

MINUTES OF THE STARK COUNTY LAND REUTILIZATION CORPORATION
July 20, 2026

The Stark County Land Reutilization Corporation met for their regular meeting on Monday, July 20, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. in the Stark County Regional Planning Commission Conference Room.

1. CALL TO ORDER BY SCLRC CHAIRMAN, John Arnold
2. ROLL CALL – Board Members Present

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

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 15, 2026 MEETING

Harold moved and Zumbar seconded and the motion carried to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2026 meeting.

5. PUBLIC SPEAKS - none

6. TREASURER/FISCAL REPORT

Heather Cunningham reviewed the Treasurer's Report for the month of June. Arnold moved and Harold seconded and the motion carried to approve the Treasurer's Report for June as presented.

6. SIDE LOT/VACANT LOT PROGRAM REPORT

Sarah Peters provided the Side Lot Program Update.

Zumbar moved and Zahirsky seconded and the motion carried to approve the Side Lot/Vacant Lot Report as submitted.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- a. SCRPC and Land Bank will be moving to the County Office Building at 110 Central Plaza South, Suite 300.
- b. Demolition Assistance Program Requests:
 - Amanda Lang – Parcel #7206487

The Board considered a request from Amanda Lang of a demolition reimbursement application for a property on Fairland Street. Staff explained that Ms. Lang initially contacted the office seeking information about acquiring a blighted neighboring property. After independently contacting the owner, she purchased the property for \$1,000 through a quitclaim deed, assumed responsibility for approximately \$5,000 in delinquent taxes, and demolished the structure before submitting her reimbursement application. The township and county health department provided letters supporting the demolition, and Ms. Lang requested \$7,710 in reimbursement. The vacant property is currently listed for sale for \$34,900.

The demolition was completed prior to the application and approval process, which conflicts with the program's policies and procedures. Although the policy does not explicitly state the structure to be standing at the time of application, it outlines that work is to be completed after an application has been reviewed and approved. Staff also clarified that no one from their office advised Ms. Lang to demolish the structure before applying.

Board members discussed whether an exception should be made but expressed concerns that the project had become a private business decision rather than a case of financial assistance to eliminate blight. Members noted that the applicant had already sold her adjacent home, was marketing the vacant lot for sale, still owed delinquent property taxes, and had completed the demolition without program approval. Several members emphasized that grant programs are intended to provide incentives before work is undertaken, not retroactive reimbursement after a project has already been completed.

Arnold moved and Zahirsky seconded and the motion carried to deny the demolition funding assistance request.

8. OLD BUSINESS

Peters gave an update on Welcome Home Ohio Program. The SCLRC has signed purchase agreements with qualified buyers for the remaining four of ten houses. The closing dates have not been set yet, but all remaining are expected to close in the coming months.

9. NEXT MEETING – August 17, 2026 - 9:00 a.m.

10. ADJOURNED