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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF UTAH, CENTRAL DIVISION**

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE
COMMISSION,

Plaintiff,

vs.

NATIONAL NOTE OF UTAH, LC, a Utah
Limited Liability Company and WAYNE
LaMAR PALMER, an individual,

Defendants.

**RECEIVER’S MOTION SEEKING
APPROVAL OF (1) PUBLIC SALE OF
PROPERTY FREE AND CLEAR OF
INTERESTS, (2) METHOD AND
FORM OF PUBLICATION NOTICE,
AND (3) PUBLIC AUCTION
PROCEDURES AND
MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT**

(DEER MEADOWS)

Civil No. 2:12-00591

The Honorable Bruce S. Jenkins

R. Wayne Klein, the Court-Appointed Receiver (the “Receiver”) of National Note of Utah, LC, its subsidiaries and affiliates, and the assets of Wayne LaMar Palmer, by and through his counsel of record and pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 2001(a) and 2002 and the *Order Appointing Receiver and Staying Litigation* entered by this court in this case, hereby files this motion (the “Motion”) and respectfully requests that the Court authorize him to sell at public auction certain real property of the Receivership Estate, described more fully and defined in the Memorandum

in Support as the “Property.”

This Motion is supported by the Declaration of Receiver R. Wayne Klein (the “Receiver Declaration”), which has been filed concurrently herewith. A proposed “Order” is submitted herewith and attached hereto as **Exhibit A**.

MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

I.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

1. On June 25, 2012, the above-captioned case was commenced by the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) against Defendants National Note of Utah, LC (“NNU”) and Palmer (collectively, the “Receivership Defendants”), and in conjunction therewith the Court entered, in relevant part, an Order Appointing Receiver and Staying Litigation (the “Receivership Order”).¹ Pursuant to the Receivership Order, the Receiver was appointed, and NNU, forty-one of its affiliated companies (the “Palmer Entities”) (collectively for purposes of this Amended Motion, “NNU”), and all Palmer’s assets were placed in the Receiver’s control.²

2. The Court has directed and authorized the Receiver to, among other things, do the following:

- “[D]etermine the nature, location and value of all property interests of the Receivership Defendants and the Palmer Entities . . . [.]”³

¹ Docket No. 9 (Receivership Order).

² *See generally, id.*

³ *Id.* at ¶ 7(A).

- “To take custody, control and possession of all Receivership Property and records . . . [.]”⁴
- “To use Receivership Property for the benefit of the Receivership Estates and hold in his possession, custody and control all Receivership Property, pending further Order of this Court[.]”⁵
- “[T]o take immediate possession of all real property of the Receivership Defendants and the Palmer Entities”⁶
- “[T]ransfer, compromise, or otherwise dispose of any Receivership Property, other than real estate, in the ordinary course of business, on the terms and in the manner the Receiver deems most beneficial to the Receivership Estate, and with due regard to the realization of the true and proper value of such Receivership Property.”⁷
- “[L]ocate, list for sale or lease, engage a broker for sale or lease, cause the sale or lease, and take all necessary and reasonable actions to cause the sale or lease of all real property in the Receivership Estates, either at public or private sale, on terms and in the manner the Receiver deems most beneficial to the Receivership Estate, and with due regard to the realization of the true and proper value of such real property.”⁸
- “[S]ell, and transfer clear title to, all real property in the Receivership Estates” upon order of the Court “pursuant to procedures as may be required by this Court and additional authority such as 28 U.S.C. §§ 2001 and 2004.”⁹

II.

REAL PROPERTY TO BE SOLD AT AUCTION

Deer Meadows

3. Since his appointment, the Receiver has identified numerous real properties as

⁴ *Id.* at ¶ 7(B).

⁵ *Id.* at ¶ 7(D).

⁶ *Id.* at ¶ 19.

⁷ *Id.* at ¶ 37.

⁸ *Id.* at ¶ 38.

