88R7570 JG-F

By:  Moody H.B. No. 2625

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the formation of a municipal housing authority asset commission by certain municipal housing authorities.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1.  Chapter 392, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Subchapter G to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER G. ASSET COMMISSION OF CERTAIN MUNICIPAL HOUSING AUTHORITIES

Sec. 392.151.  DEFINITION. In this subchapter, "asset commission" means a municipal housing authority asset commission formed by a municipal housing authority under Section 392.153.

Sec. 392.152.  APPLICABILITY. This subchapter applies only to a municipal housing authority operating in:

(1)  a county with a population of 800,000 or more that is located on the international border; and

(2)  a municipality with a population of 600,000 or more that is located in a county described by Subdivision (1).

Sec. 392.153.  FORMATION OF ASSET COMMISSION. A municipal housing authority asset commission may be formed by adoption of a resolution by:

(1)  the commissioners of a municipal housing authority; and

(2)  not less than 80 percent of the members of the commissioners court of the county in which the authority operates.

Sec. 392.154.  ASSET COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP; TERMS. (a) An asset commission is composed of five members who serve staggered terms of five years and are appointed by a majority of the commissioners of the municipal housing authority that formed the asset commission. An asset commission member must:

(1)  be a licensed real estate broker;

(2)  be a certified public accountant;

(3)  be a licensed attorney who is certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization in residential real estate law or commercial real estate law;

(4)  have at least five years of continuous experience in residential or commercial property management;

(5)  have at least five years of continuous experience in the field of finance, accounting, or banking;

(6)  have at least five years of continuous experience as an architect, engineer, or land surveyor;

(7)  have at least five years of continuous experience in developing, financing, constructing, operating, or managing a multifamily housing portfolio of no fewer than 3,000 units;

(8)  have at least five years of continuous experience as an owner or management representative of a private, a nonprofit, an educational, or a governmental entity with no fewer than 500 employees; or

(9)  be a current or former chief executive officer, chief financial officer, or executive director of a public housing authority that owns or manages 5,000 or more units.

(b)  In addition to the qualifications required by Subsection (a), at least one of the asset commission members must have at least 10 years of experience in a field related to the management or operation of apartments funded by low income housing tax credits.

(c)  A person may not serve as an asset commission member if the person is:

(1)  a mayor, a county judge, or any other elected official of a governmental entity within the area of operation described by Section 392.014 for the municipal housing authority that formed the asset commission;

(2)  an employee of a town, municipality, or county within the area of operation described by Section 392.014 for the municipal housing authority that formed the asset commission;

(3)  a commissioner or employee of the municipal housing authority that formed the asset commission;

(4)  a person who was employed within the preceding two years by the municipal housing authority that formed the asset commission; or

(5)  a person who has or has had within the preceding two years a direct or indirect contract or a personal or financial interest in a contract with the municipal housing authority that formed the asset commission.

(d)  Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection (a) establishing the terms of an asset commission member, in appointing the initial members to an asset commission under this section, the commissioners of a municipal housing authority shall designate:

(1)  two members to serve a three-year term;

(2)  two members to serve a four-year term; and

(3)  one member to serve a five-year term.

Sec. 392.155.  CONFLICTS OF INTEREST. (a) An asset commission member may not:

(1)  have dealings for pecuniary gain with the municipal housing authority that formed the asset commission or a public facility corporation sponsored by the authority; or

(2)  own, acquire, or control a direct or indirect interest in any item described by Sections 392.042(b)(1)-(5).

(b)  If an asset commission member manages, owns, acquires, or controls a direct or indirect interest in an item prohibited by Subsection (a) or otherwise has any other dealings for pecuniary gain with the municipal housing authority, the member shall immediately disclose the interest to the authority and asset commission in writing. The disclosure shall be entered in the minutes of the asset commission for the meeting at which the disclosure was made.

(c)  An asset commission member's failure to make a required disclosure under Subsection (b) constitutes misconduct of office.

Sec. 392.156.  REMOVAL OF ASSET COMMISSION MEMBER. An asset commission member may be removed by a majority of the commissioners of the municipal housing authority that formed the asset commission based on the same criteria and following the same processes for the removal of a commissioner described by Section 392.041.

Sec. 392.157.  ASSET COMMISSION MEMBER COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT. (a) An asset commission member is entitled to:

(1)  reasonable compensation for the member's services on the asset commission; and

(2)  reimbursement for necessary expenses incurred by the member in carrying out duties related to services on the asset commission, including travel expenses.

(b)  The municipal housing authority that forms an asset commission shall pay the compensation and reimbursement described by Subsection (a).

Sec. 392.158.  POWERS AND DUTIES. (a) An asset commission must approve by majority vote the following actions before the municipal housing authority that formed the asset commission may perform the action:

(1)  the acquisition, sale, transfer, conveyance, or disposition of any property, building, partnership interest, membership interest in a limited liability company, ownership interest in any entity, or any other asset of the authority or a public facility corporation sponsored by the authority valued in excess of $100,000; and

(2)  the trading, financing, refinancing, or issuance of a bond secured by or associated with any property, building, partnership interest, membership interest in a limited liability company, ownership interest in any entity, or any other asset of the authority or a public facility corporation sponsored by the authority.

(b)  An asset commission may directly or indirectly hold or own an interest in an asset described by Subsection (a) and any accompanying cash flow or benefit associated with that interest only if the asset commission holds the interest in trust for the sole and exclusive benefit of the municipal housing authority that formed the asset commission.

(c)  An asset commission may delegate the powers and duties under this section to an agent or employee of the asset commission or the municipal housing authority that formed the asset commission, as determined appropriate by the asset commission.

Sec. 392.159.  OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF ASSET COMMISSION. The secretary and executive director employed under Section 392.038 for a municipal housing authority that forms an asset commission shall serve as the secretary and executive director of the asset commission.

Sec. 392.160.  MEETINGS OF ASSET COMMISSION. Meetings of an asset commission are subject to Chapter 551, Government Code.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.