

the State affords in his judgment the most favorable market for the property involved. The administrator may decline the highest bid and re-offer the property for sale if he considers the price bid insufficient. He need not offer any property for sale if, in his opinion, the probable cost of sale exceeds the value of the property.

(b) Any sale held under this section shall be preceded by a single publication of notice thereof, at least three weeks in advance of sale in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or in Baltimore City where the property is to be sold.

(c) The purchaser at any sale conducted by the administrator pursuant to this Article shall receive title to the property purchased, free from all claims of the owner or prior holder thereof and of all persons claiming through or under them. The administrator shall execute all documents necessary to complete the transfer of title.

(d) No action shall be brought or maintained by any person against the State or any officer thereof for or on account of any transaction entered into pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of this section.

~~18. 16. (a) All funds received under this Act, including the proceeds from the sale of abandoned property under Section 17 shall forthwith be deposited by the administrator into a special fund. He shall retain in the fund at all times an amount not exceeding fifty thousand dollars from which he shall make prompt payment of claims duly allowed by him as provided for herein. The balance of~~ OF SALE OF ABANDONED PROPERTY UNDER SECTION 17 15 SHALL BE CREDITED BY THE ADMINISTRATOR TO A SPECIAL FUND. THE ADMINISTRATOR SHALL RETAIN IN THE SPECIAL FUND AT THE END OF EACH FISCAL YEAR FROM THE PROCEEDS RECEIVED BY HIM AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$50,000.00), FROM WHICH SUM HE SHALL PAY CLAIMS ALLOWED BY HIM OR ALLOWED BY A COURT OF LAW PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE. AFTER DEDUCTING ALL COSTS INCURRED IN ADMINISTERING THIS ACT ON A PRO-RATA BASIS, AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (B) HEREOF, THE BALANCE OF funds shall be distributed at least once annually or at such other times as the administrator may in his discretion determine as follows: To each of the counties of the State or to Baltimore City the funds of owners whose last known address was shown by the records of holder to be in the county or City, as the case may be; and (2) to the State of Maryland for deposit into the general funds of the State ~~of the funds for~~ , THE FUNDS OF owners from whom there is no last known address in this State. Before making any such distribution, the administrator shall record the name and last known address, if any, of the owners of funds so distributed and the type of property which the funds distributed represent. The record shall be available for public inspection at all reasonable business hours. BY ANY PERSON CLAIMING A LEGAL INTEREST IN ANY PROPERTY HELD BY THE ADMINISTRATOR, PROVIDED THAT SUCH PERSON GIVES PRIOR NOTICE TO THE ADMINISTRATOR.

(b) Before making any deposit to the credit of DISTRIBUTION TO the counties, Baltimore City, or the State, the administrator