⁹ *Id.* at ¶ 39.

being part of the Receivership Estate, and where appropriate has listed such properties for sale.¹⁰

4. Relevant to this Motion are two remote parcels of real property consisting of a total of 89.6 acres of undeveloped land known as Lots 7 and 8 of the Deer Meadows subdivision, with tax parcel numbers 00-0032-7090 and 00-0032-7100, located in Duchesne County, Utah (the “Property”).¹¹

5. The Receiver obtained a title report for the Property, a copy of which is attached to the Receiver Declaration as Exhibit A (the “Title Report”).¹² According to the Title Report, the Property is titled in the name of National Note LC and is property of the Receivership Estate.¹³

Appraising and Marketing the Property

6. The Receiver obtained an appraisal of the Property from Free and Associates, Inc. (the “Free Appraisal”) on or about January 11, 2013. A true and correct copy of the Free Appraisal is attached to the Receiver Declaration as Exhibit B.¹⁴

7. The Free Appraisal valued the Property at \$68,000.00.¹⁵

8. Based on this value, from 2013 to 2017 the Receiver marketed the Property for sale through a realtor, but the marketing efforts were unsuccessful.¹⁶

¹⁰ Receiver Declaration ¶ 4.

¹¹ *Id.* at ¶ 5

¹² *Id.* at ¶ 6.

¹³ *Id.* at Ex. A (Title Report).

¹⁴ *Id.* at ¶ 7.

¹⁵ *Id.* at Ex. B (Free Appraisal)

¹⁶ *Id.* at ¶ 8.

9. In December 2017 the Receiver engaged a new realtor, Freedom Realty Corp. (the “Realtor”), which has actively marketed the Property since that time. A true and correct copy of the “Listing Agreement” with the Realtor is attached to the Receiver Declaration as Exhibit C.¹⁷

10. On January 2, 2018, the Court approved the appointment of Alisa Muir of Kings Peak Appraisal to perform a new appraisal of the property.¹⁸ On or about January 31, 2018, Ms. Muir delivered her appraisal of the Property (the “Muir Appraisal”) to the Receiver. A true and correct copy of the Muir Appraisal is attached to the Receiver Declaration as Exhibit D.¹⁹

11. The Muir Appraisal valued the Property at \$54,000.00.²⁰

12. Based on the Free Appraisal and the Muir Appraisal, the average appraised value of the Property is \$61,000.00.

13. The Receiver has continued marketing the Property for sale through the Realtor. The Realtor has listed the Property on the Wasatch Front Multiple Listing Service, which automatically places the listing on 30-40 national and local websites, and also advertised the Property on KSL, in paper brochures, and by placing a sign on the Property.²¹

Proposed Purchase Agreement and Stalking Horse Bid

14. The Receiver has received an offer from Daren F. Murphy to purchase the Property for \$41,000.00, subject to higher and better offers and pursuant to the terms of a purchase agreement (the “Purchase Agreement”). A copy of the Purchase Agreement is attached

¹⁷ *Id.* at ¶ 9.

¹⁸ Docket No. 1336 (*Order Appointing Appraiser for Deer Meadows Property*).

¹⁹ Receiver Declaration ¶ 10.

²⁰ *Id.* at Ex. D (Muir Appraisal).

²¹ *Id.* at ¶ 11.

to the Receiver Declaration as Exhibit E.²²

15. The Purchase Agreement was negotiated by the Receiver and Mr. Murphy in good faith and at arms' length.²³

16. The Receiver proposes to use Mr. Murphy's offer as a stalking horse bid (the "Stalking Horse Bid") at the public auction described below.²⁴

Sale Costs and Net Sale Proceeds

17. The Receiver anticipates paying at the time of the closing of the sale of the Property outstanding property taxes and the ordinary costs of sale, including market-rate closing costs and a standard 6% realtor commission. The gross sale proceeds, less the costs of sale, taxes, and commission are referred to herein as the "Net Sale Proceeds."²⁵

18. The realtor commission will be paid even if a higher and better offer is obtained at auction, inasmuch as the realtor brought the Stalking Horse Bid to the Receiver. However, the realtor commission will be based on the amount of the Stalking Horse Bid even if the Property sells for more than the Stalking Horse Bid.²⁶

19. Any other financial interests against the Property (to the extent they exist and without any waiver of the Receiver's or the Receivership Estate's rights and defenses related thereto) will survive the sale and will attach to the Net Sale Proceeds.²⁷

²² *Id.* at ¶ 12.

²³ *Id.* at ¶ 13.

²⁴ *Id.* at ¶ 14.

²⁵ *Id.* at ¶ 15.

²⁶ *Id.* at ¶ 16.

²⁷ *Id.* at ¶ 17.

