

(2) PAY ACTUAL OPERATING AND STAFFING EXPENSES DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE ACTIVITIES OF THE TRUST, PROVIDED SUCH EXPENSES ANNUALLY DO NOT EXCEED 5% OF THE FUND.

(B) THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SHALL PROVIDE STAFF FOR THE TRUST.

(C) THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES SHALL:

(1) RECEIVE ALL APPLICATIONS FOR AWARDS;

(2) MAKE THE FINAL DECISION ABOUT ALL AWARDS; AND

(3) DEVELOP A PROCESS FOR MAKING AWARDS THAT ENCOURAGES A BROAD GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS.

11-106.

(A) THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES SHALL BE EXEMPT FROM:

(1) TAXATION BY THE STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS;

(2) THE GENERAL PROCUREMENT LAW PROVISIONS OF DIVISION II OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE; AND

(3) THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT, TITLE 10 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.

(B) THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES SHALL COMPLY WITH THE MARYLAND PUBLIC ETHICS LAW AS PROVIDED IN ARTICLE 40A OF THE CODE.

(C) THE BOOKS AND RECORDS OF THE TRUST SHALL BE SUBJECT TO AUDIT:

(1) BY THE STATE AT ITS DISCRETION; AND

(2) ANNUALLY BY AN INDEPENDENT AUDITOR APPROVED BY THE TRUST, AT THE EXPENSE OF THE TRUST.

(D) (1) THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES SHALL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND, SUBJECT TO § 2-1312 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, WITHIN THE FIRST 90 DAYS OF EACH FISCAL YEAR.

(2) THE REPORT SHALL SET FORTH A COMPLETE OPERATING AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE OPERATIONS OF THE TRUST AND SUMMARIZE THE ACTIVITIES OF THE TRUST DURING THE PRECEDING FISCAL YEAR.

11-107.

(A) ALL DEBTS, CLAIMS, OBLIGATIONS, AND LIABILITIES OF THE TRUST, WHENEVER INCURRED, SHALL BE THE DEBT, CLAIMS,