



**Kalamazoo County Land Bank Fast Track Authority  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes—August 12, 2021  
Electronic Meeting**

Members Present: Elizabeth Schlott, Thomas Whitener, Carl Roberts, Qianna Decker, Rebekah Kik, Brian Hudson

Members Absent: Holly Crump

County Liaison Present: Veronica McKissack

County Liaison Absent: Tami Rey

Staff Present: Kelly Clarke, Theresa Coty O’Neil, Reality Rojas, I’yanna Wilson, Tammy Lahman

Community Members Present: Joe Agostinelli, Jared Lutz, Paul Matz, Tobi Hanna-Davis, Tiyanna W, Zac Bauer, Ray Sweany, Patrese Griffin, Sharilyn, Jeff Tafel, Kururama Sanchez, Emily Olivares, Matt Micarek, Kathy Cooney, Andrew Chaponanda, Quail Farmer, Benjamin Stanley

The August 12th, 2021 Meeting of the Kalamazoo County Land Bank Authority Board of Directors was called to order by Whitener at 8:31 AM via Zoom. Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88138799938?pwd=WWd6YUZqaTBqQlJxZ05lWU4rVHEvdz09>

Approval of June Minutes:

Roberts made the motion.

Hudson seconded the motion.

Approval of June Minutes unanimously.

Additions: Whitener added one addition after the commission liaison comments to hear the audit presentation.

Addition to the agenda:

Hudson made the motion

Roberts seconded the motion

Addition to the agenda passed unanimously.

Citizen’s Time: Agostinelli informed the board of a project his firm was working on with a client with the hopes that the Land Bank would see it as an opportunity to create a win-win for the community.

Davies, Sweeny, Tiyanna, Griffin, Sharilyn, Lager, Tafel and Bower all expressed a desire to keep pricing for nonprofits the same regarding the proposed Real Estate Disposition Policy Amendment.

Commission Liaison Comments: Commissioner McKissack informed the board that county commissioners have been reviewing the criteria to assist the agency through this pandemic as well as the budget cycle.

Whitener read an email from absent Commissioner Rey who expressed desire to maintain the nonprofit pricing regarding the Real Estate Disposition Policy Amendment.

Audit Report: Matz shared the land bank audit. Attached in the August board packet.

Chair's Remarks: Whitener informed the board they are still working on seeking American Rescue Act funds for the purpose of funding the Eastside Square project to collapse the timeline. He is also seeking the restoration of an Annual Operating Contribution from the county because those funds are important to maintaining the operations of the Land Bank. Whitener informed everyone that comments expressed about the Real Estate Disposition Policy Amendment have been heard. Whitener thanked community members for sharing their comments and indicated the policy changes were in response to the funding challenges the Land Bank is facing. Whitener shared he would recommend that the policy changes be put on hold so that the agencies could meet with partners to see if a funding solution could be identified which would allow the programs to remain at the current pricing.

Executive Director Report: Clarke shared midyear report/ed report. Attached in the August board meeting packet.

#### Regular Agenda

- Accept Annual Audit

Hudson Made the motion.

Roberts seconded the motion.

Annual Audit passed unanimously

- Salary Schedule Adjustment

Decker made the motion.

Kik seconded the motion.

Salary schedule adjustment passed unanimously

- Real Estate Disposition Policies Amendment – Tabled until next meeting

- o Pricing for non-profit sales
- o Pricing for Side Lot Sales
- o Land Banking Policies

Hudson made the motion.

Roberts seconded the motion.

Motion to table passed unanimously

Real Estate Update: N/A

DEI Committee Update: Roberts shared the communication efforts made by O'Neil and Wilson. Roberts shared the committee is documenting the metrics for the DEI organizational goals and is currently working on community goals. Land Bank has a lending library and there are six titles available to the staff and the board, additional training opportunities were included in the board packet. All were encouraged to identify opportunities for training or additional reading.

Affirmative/Vibrant: Decker informed the board they are moving forward with putting financial education seminars together with Public Media Network and Kalamazoo Eastside Neighborhood Association. Hoping to start in October and end in January.

Board Member Comments: Kik commented she shares concerns of those expressed during public comment regarding the Real Estate Disposition Policy Amendment.

Decker commented on the Real Estate Disposition Policy Amendment and stated she would not like the change to hinder nonprofits. Decker expressed her gratitude that the board will take the time to see if solutions can be identified that allow the program to continue.

Roberts stated the analysis of the Real Estate Disposition Policy Amendment will take time and hopes the county and other organizations can offer resources for the Land Bank. If the proposed change is not the direction, there needs to be alternatives to address funding shortfalls associated with the budget cuts of last year.

Move to adjourn:

Meeting adjourned at 9:48 AM

DRAFT