20. The Receiver will separately account to the Court for the Net Sale Proceeds pending resolution of any disputes related to interests that may exist against the Property.²⁸

Free and Clear Sale

21. The Receiver proposes to sell the Property free and clear of all interests therein, with any interests that may exist attaching to the Net Sale Proceeds. In so doing, the Receiver is not in any way waiving any rights, claims, interests or defenses to any claims or interests made against the Property or the Net Sale Proceeds.²⁹

22. To determine interests, if any, against the Property, the Receiver obtained the Title Reports and tax notices for the Property from Duchesne County (the “Tax Notices”). A copy of the Tax Notices is attached to the Amended Receiver Declaration as Exhibit F.³⁰

23. From the Title Report and the Tax Notices, the Receiver determined that property taxes on the Property for the years 2014 through 2017 are liens that are due and payable, and property taxes for 2018 are liens that are not yet due. The Title Report also lists a trust deed against the Property in the name of the John and Charlotte Van Ry Revocable Living Trust, which trust deed has been released to the Receiver as part of a prior Court-approved settlement agreement, but which has not been recorded. Accordingly, the only known valid liens against the Property are unpaid property taxes.³¹

24. Any other financial interests against the Property, other than property taxes and

²⁸ *Id.* at ¶ 18.

²⁹ *Id.* at ¶ 19.

³⁰ *Id.* at ¶¶ 6 & 20.

³¹ *Id.* at ¶ 21, Ex. A (Title Reports), and Ex. F (Tax Notice).

closing costs, will not be paid at the time of closing of the sale. Rather, any such interests (to the extent they exist and without any waiver of the Receiver's or the Receivership Estate's right and defenses related thereto) will survive the sale and will attach to the Net Sale Proceeds.³²

25. A copy of this Motion is being served on the relevant taxing authority.³³

Best Interests

26. The Receiver believes that the sale of the Property at public auction is beneficial for and in the best interests of the Receivership Estate based on the average appraised value of the Property and the amount of the Stalking Horse Bid, which was obtained through good faith and arms' length negotiations.³⁴

27. The Stalking Horse Bid is over 67% of the average appraised value of the Property. Through the proposed auction described below, the Receiver will not sell the Property to anyone for less than the amount of the Stalking Horse Bid, and the auction may increase the purchase price.³⁵

28. Notice of the auction described below will be published in newspapers in Salt Lake City, Utah, and Duchesne County, Utah, and will be posted on the Receiver's website.³⁶

29. Upon completion of the sale and after the conclusion of the public auction discussed below, the Receiver will file with the Court a "Notice of Sale Results," stating the purchase price that was obtained at public auction and reporting on the Net Sale Proceeds of the

³² Receiver Declaration ¶ 22.

³³ *Id.* at ¶ 23.

³⁴ *Id.* at ¶ 24.

³⁵ *Id.* at ¶ 25.

³⁶ *Id.* at ¶ 26.

sale. This Notice of Sale Results will be served on those parties asserting interests in the Property, if any.³⁷

III.

APPLICABLE LAW

30. The Receivership Order, as set forth above, anticipates the relief sought by the Receiver herein and is within the scope of his duties under that Order.³⁸

31. Section 2001(a) of title 28 of the United States Code permits the Receiver to sell property of the Receivership Estate:

at public sale in the district wherein such receiver was first appointed, at the courthouse of the county, parish, or city situated therein in which the greater part of the property in such district is located, or on the premises or some parcel thereof located in such county, parish, or city, as such court directs. Such sale shall be upon such terms and conditions as the Court directs.³⁹

32. Section 2002 of title 28 of the United States Code requires that notice of such public sale be published, in relevant part:

once a week for at least four weeks prior to the sale in at least one newspaper regularly issued and of general circulation in the county, state, or judicial district of the United States wherein the realty is situated.⁴⁰

IV.

REQUESTED RELIEF

33. The Receiver requests that the Court enter the proposed Order attached as **Exhibit A**, thus (a) authorizing the sale of the Property free and clear of interests; (b) approving the form

³⁷ *Id.* at ¶ 27.

³⁸ *See supra* ¶¶ 1, 3.

³⁹ 28 U.S.C. § 2001(a).

⁴⁰ 28 U.S.C. § 2002.

and method of publication notice as proposed herein; and (c) approving the proposed “Auction Procedures” described below and attached as Exhibit B.

