



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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GOVERNOR DAYTON APPOINTS TWO NEW MINNESOTA HOUSING BOARD MEMBERS

(Saint Paul, MN) – Minnesota Housing welcomed two new Board members today after Mark Dayton named Stephanie Klinzing of Elk River as a new Board member and appointed Ken Johnson of Woodbury as Board Chair. Both will serve four-year terms on the seven member board. Current members include outgoing Chair Mike Finch, Gloria Bostrom, Joe Johnson, State Auditor Rebecca Otto and Barbara Sanderson. Johnson and Klinzing replace outgoing members Marina Lyons and Lee Himle, whose terms expired.

As Chair of the Board, Johnson will bring more than forty years of housing and economic development experience to Minnesota Housing. He was President and CEO of the Saint Paul Port Authority and Director of Planning and Economic Development for the City of Saint Paul, and brings a deep understanding of housing finance and economic development.

Stephanie Klinzing of Elk River brings government experience from greater Minnesota, having served as Mayor of Elk River, State Representative and member of the Sherburne County Board of Commissioners.

Johnson and Klinzing join Minnesota Housing just as the Agency releases requests for proposals for more than \$46 million in funding opportunities and more than \$11 million for Housing Tax Credits. They will vote to approve funding recommendations this October for proposals that support the agency's strategic priorities of preserving existing affordable housing, financing new affordable housing opportunities, preventing and ending homelessness, and mitigating foreclosure through prevention and remediation.

"As we create our next Affordable Housing Plan, I am excited to have the experience and leadership that Ken and Stephanie bring," said Mary Tingerthal, Minnesota Housing Commissioner. "We have a deep tradition of an involved board that is committed to our mission and Ken and Stephanie will be great assets."

In other agency news, after nearly twenty years of service, Mike Finch has decided to step down from the Minnesota Housing Board. "Mike has served Minnesota well and guided the Board with his commitment to affordably housing Minnesotans. His intellect, wit and dedication to the Agency will be greatly missed," said Commissioner Tingerthal. Finch served as Chair of the Board since 1995. Finch will continue to serve until his successor is appointed.

Individuals interested in applying to become a Minnesota Housing Board member should visit www.mn.gov/governor/appointments/.

Minnesota Housing is a state agency committed to financing and advancing affordable housing opportunities for low and moderate income Minnesotans to enhance quality of life and foster strong communities. The agency provides low-cost, fixed interest rate mortgages to low- and moderate-income individuals and families to purchase their first home and works with developers to finance affordable rental housing. Minnesota Housing invests more than \$1.6 billion in affordable housing each biennium with total assets of \$3.6 billion as of December 31, 2010.

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