

YEAR IN REVIEW FOR THE CLEVELAND BOND ACCOUNTABILITY COMMISSION

BY MICHAEL J. HOUSER

JANUARY 4, 2024

THE PURPOSE OF THE BAC

The Bond Accountability Commission (BAC) is an independent, non-profit, all-volunteer organization appointed by the chair of the Board of Education in consultation with the Cleveland Mayor.

In authorizing the current BAC, the Board of Education resolved that the BAC is to provide monitoring and oversight of the School District's implementation of its master facilities plan, communicate its findings to the Board of Education and the community, and regularly report to the Board of Education on its activities.

SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BAC

- Monitor the implementation of and revisions to CMSD's master facilities plan.
 - Work with the State of Ohio, construction manager and owner's representative to review the design, engineering, contract bidding procurement and construction, including the way contracts are awarded.
 - Ensure compliance with CMSD resolutions/policies concerning bidding procedures, hiring goals for minorities, women and district residents, apprenticeship opportunities for CMSD students and on contracting personnel.
 - Hold quarterly public meetings to review the master facilities plan and spending of bond funds.
 - Issue an annual report to the CMSD Board and community.
- Communicate directly with the Board of Education, as necessary, concerning its work and findings.

APRIL 2023



The BAC hired Michael J. Houser as their executive director. Houser brings strong community ties along with a policy and public education background to the role.

MAY 2023

Executive Director Houser outlines his plans for the organization which included:

- Working with the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission to keep BAC Commissioners updated on all changes.
- Monthly meeting with the new CMSD CEO's team.
- Adding new and diverse Commissioners to the BAC.

JULY 2023

In July the BAC saw an example of a Cleveland school being able to be saved when they toured the Longfellow apartments and saw a brand-new senior living community for adults 62 and older. The Longfellow features new one- and two-bedroom apartment homes, wellness rooms and a gymnasium-turned-fitness center. The apartment building has the original book cubbies refurbished into wardrobes, restored wood flooring, and the original classroom doors.



SEPTEMBER 2023

In September, the BAC spoke with new CEO Dr. Warren Morgan about his plans for the district.



NOVEMBER 2023



OHIO FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION COMMISSION

November meeting featured a conversation with Joseph Diorio, Mark Barr and farewell to Bill Prenosil.

NEW COMMISSIONERS

ALFONSO SANCHEZ



University of Illinois graduate (Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering 1958), Cleveland State Law School graduate (Juris Doctorate, 1968). worked for a Major International Construction Company for 38 years and retired as Executive Vice President. Has worked on major construction projects under numerous contract forms. Currently volunteering with several non-profits on their construction projects.

AKEEM PERRY



Akeem Perry is an accomplished learning and development leader who brings a unique blend of skills and experience to Geffen Mesher. As our Director of Workforce Learning and development and Performance, Akeem is strategically positioned to design and implement innovative learning opportunities which optimize performance and development across the firm. With over ten years of industry experience, Akeem has strengthened workforces across multiple industries and sectors, driving learning and development strategies for nationally-recognized, non-profit organizations and municipal government entities. Prior to joining Geffen Mesher, Akeem served as Senior Manager of Talent Initiatives for Greater Cleveland Partnership where he led the cultivation of registered apprenticeship programs in non-traditional careers as a means for underserved populations to gain access to meaningful career opportunities while serving as a talent pipeline for regional employers. As Chief Training Officer for the City of Cleveland-Department of Public Utilities, Akeem delivered over 16,000 hours of technical, industry-specific training and professional development offerings for various professional groups. Akeem is a proud graduate of Notre Dame College of Ohio with a graduate degree in Education and an undergraduate focus in Business Administration. In his pastime, Akeem enjoys spending time with family and friends, outdoor activities of all kinds, cooking and grilling, playing various sports, and is a self-proclaimed automobile enthusiast.

BAC Commissioners:

Jack Alan Bialosky, Jr.
SeMia Bray
Donald Brown
Tom Cook
Lenora M. Lockett
Caroline Peak
Nancy C. Schuster
Akeem Perry
Alfonso Sanchez