Sale Free and Clear of Interests

34. Sale of the Property as proposed is within the scope of the Receiver’s authority under the Receivership Order and 28 U.S.C. §§ 2001(a) and 2002, it is in the best interests of the Receivership Estate, and the sale serves the purposes of the Receivership Estate by providing a “realization of the true and proper value” of the Property.⁴¹

35. The Court may order a sale of the Property free and clear of interests, provided that parties claiming interests against the property are given proper notice. Here, such notice will be provided, with any interests that may ultimately be determined to exist attaching to the Net Sale Proceeds.⁴²

36. Upon completion of the sale and after the conclusion of the public auction discussed below, the Receiver will file with the Court a “Notice of Sale Results,” stating the purchase price that was obtained at public auction and reporting on the Net Sale Proceeds of the sale. This Notice of Sale Results will be served on those parties asserting interests in the Property, if any.⁴³

Proposed Publication Notice

37. To comply with the requirement of publication notice for public sales set forth in 28 U.S.C. § 2002, the Receiver seeks approval of the method and form of publication notice of

⁴¹ Receivership Order ¶ 38; Receiver Declaration ¶ 24.

⁴² Receiver Declaration ¶ 26.

⁴³ *Id.* at ¶ 27.

the proposed public sale.

38. Accordingly, the Receiver proposes that the following notice be published in *The Salt Lake Tribune*, a newspaper published in Salt Lake City, Utah, and in the *Uintah Basin Standard*, a newspaper published in Roosevelt, Utah and distributed in Fruitland, Utah, once a week for a period of four weeks prior to the public sale (the “Publication Notice Time”):

R. Wayne Klein, Receiver for National Note of Utah, LC and its affiliated entities (the “Receiver”) in the civil case styled as Securities and Exchange Comm. v. National Note of Utah, LC et al., Civ. Case No. 2:12-cv-00591 (D. Utah) (“Civil Case”), gives notice of his intent to sell 89.6 acres of real property located at Sec. 33 T3S R7W USM and Sec. 4 T4S R7W USM, Fruitland, UT 84027, with tax parcel numbers 00-0032-7090 and 00-0032-7100 (the “Property”) through a public auction to the highest bidder payable in lawful money of the United States on the ___ day of _____, 2018 at the hour of ____ at the Duchesne County Courthouse, 21554 W 9000 S, Duchesne, UT 84021, or as may be continued from time to time by the Receiver (the “Auction”). The Property will be sold at the Auction free and clear of all interests, “as is” with no representations and warranties. Only “Qualified Bidders” may participate in the Auction. To be a Qualified Bidder, you must comply with the “Auction Procedures” that have been approved in the Civil Case, which Auction Procedures may be obtained upon request made to the Receiver’s counsel at: Dorsey & Whitney LLP, attn: John J. Wiest, 111 South Main Street, 21st Floor, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111; wiest.john@dorsey.com.

39. The Receiver maintains that the above proposed method and form of publication notice is in accordance with 28 U.S.C. §§ 2001(a) and 2002 and, therefore, should be approved.

Proposed Auction Procedures

40. The Receiver requests that the Court enter an Order approving the following proposed procedures to govern the public sale (collectively, or as may be amended by the Court’s Order, the “Auction Procedures”), a copy of which is attached hereto as **Exhibit B**:

A. The Receiver may conduct an auction of certain real property located at Sec. 33 T3S R7W USM and Sec. 4 T4S R7W USM, Fruitland, UT 84027, with tax parcel numbers 00-0032-7090 and 00-0032-7100 (the “Property”) at the conclusion of the Publication Notice Time (the “Auction”) in

accordance with these Auction Procedures.

