

South Carolina Real Estate Appraisers Board Meeting  
Thursday, February 9, 2006  
Doubletree Guest Suites, The Santee Room  
Charleston, South Carolina

Members Attending: Herbert R. Sass, III, Chairman; Charles Stone, Vice Chairman; Rhonnie Newton, Secretary; Nancy Johnson; and Carlton Segars  
Members Absent: Chris Cochran (excused)

Staff attending: Robert S. Selman, Assistant Deputy Director; Jay Pitts, Administrator; Ed Coleman, Staff, Appraisers Board; Ann Parris; Administrative Assistant; Laura Smith; Investigator; Beau Tiller, Education Manager

Guests: Robert J. Duvala; SCAR Appraisers Section; Burke Herring, Sass, Herring and Associates; Ira Rosenberg; and Jenny Tidwell, Appraisal Subcommittee

Call to Order and Freedom of Information Statement

Herb Sass, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 2:15 P.M. and stated for the record the following Freedom of Information statement. Public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the Real Estate Appraisers Board office, Synergy Business Park, Kingtree Building, Columbia, South Carolina, and provided to all requesting persons, organizations, and news media in compliance with Section 30-4-80 of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act. A quorum was present at all times.

Chairman Sass introduced board members, staff and guests and welcomed everyone to Charleston and to the meeting.

Approval of Minutes – November 10, 2005

Motion: Mr. Segars moved and Mr. Stone seconded that the minutes of the November 10, 2005, meeting be approved as written. Motion unanimously passed.

Member Absence - Chris Cochran's absence excused.

Management Update – Jay Pitts, Administrator

Mr. Pitts reported on the following items:

Legislative Update - appraiser legislation came before the Senate LCI Subcommittee last Thursday. A number of people supportive of this legislation were in attendance including Herb Sass, Jay Pitts, and some of the Appraisers Board staff. Kelli Kline of the Appraisal Institute and Doug Brown, spokespersons for the legislation, were there also. Mr. Pitts stated that a few questions from legislators were sufficiently answered. He said rather than hold another Subcommittee hearing, the members of the Subcommittee decided to "poll it out" and this would help move the legislation to the full Senate LCI Committee. Mr. Pitts stated he talked with Susan Duncan, LLR Legislative Liaison, and she said the legislation would probably be taken up by the full Senate LCI Committee in two to three weeks. Chairman Sass stated it was gratifying to have the support of Senator Nikki Setzler who spoke in favor of the legislation and extremely important that Senator Setzler pointed out the necessity of meeting the Federal guidelines.

Staffing – Mr. Pitts stated the reorganization of the Appraisers Board staff has been completed now that Ed Coleman, formerly OIE, has moved back to the second floor Ed Coleman. He said Mr. Coleman would no longer be involved with investigations but would continue to conduct the very successful Apprentice Appraisers Workshop. He also will handle appraiser upgrade requests along with a number of other programmatic matters. Laura McDaniels who handles all appraiser licensing as well as other programmatic matters has moved to the Appraisers Section as well. This reorganization will allow more efficient use of all staff members.

Board Member Forum – Friday, February 17, 2006 – Denny Auditorium, Fire Academy

Newsletter – Information will continue to be disseminated by web site. Staff is charged with keeping the web site current and “user friendly.” Mr. Pitts state if it becomes necessary to send urgent information, it can be done either by email and/or regular mail.

AARO – April 8 – 10, 2006 San Antonio, Texas. LLR policy is to approve two board members for travel and one staff person. Mr. Pitts stated he would like for the Board to decide who would be going and notify him of their decision. Chairman Sass stated he would like for Mr. Pitts to attend this meeting.

Next meeting date: May 11, 10 a.m. Room 108

Please forward reimbursement receipts for this Conference to Ann Parris for reimbursement. Regarding dinner for this evening, there are no set plans—all participants would be on the ir own.

Information regarding meetings, hearings, etc will be sent to members electronically. Notebooks still would be ready at the meetings.

Friday’s Agenda: AQB meeting – 9 a.m.- 12 Noon Stono Room  
Criteria Implementation Workshop 1-5 p.m. Stono Room

Chairman Sass inquired as to the status of upgrades. Mr. Pitts stated that during the transitional period of trying to get Ed Coleman moved back downstairs, the workload was at an all time high. He said Laura Smith was asked to help out with the upgrades and she worked over the Christmas holidays. With Ms. Smith’s assistance, upgrades are caught up now and from here on out, Ed Coleman would handle the upgrades and Laura Smith would handle investigations. Chairman Sass outlined the procedures involved in performing the upgrades and how time consuming it is and complimented the staff on what a good job they have done with the upgrades.

No Old Business

No New Business

Jenny Tidwell stated she appreciated the opportunity to attend the meeting today.

Apprentice Workshops – Ed Coleman reported that the Apprentice Programs began in May 2004. Since that time, 700 people (half of the 700 have been supervisors) have attended these upgrade seminars. Mr. Coleman stated that 100% of the attendees have filled out the evaluation sheets with no negative comments. He said the success of this program has been proven as staff is seeing more success on upgrades. He said when he started at the Board eight years ago approximately 50% were being turned down and that number has now been reduced to about 5%. He said some of the positives that staff is seeing because of the program are better work, the supervisors taking more of an interest, supervisors firing apprentices, and apprentices looking for new supervisors.

Mr. Coleman commented that the SC program continues to be a model for the country and that improvements continue to be made. Mr. Coleman invited Board members to come and sit in on the workshop any time they would like to. Mr. Pitts stated the Board would be emailed meeting dates for the remainder of this year. Mr. Pitts also stated that at the last meeting it was mentioned that Wyoming was interested in receiving information on how the South Carolina workshops are conducted but that he has not heard from them as of this date.

Chairman Sass said the staff of the Appraisers Board which included Ed Farnell at the time worked hard to establish the Apprentice Workshop and that they continue to be proactive. Mr. Sass said the Apprentice Workshops are making a real difference in the appraiser population in this State.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned on motion of Ms. Newton at 2:45 p.m.