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November 5, 2020

Today the Wilmington Housing Authority Board of Commissioners further considered the vote of no confidence in the executive director, John Hill, issued last week.

As part of today's action, the Board has suspended the executive director with pay effective immediately. The Board will engage the services of industry experts to assess current operating practices and conditions.

MaryAnn M. Russ will lead the effort to assess current operations and conditions beginning Monday, November 9. She brings over 50 years of experience working in public and assisted housing, including such roles as HUD Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public and Assisted Housing, Executive Director of the Council of Large Public Housing Authorities, Principal Associate for Apt Associates, and CEO and President of the Dallas Housing Authority, in addition to her current consulting practice. Ms. Russ also served as the Executive Director of the Wilmington Housing Authority during the 1980s.

A special meeting of the WHA Board of Commissioners will be held on Friday, November 13 at 12pm. It will consist of a private or public hearing (at John Hill's discretion) and the Board will vote on terminating or continuing his contract.

MaryAnn Russ will be available for comment on Monday, November 9. Any immediate inquiries should be directed to Board Chair James Spadola ([jspadola@whadelaware.org](mailto:jspadola@whadelaware.org)).

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