- B. The Receiver will facilitate reasonable requests for inspections of the Property by interested parties prior to the “Bid Deadline” (defined below).
- C. Pursuant to the Purchase Agreement attached as Exhibit E to the Receiver Declaration, the Receiver has received an offer to purchase the Property for \$41,000.00, which includes a \$500.00 deposit, subject to higher and better bids at the Auction (the “SH Agreement”). The Receiver is treating the offer in the SH Agreement as the opening bid at Auction and is referred to herein as the “Stalking Horse Bid.”
- D. To participate in the Auction, the potential purchaser must be a “Qualified Bidder.” No person will be deemed to be a Qualified Bidder unless the person:
 - i. Delivers to the Receiver for the benefit of the Receivership Estate cash or a cashier’s check in the amount of \$500.00 as an initial deposit (all such deposits and the deposit posted in conjunction with the Stalking Horse Bid being collectively the “Initial Deposit”), by no later than 5:00 p.m. Mountain Time at least seven days prior to the date set for the Auction (the “Bid Deadline”);
 - ii. Agrees in writing that its Initial Deposit is non-refundable pending the Sale Closing Date (defined below) and will be applied as set forth in these Auction Procedures;
 - iii. Agrees in writing to the approved Auction Procedures;
 - iv. Represents and warrants in writing that it has the ability to perform at Auction and on the Sale Closing Date (defined below);
 - v. Agrees in writing that the sale of the Property is “AS IS” with no representations and warranties; and
 - vi. Appears in person or through a qualified agent at the Auction and performs at Auction, as determined in the sole discretion of the Receiver, as provided in these Auction Procedures.
- E. If no Qualified Bidders exist on the expiration of the Bid Deadline, the Receiver, in his sole discretion, need not conduct the Auction and may sell the Property to the holder of the Stalking Horse Bid pursuant to the terms of the SH Agreement and such sale shall be deemed to be a sale of the Property at public auction under all applicable law.

- F. The Receiver will conduct the Auction. The Auction shall proceed in rounds. Bidding at the Auction shall begin with an initial minimum overbid of the Stalking Horse Bid in an amount of \$500.00 in cash, and shall subsequently continue in \$500.00 minimum cash overbid increments. However, the holder of the Stalking Horse Bid will be allowed to match any bid made by a Qualified Bidder without increasing such bid by the \$500.00 minimum cash overbid amount. Bidding will continue until the Receiver determines that he has received the highest and best offer for the Property, at which time he will close the Auction, with the person making the last bid prior to the Receiver's close of the Auction bound to purchase the Property pursuant to the terms of the approved Auction Procedures (the "Successful Bidder").
- G. Each Qualified Bidder and the holder of the Stalking Horse Bid agree that its last offer made is irrevocable until the date that sale of the Property closes to the Successful Bidder (the "Sale Closing Date").
- H. Each Initial Deposit shall be retained by the Receiver until the Sale Closing Date. On the Sale Closing Date, the Initial Deposit of the Successful Bidder will be applied to the purchase price accepted at Auction by the Receiver. Within ten business days of Sale Closing Date, the Receiver shall return all other Initial Deposits. In the event that the Successful Bidder's sale does not close, the Receiver (i) shall retain the Initial Deposit of the Successful Bidder as damages, and (ii) the Qualified Bidder who made the next highest and best offer at Auction (the "Back-Up Bid") shall be deemed the Successful Bidder. The Initial Deposit of the Qualified Bidder with the Back-Up Bid shall be applied by the Receiver to the purchase offer made at Auction. The Receiver may repeat the same Back-Up Bid procedure provided herein to each Qualified Bidder, in the order of the highest and best offers received at Auction.
- I. Immediately upon the close of the Auction, the Successful Bidder must (i) sign a purchase agreement on terms materially similar to the terms of sale stated in SH Agreement; and (ii) must deliver to the Receiver an additional non-refundable deposit of 10% of the purchase price accepted at Auction (the "10% Deposit"). In the event that the Sale Closing Date does not occur for the Successful Bidder, the Successful Bidder's Initial Deposit and this 10% Deposit will be retained by the Receiver as damages.

41. The Receiver submits that the proposed Auction Procedures are permitted under 28 U.S.C. §§ 2001(a) and 2002 and, therefore, requests that the Court approve the same.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, for the reasons set forth herein, the Receiver requests that the Court enter the proposed Order attached hereto as Exhibit A, thus (a) authorizing the sale of the Property free and clear of interests; (b) approving the form and method of publication notice as proposed herein; and (c) approving the proposed Auction Procedures attached hereto at Exhibit B. The Receiver also requests any other relief appropriate under the circumstances.

DATED this 24th day of April, 2018.

DORSEY & WHITNEY, LLP

/s/ Peggy Hunt

Peggy Hunt
John J. Wiest
Attorneys for Receiver

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on April 24, 2018, a true and correct copy of the foregoing was filed with the Court and served via ECF on all parties who have requested notice in this case.

/s/ John J. Wiest

I hereby certify that on April 24, 2018, a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served upon the persons named below, at the addresses set out below by U.S. mail:

Duchesne County Treasurer
734 N. Center
Duchesne, UT 84021

/s/ John J. Wiest
