

**GREATER MOHAWK VALLEY LAND BANK CORPORATION**

**Financial Statements as of  
December 31, 2017  
Together with  
Independent Auditor's Report  
And Report Required by *Government*  
*Auditing Standards***

**Bonadio & Co., LLP**  
Certified Public Accountants

# GREATER MOHAWK VALLEY LAND BANK CORPORATION

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

August 8, 2018

To the Board of Directors of  
Greater Mohawk Valley Land Bank Corporation:

### **Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Greater Mohawk Valley Land Bank Corporation (the Corporation), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2017, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Corporation's basic financial statements as listed in the Table of Contents.

### **Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

432 North Franklin Street, Suite 60  
Syracuse, New York 13204  
p (315) 476-4004  
f (315) 475-1513

[www.bonadio.com](http://www.bonadio.com)

(Continued)

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

(Continued)

### ***Opinion***

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Corporation as of December 31, 2017, and the change in its financial position and its cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

### **Other Matters**

#### ***Required Supplementary Information***

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

#### **Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated August 8, 2018 on our consideration of the Corporation's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Corporation's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Corporation's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

## **GREATER MOHAWK VALLEY LAND BANK CORPORATION**

### **MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (UNAUDITED)**

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This section of the Greater Mohawk Valley Land Bank Corporation (the Corporation) annual financial report presents discussion and analysis of the Corporation's financial performance during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2017 and 2016. Please read it in conjunction with the Corporation's financial statements and accompanying notes.

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

The Greater Mohawk Valley Land Bank Corporation (the Corporation), was formed in 2016 to address the problems of vacant, abandoned, or tax delinquent property in the Counties of Herkimer, Montgomery, Otsego, and Schoharie and the Cities of Rome and Utica (collectively, the Members), in a coordinated manner through the acquisition of real property. The mission of the Corporation is to strengthen communities across the Mohawk Valley by helping to return neglected and abandoned buildings to productive use.

#### **OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

This annual financial report consists of two parts: this section, the Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A), and the basic financial statements. The Corporation is a self-supporting entity and follows business-type activity reporting; accordingly, the financial statements are presented using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Business-type activity statements offer short-term and long-term financial information about the activities and operations of the Corporation. This annual report consists of the financial statements and notes to those statements. The Statement of Net Position, Statement of Revenue, Expenses and Changes in Net Position, the Statement of Cash Flows and related notes provide a detailed look at the specific financial activities of the Corporation and generally provide an indication of the Company's financial health. The Statement of Net Position include all of the Corporation's assets and liabilities, using the accrual basis of accounting. The Statement of Revenue, Expenses and Change in Net Position report all of the revenues and expenses during the time period indicated. The Statement of Cash Flows report the cash provided and used by operating activities, as well as other cash sources such as investment income and cash payments for debt.

#### **FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

- The Corporation's total net position at December 31, 2017 is \$52,200 and at December 31, 2016 is \$66,250.
- Total current assets at December 31, 2017 are \$68,845 and at December 31, 2016 are \$66,250. In 2017 it is comprised of cash on hand, inventory and prepaid insurance and in 2016 it is comprised of cash on hand.
- Total current liabilities at December 31, 2017 are \$22,486 comprised of accounts payable made up mainly of salary, insurance and general and administrative expenses. There are no current liabilities as of December 31, 2016.
- Operating revenues at December 31, 2017 were \$203,572 and at December 31, 2016 were \$75,000. Operating revenues for both years consisted of grant funds from LISC as well as a small current year portion from the City of Utica.
- Operating expenses at December 31, 2017 are \$217,479 up from \$8,750 at December 31, 2016 due to 2017 being the first full year of operation.
- Operating loss at December 31, 2017 is \$(14,050).

## FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE CORPORATION

Below is an analysis of the assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses of the Corporation.

### Summary of Assets, Liabilities, and Net Position

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Current assets	\$ 68,845	\$ 66,250
Capital assets	<u>5,841</u>	<u>-</u>
Total assets	<u>74,686</u>	<u>66,250</u>
Current liabilities	<u>22,486</u>	<u>-</u>
Net position:		
Net investment in capital assets	5,841	-
Unrestricted	<u>46,359</u>	<u>66,250</u>
Total net position	<u>\$ 52,200</u>	<u>\$ 66,250</u>

### CURRENT ASSETS

Current assets at December 31, 2017 were comprised of cash on hand, inventory and prepaid insurance. Current assets at December 31, 2016 were comprised strictly of cash on hand.

