

MINUTES OF MEETING
OF
LOUISIANA REAL ESTATE APPRAISERS BOARD

February 3, 2020

The Louisiana Real Estate Appraisers Board held its regular business meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, February 3, 2020, at 9071 Interline Avenue, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, according to regular call, of which all members of the board were duly notified, at which meeting the following members were present:

BOARD

Kara A. Platt, Chair
Robert E. McKinnon, Jr., Vice Chair
Rebecca A. Rothschild, Secretary
Seymon S. "Windy" Hartzog
H. Carter Leak, IV
Terry L. Myers
Robert L. Russell
F. Troy Williams
Margaret K. Young

STAFF

Bruce Unangst, Executive Director
Arlene Edwards, Legal Counsel
Summer Mire, Deputy Director
Anne Brassett, Program Administrator
Logan Cockerham
Tom Devillier
Malissa Fowler
Mark Gremillion
Telly Hollis
Allison O'Toole
Nikki Senegal
Ryan Shaw
Henk vanDuyvendijk
Jenny Yu

Board member Mark Major was unable to attend the meeting.

GUESTS

Cheryl Bella
Melissa Bond
Janis Bonura
Joe Gendron, Louisiana Bankers Association
Joe Mier
Bob Taylor, Louisiana Bankers Association

Call to Order

Ms. Platt called the meeting to order. Mr. Williams led the Invocation; Ms. Platt led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

On motion made by Mr. McKinnon and seconded by Mr. Williams, the minutes of the November 19, 2019 meeting were approved as written and circulated.

Budget Report

Ms. Yu provided the budget report for the period ending December 31, 2019 (*See Attachment A*). Although revenue was down due to fewer appraisal management companies renewing at the end of the year, renewal is picking up now and cash flow is good.

Investigative Matters

Mr. Devillier presented an overview of the Stipulations and Consent Orders (*See Attachment B & C*).

Mr. Williams made motion, seconded by Mr. Myers, to approve the stipulation and consent order issued in Case No. 2018-1529: Malcolm Coco. Motion passed without opposition.

Mr. Russell made motion, seconded by Mr. Williams, to approve the stipulation and consent order issued in Case No. 2019-0065: Grant Rybak. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Director's Report

Director Unangst welcomed back Mr. vanDuyvendijk, who recently returned to the agency after working for a year and a half as Chief Investigator for the Arkansas Real Estate Appraisers Board. Mr. vanDuyvendijk has been sorely missed and we are thrilled to have him back. Director Unangst thanked Ms. Bond for providing valuable assistance in reviewing appraisal complaints submitted to the Board. He also noted Mr. Mier's hard work and dedication as CEO of the Louisiana Real Estate Appraiser Coalition. Mr. Mier will be stepping down and turning over the reins to Mitch Kapoulas.

We anticipate going live with StateReporting.com shortly, and staff is manually entering continuing education into the education module.

Unfinished Business

Director Unangst distributed the initial draft of legislation, which would allow certified appraisers to perform evaluations under the departure provision (*See Attachment D*). The primary purpose of this bill is to provide departure from USPAP when an evaluation is requested by the lender. The deadline for pre-filing legislation is February 26, 2020.

Mr. Devellier advised that the proposed language was drafted in accordance with the **2020-2021 Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP)**. Lines 17-20 on Page 3 of the draft were intentionally left blank, pending additional input. Lines 28-30, granting the Board authority to promulgate rules/regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this section will require legislative approval.

Director Unangst informed the Board that the bill can be amended at any point during the legislative process.

Board and audience members stressed the need for evaluations, noting, however, that the legislation must be carefully crafted to ensure public trust and consumer protection.

Following a lengthy discussion, Director Unangst voiced the general consensus to move forward with the legislation, keeping the language less restricted as opposed to more detailed. He again requested input from stakeholders, asking them to report back to him, the Board, or Mr. Devillier within a week.

Mr. Williams made motion, seconded by Mr. Russell, to move forward with pre-filing the proposed legislation relative to evaluations. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

New Business

Ms. Mire provided an overview of the Federation of Association of Regulatory Boards Conference she, Mr. Devellier, Ms. Senegal recently attended. The conference was extremely informative, focusing on issues such as Board appointments, regulation/deregulation, moral character, public records requests, enforcement issues and CRT training. Ms. Mire wants to establish specific email accounts for Board members so they will not have to use their personal emails. She also wants to create a better method to welcome new members to the Board.

Mr. Mier noted the following appraisers who passed away last year: William "Freddie" Carter, R. Gayle Creed, Kent Lattimore, and Ingrid Levert. Condolences were expressed by all in attendance at the meeting.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned on motion made by Mr. Myers and seconded by Mr. Russell.