

MINUTES OF MEETING
OF
LOUISIANA REAL ESTATE APPRAISERS BOARD

February 7, 2022

The Louisiana Real Estate Appraisers Board held its regular business meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, February 7, 2022, at 9071 Interline Avenue, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, also available via Zoom, 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
Rebecca A. Rothschild, Secretary
Daniel A. Blanchard
Michelle Foret
H. Carter Leak, IV
Terry L. Myers (attended via Zoom)
Bennett E. Oubre
Robert L. Russell
F. Troy Williams
Margaret K. Young

STAFF

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

GUESTS

Cheryl Bella
Janis Bonura
Stephen Cannon, Constantine Cannon
Joe Gendron, Louisiana Bankers Association

Call to Order

Ms. Platt called the meeting to order and welcomed new board appointees, Michelle Foret and Bennett Oubre. Ms. Rothschild called roll to ensure a quorum was present. Mr. Williams led the Invocation; Ms. Platt led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

On motion made by Mr. Williams and seconded by Mr. Russell, the minutes of the November 14, 2021 meeting were unanimously approved as written.

Budget Report

Ms. Yu provided the budget report for the period ending January 31, 2022, noting that revenue is up from this time last year (*See Attachment A*).

Director's Report

Director Unangst deferred his report to recognize and welcome today's guests and new board members.

Mr. Gendron addressed the board regarding the ongoing shortage of appraisers, especially in rural areas. He is optimistic the development and state adoption of PAREA (Practical Applications of Real Estate Appraisal) will be an asset, and suggested the board consider increasing the current \$250,000.00 threshold for certified residential appraisers to the \$500,000.00 threshold established by federal banking laws. Ms. Bella agreed that PAREA will be a game-changer, but noted the program is still in the development and that it does not cover commercial appraisal licensure, so the threshold increase is needed. Ms. Platt and board members concurred with this recommendation. No motion was made.

Director Unangst introduced Ms. Burnette, who met board members in person for the first time. He reminded the board that he was able to hire Ms. Burnette because of grant money from the Appraisal Subcommittee (ASC) and hopes to hire someone soon to assist Mr. vanDuyvendijk with appraisal complaint matters.

Unfinished Business - None

New Business

Ms. Platt has graciously served her term limits as Chair, and recommended that Ms. Rothschild be appointed to fill the vacancy. On motion made by Mr. Blanchard and seconded by Ms. Young, the board voted unanimously to elect Ms. Rothschild as Chair for 2022.

Mr. Russell made motion, seconded by Ms. Young, to elect Mr. Williams as Vice Chair. Motion passed without opposition.

On motion made by Mr. Williams and seconded by Ms. Young, the board voted unanimously to elect Mr. Russell as Secretary.

Mr. Devillier provided an overview of proposed legislation to provide the board with authority to require background checks on all applicants seeking licensure in Louisiana (*See Attachment B*). He advised that the board will be subject to biannual audits if they pursue this legislation. After some discussion, Mr. Blanchard made motion, seconded by Mr. Oubre, to approve and present this draft as written. Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. Devillier addressed the removal of our current three-year residency requirement for certified appraisers wishing to sponsor a trainee in Louisiana (*See Attachment C*). The AQB does not require the supervisory appraiser to be certified and in good standing in the jurisdiction in which the trainee practices for any specific minimum period of time. Lengthy discussion ensued regarding PAREA.

Mr. Blanchard made motion to approve removal of the three-year residency requirement, PAREA, and definitions as presented in Proposed Bill No. 1. However, Mr. Williams requested more information before taking any action. Mr. Oubre made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Blanchard, to approve Proposed Bill No. 1 as written. Following additional discussion that motion was withdrawn.

Director Unangst believes our license definitions need to be clarified. He recommended that prepare a final legislative draft for review via a special Zoom meeting prior to the pre-filing deadline. On motion made by Mr. Oubre and seconded by Mr. Blanchard, the board voted unanimously to conduct a special Zoom meeting of the board, scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on Friday, February 25, 2022. The call for a special meeting was necessary to take board action prior to March 2, 2022 – the deadline to request the filing of legislation, according to applicable rules of order.

Mr. Devillier advised that the final legislative draft is a direct result of last year's AMC state regulatory program assessment (*See Attachment D*), which required amending ~~our~~ current definitions for compliance with Title XI of FIRREA. Ms. Rothschild made motion, seconded by Mr. Williams, to file this bill in of itself. Motion passed without opposition.

Mr. Oubre made motion, seconded by Ms. Foret, to enter into Executive Session. Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. Leak left the meeting at 12:12 p.m. and did not participate in the Executive Session.

On motion made by Mr. Oubre, and seconded by Ms. Foret, the board voted unanimously to move out of Executive Session.

Mr. Oubre made motion, seconded by Mr. Williams, to approve Resolution 2022-01 (*See Attachment E*). Motion passed without opposition.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned on motion made by Mr. Williams and seconded by Mr. Oubre. Motion passed unanimously.

Rebecca Rothschild, Chairperson

Robert Russell, Secretary