### INVENTORY

The Corporation obtained inventory in 2017, while in 2016 there was no inventory. At December 31, 2017, the Corporation owned 2 properties.

### CAPITAL ASSETS

As of December 31, 2017, capital assets consists of various computer equipment, furniture and software.

### CURRENT LIABILITIES

Current liabilities are \$22,486 at December 31, 2017 comprising of consulting fees, insurance and general and administrative expenses accounted for in accounts payable.

### BUDGET

The Corporation's current year operational performance is not indicative of what was budgeted for the year and accordingly, a comparison of budget to actual figures will not be presented.

## FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE CORPORATION (Continued)

### Summary of Revenues, Expenses, and Change in Net Position

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
OPERATING REVENUES:		
Grant and government subsidy revenue	\$ <u>203,572</u>	\$ <u>75,000</u>
Total operating revenues	<u>203,572</u>	<u>75,000</u>
OPERATING EXPENSES:		
Cost of sales	225	-
Demolition contributions	18,190	-
Research and development	2,296	-
Consulting	133,492	7,000
Insurance	9,664	-
Professional services	30,799	-
General and administrative expenses	9,565	1,750
Rent	3,712	-
Conferences and meetings	1,127	-
Travel	<u>8,409</u>	<u>-</u>
Total operating expenses	<u>217,479</u>	<u>8,750</u>
OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)	<u>(13,907)</u>	<u>66,250</u>
NON-OPERATING EXPENSE:		
Miscellaneous expense	<u>(143)</u>	<u>-</u>
INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE CONTRIBUTIONS	<u>(14,050)</u>	<u>66,250</u>
CHANGE IN NET POSITION	(14,050)	66,250
NET POSITION - beginning of year	<u>66,250</u>	<u>-</u>
NET POSITION - end of year	<u>\$ 52,200</u>	<u>\$ 66,250</u>

#### OPERATING REVENUES

There were no property sales during the year ended December 31, 2017. Operating revenue is made up several grants from LISC as well as the City of Utica. In 2016, the Corporation had grant revenue from LISC.

#### OPERATING EXPENSES

Operating expenses in 2017 were comprised mainly of consulting fees, professional services and demolition expenses.

#### OPERATING RESULTS

The Corporation had operating deficit of \$14,050 for the year ended December 31, 2017. The negative balance is the result of expenses in excess of revenues.

## **REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

This financial report is designed to provide the reader with a general overview of the Corporation's finances. Questions concerning any information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to the Greater Mohawk Valley Land Bank Corporation, 26 West Main Street, PO Box 69 Mohawk, NY 13407.



**GREATER MOHAWK VALLEY LAND BANK CORPORATION**

**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION  
DECEMBER 31, 2017**

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**ASSETS**

CURRENT ASSETS:

Cash	\$	46,240
Inventory		1,987
Prepaid expenses		<u>20,618</u>

Total current assets 68,845

NONCURRENT ASSETS:

Capital assets, net		<u>5,841</u>
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Total assets 74,686

**LIABILITIES**

CURRENT LIABILITIES:

Accounts payable		<u>22,486</u>
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Total liabilities 22,486

**NET POSITION**

Net investment in capital assets		5,841
Unrestricted		<u>46,359</u>

Total net position \$ 52,200

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

# GREATER MOHAWK VALLEY LAND BANK CORPORATION

## STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENSES AND CHANGE IN NET POSITION FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017

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### OPERATING REVENUES:

Grant and government subsidy revenue \$ 203,572

Total operating revenues 203,572

### OPERATING EXPENSES:

Cost of sales 225

Demolition contributions 18,190

Research and development 2,296

Consulting 133,492

Insurance 9,664

Professional services 30,799

General and administrative expenses 9,565

Rent 3,712

Conferences and meetings 1,127

Travel 8,409

Total operating expenses 217,479

OPERATING LOSS (13,907)

### NON-OPERATING EXPENSE:

Miscellaneous expense (143)

NET OPERATING LOSS (14,050)

CHANGE IN NET POSITION (14,050)

