

## **MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 9, 2008 MEETING OF THE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE OF THE ILLINOIS FINANCE AUTHORITY**

The Agriculture Committee (the "Committee") of the Illinois Finance Authority (the "IFA"), pursuant to notice duly given, held a Agriculture Committee Meeting via teleconference at 9:30 a.m., October 9, 2008 at the Illinois Finance Authority, 180 N. Stetson, Suite 2555, Chicago, Illinois:

### **Members participating**

#### **by phone:**

Edward H. Leonard, Sr.,  
Chair

Bradley A. Zeller

Michael W. Goetz

#### **Members absent:**

None

#### **Staff Absent:**

None

#### **Staff:**

Christopher Meister, General Counsel  
and Authorized Officer

Carla Burgess Jones, Board Secretary

Cory Mitchell, Funding Manager

Eric Reed, Senior Funding Manager

#### **Members present:**

None

#### **Others**

None

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **Call to Order and Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 a.m. with the above members participating by phone.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Chairman Leonard made a motion to approve the minutes for the September 2, 2008 Agriculture Committee meeting. Mr. Zeller seconded the motion and the meeting minutes were approved.

### **Discussion of the following Participation Loans**

#### **Allan and Cyndi Williams - \$22,500**

Mr. Mitchell shared with the committee that the purpose of the loan was to provide permanent financing to purchase a grain truck. Mr. Mitchell provided a brief review of the borrower's finances and personal background. Committee members asked questions concerning the borrower's financial data and Mr. Mitchell satisfactorily addressed those questions.

Mr. Meister added that the Adams project was discussed in detail during the credit review process and that the credit review committee agreed to this small participation loan. Mr. Meister also added that he is in discussion with members of the Governor's office concerning recent legislation in regard to agricultural loans. Mr. Meister will prepare and present a resolution that will address this matter.

Chairman Leonard asked if the Committee had any objections to recommending the Allan and Cyndi Williams request for a Participation Loan to the Board for approval. There were no objections.

**James and Kimberly DeSutter - \$475,000**

Mr. Mitchell shared with the committee that the purpose of the loan was to provide permanent financing for the purchase of 151 acres of farmland. Mr. Mitchell briefly discussed the structure of the loan, the project summary, the project rationale and the borrower's financial data. Committee members presented no questions concerning the DeSutter loan.

Chairman Leonard asked if the committee had any objections to recommending the James and Kimberly DeSutter request for a Participation Loan to the Board for approval. There were no objections.

*Mr. Mitchell exited the meeting at 9:49 a.m.*

**McClure Farms - \$309,425.67**

Mr. Reed shared with the committee that the McClure Farms loan guarantee was originally approved by the Board in February 2004, and that the borrower is now requesting approval to extend the loan. Mr. Reed explained to the committee that the subject loan was originally written with a 5-year balloon because at that time a contract with another party was set to expire in 2008. Mr. Meister added that the request to extend the loan was thoroughly reviewed by the credit committee and that there will be no new debt.

Chairman Leonard asked if the committee had any objections to recommending the McClure Farms request for an Extension of an Agri-Debt Guarantee to the Board for approval. There were no objections.

**Beginning Farmer Bonds:**

**Clint Niemerg - \$236,520 and Joel Hartman - \$149,150**

Mr. Reed provided a review of the above noted beginning farmer bonds. There were no questions from the committee concerning the beginning farmer bonds.

Chairman Leonard asked if the committee had any objections to recommending the Clint Niemerg and Joel Hartman requests for a Beginning Farmer Bond to the Board for approval. There were no objections.

### **Other Business**

Mr. Meister shared with members of the committee that he received a request from the United States Department of Commerce requesting that the IFA meet with delegates from the Moroccan Government to discuss the IFA's Ag program. Mr. Mitchell will host that meeting.

Mr. Meister shared with members of the committee that on September 23, 2008, SB790 passed both houses of the General Assembly and was enacted into law as Public Act No. 95-1000 on October 7, 2008. Public Act No. 95-1000 will sweep a total of \$3 million of the \$19.8 million in available State Agricultural Loan Guarantee funds used by the IFA to support its agricultural guarantee programs. \$2M will be swept from the Agricultural Loan Guarantee Fund (0994) and \$1M will be swept from the Farmer & Agri- Business Loan Guarantee Fund (0205).

Mr. Meister also mentioned that the IFA may be presenting a project to the Board to fund a bio-fuels plant that will be located in Mapleton, Illinois.

Chairman Leonard asked if there was any other business to come before the Committee. There being none, Chairman Leonard requested a motion to adjourn. Upon a motion by Mr. Zeller and seconded by Mr. Leonard, the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:23 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla B. Burgess Jones, Secretary