

**KENTUCKY PRIVATE ACTIVITY BOND ALLOCATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES
JANUARY 14, 2025
10:30 AM**

The Kentucky Private Activity Bond Allocation Committee (the “Committee”) meeting was called to order on Tuesday, January 14, at 10:30 AM ET via ZOOM video teleconference by John Hicks, Secretary of the Governor’s Executive Cabinet and State Budget Director. Other members present were; Geri Grigsby, proxy for Holly Johnson, Secretary for the Finance and Administrative Cabinet (“FAC”); Joe McDaniel, State Controller; Carla Wright, proxy for John Hicks, State Budget Director (“OSBD”); and Katie Smith, proxy for Jeff Noel, Secretary for the Cabinet for Economic Development (“CED”).

The Office of Financial Management (“OFM”) Staff Members Present: Chelsey Couch, Executive Director of OFM; Steven Starkweather, Deputy Executive Director; Bethany Padgett; Billy Aldridge; Melissa Perry; Kaitlin Craigmyle; and Aubry McDonald.

Other Guests Present: Tom Midkiff, Kentucky Housing Corporation (“KHC”); Robert Slavin, Bond Buyer; Mark Franklin, Dinsmore and Shohl; Daniel Byrne, Goldman Sachs; and Andrew Aberdale, Ascend Elements.

Secretary Hicks verified with staff a quorum was present, and the press had been notified of the meeting.

The first item on the agenda was the approval of the December 17, 2024 minutes. A motion to accept the minutes of the December 17, 2024 meeting was made by Ms. Smith and seconded by Ms. Grigsby. Motion **CARRIED**.

2025 State Issuer Pool – Ms. Perry directed the Committee to Attachment B, page 21 of the PDF. She stated Kentucky statute reserves 60% of the available volume cap, \$357,893,016 for state issuers. Cooperation and coordination between Kentucky Housing Corporation and Kentucky Higher Education Student Loan Corporation lead to requests of \$178,946,508 for each agency. Staff recommends allocating the requested amounts to the State Issuers with the unissued allocations expiring prior to the final KPABAC meeting of 2025 to permit reallocation for carryforward purposes. Utilizing the December expiration facilitates the efficient use of volume cap as carryforward.

Secretary Hicks called for a motion to approve for the Allocation as presented. Ms. Wright made a motion to approve the allocation as presented and was seconded by Mr. McDaniel. Motion **CARRIED**.

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2025 Local Issuer Pool – Ms. Perry directed the Committee to Attachment C, page 45 of the PDF, the Local Issuer Pool Analysis. Ascend Elements, Inc. is seeking additional cap to acquire, construct, install and equip real property, make real property improvements, and personal property in connection with the development of an approximately 500,000 square foot electric vehicle battery recycling and engineered materials manufacturing facility on a 140-acre campus located in Hopkinsville, Kentucky. Ascend was previously awarded \$76,300,000 during the October 2024 KPABAC meeting. They have applied for \$178,946,508 which is 100% of the available Local Issuer Pool volume cap and will utilize the awarded allocation to finance the project. A representative was in attendance to address any questions. Based on KPABAC's objectives and scoring, staff recommends approval.

Due to a conflict-of-interest Ms. Smith abstained from voting on Attachment C. Secretary Hicks acknowledged and then called for a motion to approve from the remaining Committee members. Ms. Grigsby made a motion to approve the allocation as presented and was seconded by Ms. Wright. Motion **CARRIED**.

Summary of 2025 Volume Cap – Ms. Perry directed the Committee to Attachment D, the 2025 Volume Cap Summary. She stated allocations from the Local Issuer Pool, State Issuer Pool, and Single Issuer Pool are documented. The potential carryforward, pending any issuances, is documented at the bottom of the PDF. She was happy to answer any questions the Committee may have about the informational item. No action was needed.

With no further business before the Committee, Secretary Hicks asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Smith and seconded by Mr. McDaniel. Motion **CARRIED** and the meeting adjourned at 10:36 AM ET.

Respectfully submitted,

Signed by:

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Secretary