NET POSITION - beginning of year 66,250

NET POSITION - end of year \$ 52,200

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

# GREATER MOHAWK VALLEY LAND BANK CORPORATION

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017

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CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:	
Cash received from grant and government subsidies	\$ 203,572
Cash paid for inventory	(19,698)
Cash paid for general and administrative expenses	(4,947)
Cash paid for professional services	(29,522)
Cash paid for consulting	(127,010)
Cash paid for conferences and meetings	(912)
Cash paid for insurance	(23,479)
Cash paid for rent	(3,712)
Cash paid for travel	(8,318)
Net cash from operating activities	<u>(14,026)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES:	
Purchase of capital assets	<u>(5,841)</u>
Net cash from capital and related financing activities	<u>(5,841)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:	
Net miscellaneous income	<u>(143)</u>
Net cash from investing activities	<u>(143)</u>
CHANGE IN CASH	(20,010)
CASH - beginning of year	<u>66,250</u>
CASH - end of year	<u>\$ 46,240</u>
RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING INCOME TO CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:	
Operating loss	\$ (13,907)
Adjustments to reconcile operating loss to net cash flow from operating activities	
Changes in:	
Inventory	(1,987)
Prepaid expenses	(20,618)
Accounts payable	<u>22,486</u>
Net cash from operating activities	<u>(14,026)</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

# GREATER MOHAWK VALLEY LAND BANK CORPORATION

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2017

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### 1. ORGANIZATION

The Greater Mohawk Valley Land Bank Corporation (the Corporation), was formed in 2016 to address the problems of vacant, abandoned, or tax delinquent property in the Counties of Herkimer, Montgomery, Otsego, and Schoharie and the Cities of Rome and Utica (collectively, the Members), in a coordinated manner through the acquisition of real property. The mission of the Corporation is to strengthen communities across the Mohawk Valley by helping to return neglected and abandoned buildings to productive use.

The Corporation was created by the Members via a joint venture.

### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### **Basis of Presentation**

The basic financial statements of the Corporation have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) for governments as prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), which is the primary standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial principles.

#### **Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting**

The Corporation operates as a proprietary fund. Proprietary funds utilize an “economic resources” measurement focus. The accounting objectives of this measurement focus are the determination of operating income, changes in net position (or cost recovery), financial position, and cash flows. All assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources (whether current or noncurrent, and when applicable) associated with their activities are reported. Fund equity is classified as net position.

The Corporation utilizes the accrual basis of accounting. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recorded when the liability is incurred or an economic asset is used.

#### **Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

#### **Income Tax Status**

The Corporation was organized as a not-for-profit corporation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

## 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

### **Inventory**

As of December 31, 2017, the Corporation owns two pieces of property acquired for \$1,987.

### **Capital Assets**

Capital assets include computers and equipment, furniture and fixtures, and software. Capital assets are defined by the Corporation as assets with an initial individual cost of more than \$1,000 and having an estimated useful life in excess of one year. Assets will be depreciated using the straight-line method.

### **Prepaid Expenses**

Prepaid expenses at December 31, 2017 are comprised of amounts for 2018 insurance policies paid prior to fiscal year end.

### **Grant and Government Subsidy Revenue**

At December 31, 2017, the Corporation recognized approximately \$203,000 in grant revenue received primarily from the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC).

### **Operating and Non-operating Revenues and Expenses**

As a business-type activity, the Corporation distinguishes operating revenues and expenses from non-operating items. Operating revenues are mostly comprised of grant and government subsidy revenue resulting from exchange transactions associated with the principal activities of the Corporation. Operating expenses generally consist of general and administrative expenses associated with the Corporation's mission. All revenues and expenses not meeting these definitions are reported as non-operating revenues and expenses.

### **Cost of Sales**

At the time of sale of inventory, the book value of inventory is recognized as expense under cost of sales. Cost of sales also include expenses incurred to maintain properties held in inventory that do not meet the definition to be treated as inventory. These include, but are not limited to, property taxes, mowing, and other property maintenance costs.

## 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

### **Net Position**

Equity is classified as net position and displayed in three components:

- a. Net investment in capital assets - capital assets including restricted capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, mortgages, notes, or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.
- b. Restricted net position - net position with constraints placed on their use either by (1) external groups such as creditors or laws or regulations of other governments; or (2) law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. The Corporation does not have restricted net position at December 31, 2017.
- c. Unrestricted net position - all other net position that does not meet the definition of net investment in capital assets or restricted net position.

It is the Corporation's policy to first apply restricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available.

## 3. DEPOSITS WITH FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND INVESTMENTS

The Corporation follows an investment and deposit policy, the overall objective of which is to adequately safeguard the principal amount of funds invested or deposited; conform with federal, state and other legal requirements; and provide sufficient liquidity of invested funds in order to meet obligations as they become due. Oversight of investment activity is the responsibility of the Executive Director.

