**Valdosta / Lowndes County Land Bank Authority**

**Meeting Minutes**

**September 18th, 2024**

**Historic Courthouse**

**Members**: James Miller, Burke Sherwood, Sandra Tooley, Joyce Evans, Carla Walker, Jill Maine

Others Present: Billy Steinberg, Charizma Harp, Eric Thomas

The meeting was called to order at 11:04 a.m. Mr. Thomas led the invocation.

**August Meeting Minutes Approval-** After a few corrections, Mr. Sherwood made a motion to approve, Ms. Tooley seconded. Motion carried.

**Fresno ST Update-** Ms. Tooley stated the city voted to take property back from the LBA and to take over all the responsibilities regarding the parcel. Mr. Steinberg will contact Mr. Tanner to complete the transaction.

**J L Lomax Property-** Based on Mr. Steinberg findings, he suggested it would not be in the best interest of the LBA to accept this property in inventory. Mr. Sherwood made a motion to decline the property located at 613 J L Lomax for donation at this time, unless the owner corrects the title issues. Ms. Walker seconded the motion. Motion carried not to accept said property at this time.

**Policies/Procedures**- Mr. Steinberg presented the board with drafts of the policies/ procedures for the LBA. Mr. Steinberg suggested that each member review the documents and give him feedback, before the Board accepts the policies and procedures.

**Property Proposal**- Mr. Thomas presented a proposal for 822 and 830 E Brookwood Dr. After much discussion, Ms. Walker motioned to accept the proposal on said parcels subject to the price being $3,500 for each property. Ms. Tooley seconded the motion. Motion carried. Mr. Thomas will present the counteroffer to the buyer.

**Open Discussion**- Ms. Tooley opens the discussion on the process of attaining properties that the LBA would be interested in purchasing. Ms. Tooley mentioned that there was a list of properties that LBA had in the past that the city owned for the LBA to evaluate. Mr. Thomas stated that he believes has the list. Ms. Evans stated that she would get a list of the properties that the county owns. Mr. Thomas shared that he has been in contact with a consulting firm (Tolemi) to assist land banks to identify potential properties for acquisition. Ms. Walker suggested the Land Bank should have the SOPs in place before hiring a consultant. Mr. Miller stated also that the LBA should identify an auditor to make sure the LBA has the books and financials in place. This will help the land bank to do business with banks and other financial institutions in the future.

 **Adjourn**- 11:58 a.m.