**Valdosta / Lowndes County Land Bank Authority**

**Meeting Minutes**

**October 16, 2024**

**Historic Courthouse**

**Members**: James Miller, Joyce Evans, Carla Walker, Jill Maine

Others Present: Billy Steinberg, Rachel Thrasher, Eric Thomas

The meeting was called to order at 11:07 a.m. Ms. Walker led the Invocation.

**September Meeting Minutes Approval:** After reading the September minutes, Ms. Walker made a motion to approve, Ms. Maine seconded. Motion carried.

**Policies/Procedures:** After going over and discussing the policies and procedures Mr. Steinberg will make the necessary changes and have the final draft to present at the November meeting.

**822 and 823 E Brookwood Dr:** Counteroffer was accepted. Mr. Steinberg suggested the purchaser have their attorney to prepare a draft settlement statement and deeds. The LBA Counsel will review the documents and set a closing date.

**GALBA Summit:** Mr. Thomas discussed attending the 2024 Summit being held in Atlanta GA. October 29th, 30th. The Board gave Mr. Thomas approval to attend.

**Open Discussion**- Mr. Thomas inquired about the status on Fresno St. property. Mr. Steinberg indicated that it is in the hands of the City Attorney (Mr. Tanner) and it will be presented to the City Council. Also, Mr. Thomas stated that Ms. Bolden (City Clerk) contacted him regarding the LBA Executive Sessions. Ms. Bolden informed Mr. Thomas that the LBA needed an affidavit signed by all board members and to have it notarized before entering an Executive Session. Mr. Steinberg will investigate the matter to make sure that it is something the LBA is required to do.

Mr. Miller asked about a bill (Tax Court)? How would it impact the LBA? Mr. Steinberg stated he was not aware of the Bill but would investigate it. Ms. Evans stated she would send Mr. Steinberg copies of the Bill. Mr. Miller also asked about the Property Tax Exemption and how it would impact the LBA. Ms. Evans will give copies to Mr. Miller and stated it may help explain the impact. Mr. Miller also brought up core planning and the finance position of the LBA. Mr. Miller also addressed the LBA mission statement, what should it state. Mr. Miller stated it should be clear and concise about what the LBA is, how the LBA is doing it, and who is the LBA doing it for. What type of organization should the LBA be in the next 3 to 5 years? Mr. Miller stated this will help shape our communication, policies, procedures and how the LBA implements the policies and procedures. Ms. Walker stated in the P/P under **Purpose** is a good stating point for the LBA mission statement. Ms. Maine mentioned in the past the State LBA came and gave a presentation to the Board regarding the LBA strategies and strategic planning. Mr. Miller also suggested that Mr. Thomas investigate financial software products that the LBA could use soon. Ms. Maine suggested a website (techsoup.org) for software options. Mr. Miller thanked everyone for attending.

 **Adjourn:** 12:04 p.m.