Monies must be deposited in Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) insured commercial banks or trust companies located within and authorized to do business in New York State (NYS). Collateral is required for deposits and certificates of deposit not covered by FDIC insurance. Obligations that may be pledged as collateral are those identified in NYS General Municipal Law, Section 10 and outlined in the NYS Comptroller's Financial Management Guide.

### **Interest Rate Risk**

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value of investments will be affected by changing interest rates. The Corporation has an investment policy that limits investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates.

### **Credit Risk**

The Corporation's policy is to minimize the risk of loss due to failure of an issuer or other counterparty to an investment to fulfill its obligations.

### 3. DEPOSITS WITH FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND INVESTMENTS (Continued)

#### Custodial Credit Risk

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of a failure of a depository financial institution, the reporting entity may not recover its deposits. In accordance with the Corporation's investment and deposit policy, all deposits of the Corporation including certificates of deposit and special time deposits, in excess of the amount insured under the provisions of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (FDIA) shall be secured by a pledge of securities with an aggregate value equal to the aggregate amount of deposits.

The Corporation restricts the securities to the following eligible items:

- Obligations issued, or fully insured or guaranteed as to the payment of principal and interest, by the United States of America, an agency thereof or a United States government sponsored corporation;
- Obligations partially insured or guaranteed by an agency of the United States of America;
- Obligations issued or fully insured or guaranteed by NYS;
- Obligations issued by a municipal corporation, school district or district corporation of NYS;
- Obligations issued by states (other than NYS) of the United States of America rated in one of the two highest rating categories by at least one Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organization (NRSRO).

The Corporation maintained cash balances with a financial institution insured by the FDIC up to \$250,000, for interest bearing and non-interest bearing accounts. At December 31, 2017, the Corporation's deposits consisted of \$46,240 in cash, and was insured in full by FDIC.

### 4. CAPITAL ASSETS

The Corporation's capital assets activity for the year ended December 31, 2017 was as follows:

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deductions</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
Computers and equipment	\$ -	\$ 4,436	\$ -	\$ 4,436
Furniture and fixtures	-	778	-	778
Software	<u>-</u>	<u>627</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>627</u>
Total	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 5,841</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 5,841</u>

There was no depreciation expense recorded for the year ended December 31, 2017.

## 5. INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT

Within the parameters of the New York Land Bank Act of Article 16 of the New York Not-for-Profit Corporation Law, any two or more foreclosing governmental units are permitted to enter into an intergovernmental cooperation agreement to establish a land bank. In 2016, the Members (as described in Note 1) entered into an intermunicipal agreement for the creation of the Corporation to exercise the powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities of a land bank under the Land Bank Act.

## 6. NEW AND UPCOMING PRONOUNCEMENTS

### **New Pronouncements**

In June 2015, the GASB issued Statement No. 74, *Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans*. The objective of this Statement is to improve the usefulness of information about postemployment benefits other than pension (other postemployment benefits or OPEB) included in the general purposes external financial reports of statement local governmental OPEB plans for making decisions and assessing accountability. The Corporation adopted the provisions of Statement No. 74 for the year ending December 31, 2017 with no material effect.

In January 2016, the GASB issues Statement No. 80, *Blending Requirements for Certain Component Units; an Amendment of GASB Statement No. 14*. The objective of this Statement is to improve financial reporting by clarifying the financial statement presentation requirements for certain component units. This Statement amends the blending requirement established in paragraph 53 of Statement No. 14, *The Financial Reporting Entity*, as amended. The Corporation adopted the provisions of Statement No. 80 for the year ending December 31, 2017 with no material effect.

In March 2016, the GASB issued Statement No. 81, *Irrevocable Split-Interest Agreements*. The objective of this Statement is to improve accounting and financial reporting for irrevocable split-interest agreements by providing recognition and measurement guidance for situations in which a government is a beneficiary of the agreement. The Corporation adopted the provisions of Statement No. 74 for the year ending December 31, 2017 with no material effect.

