



Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, January 18, 2021
Zoom

On Thursday, January 21, 2021, the Ohio Land Bank Association meeting was called to order at 10:33 a.m. with the following Directors present and constituted a quorum for conducting the business of the Ohio Land Bank Association:

Gus Frangos
David Mann
Patrick Bravo
Shawn Carvin
Eddy Eckart
Amy Hamrick
Jessica Powell
Tom Schneider
Curtiss Williams

Guests: Jacqui Knettel
James Rokakis
Isaac Hoffman

At 10:35 a.m., Debora Flora and Ric Wasserman joined the Zoom Board Meeting

1. Approval of the December 10, 2020 Minutes

The minutes of the December 10, 2020, OLBA Board meeting were forwarded to all Directors for review. A motion for the approval of the minutes was made by Patrick Bravo, seconded by Tom Schneider. The minutes of the December 10, 2020 OLBA Board meeting were passed unanimously.

2. President's Remarks - Status of Litigation and Legal Costs to Date

Gus Frangos presented to the Board the status of the Mark Dann litigation and the legal costs associated with these proceedings to date. The Board was informed that the case of *Harrison v. Montgomery County* has been dismissed. Motions for Summary Judgment were filed in the *Tarrify Properties, LLC v. Cuyahoga County, et al* case. The judge denied the Motion for Summary Judgment in the *Tarrify* case and has set the matter for trial. The attorney for the Plaintiff on the *State of Ohio Ex Rel Feltner vs. Cuyahoga County Board of Revision, et al* case has filed a Writ of Certiorari to the United States Supreme Court. A response to the Writ of Certiorari will be filed. Patrick Bravo informed the Board that an action has been filed in Summit County by Attorney Marc Dann in Summit County as well. David Mann has requested that a meeting be scheduled with members of the Board to discuss the litigation in further detail and future planning depending on the litigation outcomes.

3. Report of Thriving Communities Institute presented by Jim Rokakis.

- Jim Rokakis introduced Isaac Hoffman who will be assisting Jim with technical work and advocacy work on behalf of Ohio land banks.
- Senator Brown and Senator Portman’s offices have been contacted and discussions have been had on advocating for additional demolition funding.
- Jim has asked for the support of the OLBA in contacting political representatives for support of a land bank demolition funding bill. Letters and telephone calls will be necessary to petition for additional demolition funding and support. David Mann and Eddie Eckart indicated a willingness to be on an outreach committee. It was suggested that the Lobbying and Advocacy Committee take up this charge.
- Congressman Tim Ryan is considering the reintroduction of H.R. 2390 to authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to make grants to States for use to eliminate blight and assist in neighborhood revitalization.

4. Policy and Advocacy Committee

No report submitted for January

5. Committee Reports

- a. Finance & Membership Committee – The year-end 2020 financial statement is indicated below:

	2019 Budget Actual	2020 Budget, as amended	2020 Budget Actual	Budget to Actuals %
Unencumbered Beginning Balance	\$ -	\$ 45,669	\$ 45,669	
REVENUES				
Full Member Dues	\$ 106,500	\$ 105,000	\$ 103,750	98.8%
Associate Member Dues	\$ -	\$ 2,500	\$ -	0.0%
Sponsorships	\$ 1,000	\$ 22,500	\$ 6,500	28.9%
Miscellaneous Income	\$ -	\$ 55,000	\$ 67,280	122.3%
Total Revenues	\$ 107,500	\$ 185,000	\$ 177,530	96.0%
EXPENSES				
Management & Consulting	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	100.0%
Legislation & Advocacy	\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ -	0.0%
Services & Support	\$ 3,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 2,159	21.6%
Legal & Legal Defense	\$ 6,356	\$ 115,000	\$ 105,000	91.3%
Accounting	\$ 723	\$ 5,000	\$ 50	1.0%
Insurance	\$ 1,752	\$ 2,500	\$ 1,859	74.4%
Marketing & Communications	\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ -	0.0%
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$ -	\$ 2,500	\$ -	0.0%
Total Expenses	\$ 61,831	\$ 205,000	\$ 159,068	77.6%
Unencumbered Ending Balance	\$ 45,669	\$ 25,669	\$ 64,131	249.8%

b. Services and Support Committee –

- To date, 43 responses to the Ohio Land Bank Survey have been received. Follow-up to the non-responding land banks will be made. An update will be provided at the February meeting.
- Debora Flora is the new committee chair for the Services & Support committee for calendar year 2021. Shawn Carvin and Patrick Bravo developed a master communications calendar to track network meetings, annual conference and newsletter distribution. The calendar will include OLBA Director meetings, committee meetings and other activities of the OLBA. Google Suite has been purchased on behalf of the OLBA. Amy Hamrick will contribute to the quarterly network meeting and conference planning. Debora Flora will coordinate newsletter content.
- It has been recommended that virtual network meetings be held in March, June and December with a possible virtual annual conference in September. It has been requested that the OLBA Board members seek sponsors for the network meetings.
- Discussion was had on investigating a Zoom subscription or another conferencing platform for virtual meetings. The Board would further like to discuss the role between Western Reserve Land Conservancy and OLBA.

The OLBA Board recommended that it continue to hold monthly Board meetings.

A motion for the approval of the Committee reports was made by Patrick Bravo, seconded by Eddy Eckart. The Committee reports as presented were unanimously approved and accepted.

6. Old Business:

Status of Legislative Amendments.

- The legislative amendments have been submitted and are currently with Senator Dolan's office. Gus Frangos will submit to the OLBA Board the latest version of amendments that have been submitted.

7. Next Board meeting of the OLBA will be Thursday, February 4th at 10:30 a.m.

8. Adjournment: There being no more business to come before the meeting, Eddie Eckart moved that the meeting be adjourned. His motion was seconded by Debora Flora and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:54 a.m.

The minutes related to the Board of Directors' regular monthly meeting of January 21st, 2021 set forth above are the minutes approved by the Board of Directors at their meeting of February 4, 2021. By: Jacqui Knettel