

MINUTES OF THE STARK COUNTY LAND REUTILIZATION CORPORATION
February 24, 2025

The Stark County Land Reutilization Corporation met for their regular meeting on Monday, February 24, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the Stark County Regional Planning Commission Conference Room.

1. CALL TO ORDER BY SCLRC CHAIRMAN, Alex Zumbar
2. ROLL CALL – Board Members Present

Roll call found the following board members in attendance: Alex Zumbar, Bill Smith, John Arnold, Chris Hardesty and Alan Harold.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 27, 2025 MEETING

Arnold moved and Harold seconded to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2025 meeting. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Voting Aye – Zumbar, Smith, Hardesty, Arnold, and Harold.

4. PUBLIC SPEAKS

5. TREASURER/FISCAL REPORT

Heather Cunningham reviewed the Treasurer’s Report for the month of January. Hardesty moved and Arnold seconded to approve the Treasurer’s Report for January as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Voting Aye – Zumbar, Smith, Hardesty, Arnold, and Harold.

6. SIDE LOT/VACANT LOT PROGRAM REPORT

Sarah Peters provided the Side Lot Program Update:

Total Applications Submitted: 2,745

(13 applications were received since January ’25 update)

Cities – 2,277

Canton: 1,801, Massillon: 191, Alliance: 285

Other Communities – 468

Beach City – 1, Bethlehem Twp – 77, Brewster – 9, Canal Fulton – 1, Canton Twp – 86, East Canton – 8, East Sparta – 2, Hartville – 3, Jackson Twp – 7, Lake Twp – 8, Lawrence Twp – 12, Lexington Twp – 77, Limaville – 2, Louisville – 2, Marlboro – 1, Meyer’s Lake – 1, Minerva – 5, Nimishillen – 6, North Canton – 2; Osnaburg Twp – 15, Paris Twp – 3, Perry Twp – 18, Pike Twp – 21, Plain Twp – 38, Sandy Twp – 42, Sugarcreek Twp – 6, Tuscarawas Twp – 2, Washington Twp – 6, Waynesburg – 6, Wilmot-1

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- Total Number of Applications under Preliminary Review: 13
 - Total Number of Applications Denied: 1034
 - Number of Canceled Applications/Fee Refunded: 189

- Total Number Pending Approval by Community: 12
- **Total Number of Approved Applications: 1,497**
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- Total Number of Approved Applications Pending Deposit Receipt / NIP Early Lien Release / Request for Foreclosure / Completed Foreclosure Proceeding / Forfeiture Request: 114
- Total Number Being Prepared for Transfer: 31
- **Total Number Transferred to Date: 1,352**

Vacant Lot Program Update:

Total Applications Submitted: 409

(1 applications received since January '25 update)

Cities – 283: Canton: 227, Massillon: 16, Alliance: 40

Other Communities – 126

Bethlehem Twp – 75, Canton Twp – 15, Hartville – 1, Jackson Twp – 4, Lake – 4, Lexington Twp – 9, Nimishillen – 3, Paris – 1, Perry – 1, Pike – 2, Sandy Twp – 7; Sugarcreek Twp – 1, Washington Twp – 4,

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- Total Number of Applications under Preliminary Review: 0
- Total Number of Applications Denied: 279
- Number of Canceled Applications/Fee Refunded: 25
- Total Number Pending Approval by Community: 4
- **Total Number of Approved Applications: 101**
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- Total Number of Approved Applications Pending Executed MOU/ Completion of Foreclosure Proceeding: 17
- Total Number Being Prepared for Transfer: 0
- Total Number Transferred to Date: 84

Arnold moved and Smith seconded to approve the Side Lot/Vacant Lot Report as submitted. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Voting Aye – Zumbar, Smith, Hardesty, Arnold, and Harold.

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

a. Targeted Acquisition Program Requests:

- Habitat for Humanity – 22 parcels

Habitat for Humanity submitted applications for 22 parcels located in the city of Canton; all are certified tax delinquent.

Zumbar moved and Arnold seconded to approve the TAAP requests. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Voting Aye – Zumbar, Smith, Hardesty, Arnold, and Harold.

8. **OLD BUSINESS**

a. FY 2025 Brownfield Remediation Program

Peters stated DOD hosted a webinar regarding the FY 25 upcoming application window and program guideline updates. The FY 24 application round DOD allocated about \$300 million. For this round, there is about \$50 million in available funding. One of the changes was a cap on the maximum amount applicants could request in cleanup funds to try and spread the money out a little bit. This round there is no county set-aside. The available funding is competitive and will be first-come, first serve upon application submission. DOD indicated the application window would only be open until the receive \$125 million in requests. The application window opened on February 19. The Land bank had been working with Alliance on two assessment grants. One application for the property the Land Bank owns at 555 East Main Street which would be an assessment grant for Tier 1, Tier 2, and a full Phase 2 with a request of approximately \$182,000. The second application was also for assessment, at 350 East Patterson, which would be a Phase 1, Phase 2, and any other needed assessments for just under \$112,000. The application window was only open for a brief period of time on Wednesday. Peters stated the application for 555 East Main was submitted but the other application was unable to be submitted before DOD closed the window.

9. NEXT MEETING – Monday March 20, 2025 - 9:00 a.m.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Alex Zumbar moved and Harold seconded to go into executive session due to pending litigation. Those members to include in the executive session are the SCLRC board members, the Assistant Prosecutor Jerry Yost, Legal Counsel John Anthony, Bob Nau, Nick Ross, and Sarah Peters. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Voting Aye – Zumbar, Smith, Hardesty, Arnold, and Harold.

Zumbar moved and Arnold seconded to return to regular session at 9:30 am.

Harold asked for updates regarding Stark Ceramics for the next meeting.

10. ADJOURNED