

MINUTES OF THE STARK COUNTY LAND REUTILIZATION CORPORATION
September 21, 2026

The Stark County Land Reutilization Corporation met for their regular meeting on Monday, September 21, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. in the Stark County Regional Planning Commission Community Meeting 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, Peter Zahirsky and Alan Harold.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JULY 20, 2026 MEETING

Zumbar moved and Harold seconded and the motion carried to approve the minutes of the July 20, 2026 meeting. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Voting Aye – Arnold, Zumbar, Zahirsky and Harold.

4. PUBLIC SPEAKS - none

5. TREASURER/FISCAL REPORT

Heather Cunningham reviewed the Treasurer's Report for the months of July and August. Arnold moved and Zumbar seconded and the motion carried to approve the Treasurer's Reports as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Voting Aye – Arnold, Zumbar, Zahirsky and Harold.

6. SIDE LOT/VACANT LOT PROGRAM REPORT

Sarah Peters provided the Side Lot Program Updates for July and August.

Harold inquired about the "in process" total. It was clarified that the "in process" total for each month is the number listed in the particular column's cell and is not an added sum across the row.

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

7. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Targeted Acquisition Assistance Requests:
 - Habitat for Humanity – 7 parcels

Peters reviewed the Targeted Acquisition Program requests. The Land Bank received applications from Habitat for Humanity East Central Ohio for seven lots in the city of Massillon. Five of the seven parcels are vacant land that will either be combined or are standalone parcels that, if acquired, are intended for new home construction. The remaining two parcels contain an existing

structure that Habitat may rehabilitate and sell to a low-to-moderate income homeowner. All parcels are all certified tax delinquent. One parcel has already been forfeited to the state.

Harold asked about Habitat's anticipated construction timeline, particularly given the number of parcels Habitat currently has in its inventory and previous concerns about how quickly properties are absorbed. Peters indicated that these projects may be scheduled for late 2027 or 2028 given the average timeframe for the TAAP process. Given the number of properties Habitat is pursuing in the city of Massillon is less than the city of Canton, it is assumed that Habitat would move quickly upon acquisition on these lots.

Zumbar moved and Arnold seconded and the motion carried to approve the Targeted Acquisition Assistance Requests as submitted. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Voting Aye – Arnold, Zumbar, Zahirsky and Harold.

b. FY 27 Demolition & Site Revitalization Program – Grant Application

Peters stated the Ohio Department of Development has opened a new competitive funding round through its Demolition and Site Revitalization Program, with approximately \$21–\$22 million available statewide. Land banks serve as the lead entities in counties where they are established. Staff has been working with cities, villages, and townships to identify projects that are sufficiently developed and could meet the program's requirements. A working list of potential projects has been assembled, including both commercial and residential projects. Some project costs have been established, while others are still being estimated.

The application period will close October 16, before the next Land Bank meeting. Staff will provide a follow-up at the next meeting on which projects had complete documentation and were ultimately submitted. It was also clarified that residential and commercial projects compete for the same funding pool. Unlike previous rounds that were first-come, first-served, this round will use a merit-based scoring process.

c. Ohio Auditor of State Award for 2025

Heather Cunningham stated that she was informed by the Ohio Auditor of State the Land Bank was being awarded the Auditor of State Award for the 2025 audit for excellence in financial reporting.

8. OLD BUSINESS

Peters gave an update on Welcome Home Ohio Program. The seventh house closed on August 28, and the Land Bank is currently waiting on approximately \$200,000 in reimbursement, which has already been approved and is expected soon. There are three houses remaining, all of which are under contract with income-qualified buyers. The properties are built, and the buyers are completing final steps, including appraisals, before closing. The Land Bank has until December to complete the remaining three transfers and expects to meet that deadline.

9. NEXT MEETING – October 19, 2026 - 9:00 a.m.

10. ADJOURNED