In March 2016, the GASB issued Statement No. 82, *Pension Issues; an amendment of GASB Statements No. 67, No. 68, and No. 73*. The objective of this Statement is to address certain issues regarding (1) the presentation of payroll-related measures in required supplementary information, (2) the selection of assumptions and the treatment of deviations from the guidance in an Actuarial Standard of Practice for financial reporting purposes, and (3) the classification of payments made by employers to satisfy employee (plan member) contribution requirements. Pending the measurement date of the employer's pension liability, the Corporation is required to adopt the provisions of Statement No. 82 for the year ended December 31, 2017 or 2018. The Corporation adopted the provisions of the Statement No. 82 for the year ending December 31, 2017 with no material effect.



## 6. NEW AND UPCOMING PRONOUNCEMENTS (Continued)

### Upcoming Pronouncements

In June 2015, the GASB issued Statement No. 75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*. The objective of this Statement is to improve accounting and financial reporting by state and local governments for postemployment benefits other than pension (other postemployment benefits or OPEB). The Corporation is required to adopt the provisions of Statement No. 75 for the year ending December 31, 2018.

In November 2016, the GASB issued Statement No. 83, *Certain Asset Retirement Obligations*. This Statement establishes criteria for determining the timing and pattern of recognition of a liability and a corresponding deferred outflow of resources for AROs. This Statement requires that recognition occur when the liability is both incurred and reasonably estimable. This Statement also requires the measurement of an ARO to be based on the best estimate of the current value of outlays expected to be incurred. The best estimate should include probability weighting of all potential outcomes, when such information is available or can be obtained at reasonable cost. The Corporation is required to adopt the provisions of this Statement for the year ending December 31, 2019.

In January 2017, the GASB issued Statement No. 84, *Fiduciary Activities*. This Statement establishes criteria for identifying fiduciary activities of all state and local governments with a focus on whether a government is controlling the assets of the fiduciary activity and the beneficiaries with whom a fiduciary relationship exists. The Corporation is required to adopt the provisions of this Statement for the year ending December 31, 2019.

In March 2017, the GASB issued Statement No. 85, *Omnibus 2017*. The objective of this Statement is address practice issues specific to blending component units, goodwill, fair value measurement and application, and postemployment benefits (pensions and other postemployment benefits (OPEB)). The Corporation is required to adopt the provisions of this Statement for the year ending December 31, 2018.

In May 2017, the GASB issued Statement No. 86, *Certain Debt Extinguishment Issues*. The objective of this Statement is to improve consistency in accounting and financial reporting for in-substance defeasance of debt by providing guidance for transactions in which cash and other monetary assets acquired with only existing resources – resources other than the proceeds of refunding debt – are placed in an irrevocable trust for the sole purpose of extinguishing debt. The Corporation is required to adopt the provisions of this Statement for the year ending December 31, 2018.

In June 2017, the GASB issued Statement No. 87, *Leases*. The objective of this Statement is to better meet the information needs of financial statement users by requiring recognition of certain lease assets and liabilities for leases that previously were classified as operating leases and recognized as inflows of resources or outflows of resources based on the payment provisions of the contract. The Corporation is required to adopt the provisions of this Statement for the year ending December 31, 2020.

The Corporation has not yet assessed the impact of these pronouncements on its future financial statements.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

August 8, 2018

To the Board of Directors of  
Greater Mohawk Valley Land Bank Corporation:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the Greater Mohawk Valley Land Bank Corporation (the Corporation), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2017, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated August 8, 2018.

**Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Corporation's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Corporation's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Corporation's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified. However, as described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses and significant deficiencies.

*A deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. We consider the deficiencies described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses as item number 2017-001, 2017-002, 2017-003 and 2017-004 to be material weaknesses.

*A significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance. We consider the deficiency described in the accompany schedule of findings and responses as item number 2017-005 to be a significant deficiency.

(Continued)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS***

(Continued)

**Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Corporation's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

**Corporation's Response to Findings**

The Corporation's responses to the findings identified in our audit are described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs. The Corporation's responses were not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

**Purpose of this Report**

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

# GREATER MOHAWK VALLEY LAND BANK CORPORATION

## SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017

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**Reference Number:** 2017-001

**Criteria:**

Adequate controls in place that will ensure proper tracking of expenses related to grant awards.

**Condition/Cause:**

During the year ending December 31, 2017, the Corporation did not have a method in place to track expenses related to the LISC (Local Initiatives Support Corporation) grant on an ongoing basis. LISC periodic reporting forms reported "Amount Expended This Reporting Period" using budgeted figures and not actual expenses.

