

KENTUCKY PRIVATE ACTIVITY BOND ALLOCATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES
OCTOBER 15, 2024
10:30 AM

The Kentucky Private Activity Bond Allocation Committee (the “Committee”) meeting was called to order on Tuesday, October 15, 2024, 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: Mark Franklin, Dinsmore & Shohl; and Daniel Bryne and Andrew Aberdale, Ascend Elements, Inc.

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 January 9, 2024 minutes. A motion to accept the minutes of the January 9, 2024 meeting was made by Mr. McDaniel and seconded by Ms. Grigsby. Motion **CARRIED**.

Summary of Prior Allocations – Ms. Perry directed the Committee to Attachment B, page 7 of the PDF. She stated the available volume cap for years 2020-2023 were allocated for Kentucky Housing Corporation, Kentucky Higher Education Student Loan Corporation and local/single issuer applicants. No action was needed.

Single Issuer Pool Analysis – Ms. Perry directed the Committee to Attachment C, the Single Issuer Pool Analysis on page 32 of the PDF. She stated Ascend Elements, Inc. is seeking 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. The project will utilize a Hydro-to-Cathode direct precursor synthesis process technology to recycle electric battery materials. They will utilize a portion of the awarded volume cap necessary to finance the project. They have applied for \$76,300,000 which is 99.99% of

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the available volume cap. If the committee had any questions, a representative from the company was in attendance. Based on KPABAC's objectives and scoring, staff recommended approving the Ascend Elements, Inc. application.

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 for the Single Issuer Pool Allocation as presented. Ms. Grigsby made a motion to approve the allocation as presented and was seconded by Ms. Wright. Motion **CARRIED**.

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 all. Motion **CARRIED** and the meeting adjourned at 10:35 AM ET.

Respectfully submitted,

Signed by:

Chelsey Couch

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Secretary