



October 28, 2011

Cuyahoga County Land Reutilization Corporation

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Cuyahoga Land Bank Board gets new leadership, expands board *Brancatelli named Chairman, Dan Brady named Vice-Chairman*

Cleveland City Councilman Tony Brancatelli and Cuyahoga County Councilman Dan Brady were unanimously voted Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Board of the Cuyahoga County Land Reutilization Corporation (Cuyahoga Land Bank) and served in their new roles at today's board meeting.

Councilman Brancatelli was first appointed and then elected to Cleveland City Council in 2005. He represents the Slavic Village and Broadway neighborhoods as well as parts of the Old Brooklyn neighborhood. Councilman Brancatelli, who chairs Council's Community & Economic Development Committee, is one of the City's leading voices fighting against the foreclosure epidemic and is recognized nationally for his work in this area. Prior to serving on Council, Brancatelli was executive director of Slavic Village Development for 15 years.

"Cuyahoga County has been hit as hard as any community by the foreclosure crisis. I am proud of the ground-breaking work of the Cuyahoga Land Bank as we address the crisis through acquisition, demolition, and rehabilitation of vacant and abandoned properties. I am honored to be named Chairman of this non-profit organization which plays a key role in the restoration of our neighborhoods and business districts," said Brancatelli.

Councilman Brady was elected to represent District 3 on Cuyahoga County Council, which includes Cleveland's west side, in 2010. His vision is to work collaboratively with other governments and non-profits to achieve community goals and promote regional development. Prior to serving on Cuyahoga County Council, Brady served as a State Senator (D-23), a State Representative (D-17), and a three term Cleveland City Councilman. His wife, Dona Brady, serves as a Cleveland city council member.

"The work that the Cuyahoga Land Bank undertakes is the most challenging of any organization in Cuyahoga County. I have watched this organization grow from an idea to a positive force in our community. We have no greater challenge than to turn around this county following the devastating impact of the foreclosure crisis. I look forward to the work ahead of us," said Brady.

As their first action, the new leadership presented South Euclid Mayor Georgine Welo with a Cleveland City Council resolution thanking her for her service as the outgoing chair of the Cuyahoga Land Bank Board.

Under new leadership, the Cuyahoga Land Bank board voted today to approve structure changes that will resolve questions surrounding the board's composition.

Under the new structure, the number of board directors has increased from seven to nine members; three Statutory Directors (Cuyahoga County Executive or representative, Cuyahoga County Treasurer or representative and Cuyahoga County Council Member or representative); two Directors from the largest municipality in the County (currently Cleveland), and four Directors unanimously selected by the Statutory Directors.

The Statutory Directors will make appointments in compliance with the law and, if needed, petition the state legislature for any appropriate changes the Directors believe will facilitate the Land Bank's mission and outreach.



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