**Effect:**

As a result of a lack of grant expense tracking, there is a risk that grant revenue will not be recorded to match related expense in a manner consistent with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States (U.S. GAAP). In addition, amounts expended per the periodic reporting forms were not calculated as prescribed by LISC.

**Recommendation:**

We recommend the Corporation, in conjunction with those charged with governance, develop an adequate and effective internal control system that would allow for the consistent tracking of expenses that are eligible for reimbursement through grant awards. Such detail may be requested by granting agencies as support that all funds were expended in accordance with the grant agreement. Periodic reporting forms should be completed using actual expense amounts as prescribed by LISC and we recommend a review process be developed for such reporting. Grant expenses are also the basis of the timing of revenue recognition and such tracking allows for the preparation of financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP.

**Management's Response:**

The board plans to retain a professional Certified Accounting firm in order to properly track expenses and to have our in house staff record, in great detail, the extent of which expense is subject to particular grants, and the board is looking to institute project management software (eProperties Plus) that will closely track and tie expenditures to specific properties and be able to provide detailed reports to staff, the Board and the general public.

**Reference Number: 2017-002**

**Criteria:**

Proper cash management through timely and accurate grant reporting and monitoring to ensure the ability to meet obligations on an ongoing basis.

**Condition/Cause:**

During the year ending December 31, 2017, the Corporation lacked adequate controls over cash management and grant disbursement requests were not submitted timely.

**Effect:**

At times during the year ending December, 31, 2017, the Corporation did not have sufficient cash to meet obligations and overdrafts were prevented by outstanding checks not being cashed.

**Recommendation:**

We recommend the Corporation, in conjunction with those charged with governance, review the controls in place over cash management and the timeliness of grant disbursement requests to ensure the ability to meet obligations.

**Management's Response:**

The board plans to review our policies and procedures in terms of Grant Disbursements and requests, but find no deficiencies in the timing on our end, as the cash flow came from the disbursement of the grant, not the timing of the request.

**Reference Number: 2017-003**

**Criteria:**

Adequate controls in place that will ensure grant awards are spent in accordance with grant agreements.

**Condition/Cause:**

During the year ending December 31, 2017, the Corporation did not have an effective process in place to ensure expenses met the period of availability requirement of grant agreements.

**Effect:**

Funds in excess of \$13,000 were disbursed for expenses incurred outside the period of availability of grant awards with no other funds available.

**Recommendation:**

We recommend the Corporation, in conjunction with those charged with governance, review the controls in place to ensure compliance with all grant awards.

**Management's Response:**

The board plans to review our policies and procedures in terms of Grant expenses and timing of the same and write in new procedures, if necessary, to curb any further issues.

**Reference Number: 2017-004**

**Criteria:**

Adequate controls in place that will ensure all transactions are recorded in a manner consistent with U.S. GAAP.

**Condition/Cause:**

During the year ending December 31, 2017, the Corporation lacked adequate procedures to achieve proper cutoff of expenses in accordance with U.S. GAAP.

**Effect:**

A material audit adjustment to increase prepaid expenses by approximately \$21,000 was required to properly state financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP.

**Recommendation:**

We recommend the Corporation, in conjunction with those charged with governance, review the controls over recording of transactions near year end to ensure expenses are recognized in the correct period in accordance with U.S. GAAP.

**Management's Response:**

The board plans to review our policies and procedures in terms of Grant expenses and timing of the same and write in new procedures, if necessary, to curb any further issues.

**Reference Number: 2017-005**

**Criteria:**

Adequate skills, knowledge and experience of consultants and/or employees of the Corporation in relation to governmental accounting.

**Condition/Cause:**

During the year ending December 31, 2017, the Corporation lacked consultants with adequate skills, knowledge and experience over governmental accounting. There was significant turnover during the year in the bookkeeping role.

**Effect:**

Based on current accounting processes, consultants were not able to maintain financial records in accordance with U.S. GAAP throughout the year. A number of immaterial differences were identified in areas such as accounts payable, capital assets and inventory. There is a potential for additional material misstatements in the future.

**Recommendation:**

We recommend the Corporation, in conjunction with those charged with governance, review current staffing and consider additional board involvement in reviewing financial information to ensure accuracy. Examples of this oversight includes reviewing bank statements, financial statements, and budget to actual information on a monthly basis and developing a procedure of signing such documents as evidence that such information was made available to the board.

**Management's Response:**

The board will authorize the retention of professional services of a certified public accounting firm with the express experience in government and not-for-profit accounting to assist our minimal staff.