutes and finally, Appellant closes with 4 minutes. The appeal hearing began and the following individuals presented their case: Attorney Dennis Philips and Chad Andrews. After hearing the issues brought on appeal and considering the testimony of all parties on appeal, the Board adopted Legal Staff's recommendation unchanged and affirmed the Hearing Examiner's Decision.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Deputy Director Paige Roosa shared the Rent Program's arrangement to attend upcoming events during the months of June and July to engage community members and share information about the Rent Program and Rent Ordinance. These events include the Richmond Promise Scholars Celebration held at the Richmond Auditorium on Friday, May 3rd 5:30 to 7:30 pm, the Cinco de Mayo Festival held on Sunday, May 5th and the Iron Triangle Neighborhood Council Meeting on May 15th. She also reported that Rent Program Staff Members will be tabling at the Juneteenth Festival in June, will provide a presentation to the Point Richmond Business Association in July, as well as National Night Out on Tuesday, August 6th. She also mentioned that if there are any additional events that Boardmembers are aware of that may be suitable for Rent Program Staff to attend, to please share that information with staff. Boardmember Maddock invited Rent Program Staff to attend The North and East Neighborhood Picnic on Saturday, September 14th, and stated that they have expanded the Non-Profit area. Deputy Director Paige Roosa responded that she would add this event to the list.

Executive Director Nicolas Traylor gave a brief report on the Navigating the Eviction Process in Richmond for Landlords workshop held on Saturday, April 27, 2019, noting that it was well attended.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:34 P.M.

Cynthia Shaw and Paige Roosa
Staff Clerks

(SEAL)

Approved:

DAVID GRAY
David Gray, Chair