

REAL ESTATE TAX CYCLE COMMITTEE

Wednesday, January 8, 2020

PRESENT: P. Chapman, M. King, C. Hankins, M. Walters
ABSENT: K. Novacich-Koberna
OTHERS: J. Dauderman, P. Krome, P. Curtin, P. McRae, P. Taylor, A. Manoogian, S. Rolens, C. Slusser, K. Wathen, D. Ming-Mendoza

The minutes from the December meeting were approved by all members present.

TREASURER:

C. Slusser reported all installment dates are complete. He said they have made 12 real estate distributions this year and have distributed \$407,871,882.00 which is 93.17% of taxes extended. The next real estate distribution target date is January 16, 2020. The Tax Sale will be on February 24, 2020. They will be sending out certified letters next week to tax payers with unpaid real estate taxes. Mr. Slusser noted they send out around 10k certified notices which is very expensive and voiced an new idea they tried out of sending short notices by first class mail to help reduce that cost; other treasurers have reported a 20-30% reduction in certified letters by doing so. He noted they have received positive feedback from citizens that have received the short notice rather than a certified letter; the Association is working on legislation to eliminate the requirement of sending certified mail all together. Each certified letter costs around \$6 with printing, postage and production. The delinquent taxes are scheduled to be published in local newspapers the last week of January and the first week of February.

COUNTY CLERK:

On behalf of D. Ming-Mendoza, Mr. Chapman reported the County Clerk is preparing for the 2020 election and that there will be enough ballots. Early voting begins at the Administration Building on February 6, 2020.

D. Ming-Mendoza reported they have received and accepted all the levies from the jurisdictions with the exception of Livingston, who did not file a levy this year. All levies have been entered and are currently waiting on state assessed railroads, state assessed pollution control and equalization. Lastly, she said the County Clerk's Office is gearing up for tax extension.

RECORDER:

P. Curtin provided a graph to the committee giving an overview of the last calendar year. She mentioned the rejection rate for electronic submissions are down to 17% and paper rejections are down to 10%. A big offender of electronic rejections, SimpliFile, has brought their rejection rate down from 46% to 28%; 24-28% is the average rate for the larger electronic submitters.

Mr. Chapman asked for an update on if the GIS fee change, effective September 23, 2019, is adequate for the cost. Ms. Curtin noted there has been no push back and the flat fee has been very convenient especially to the title companies. Mr. Chapman inquired if the amount of money being taken in is more than what was anticipated. Ms. Curtin noted since the fees took place so late in the fiscal year, it's hard to tell; she will give a report in March or April on the revenue stream for a 3 month period for the GIS and recording fees. Ms. Curtin noted Madison County still has a lower fee than counties of similar size.

Ms. Curtin also reported the Recorder's Office is now capable of taking payments over the phone.

COUNTY ASSESSOR:

J. Dauderman reported they continue to work on 2018 C of E's for Board of Review. The 2019 deed reviews, name changes and exemptions are on schedule. The 2020 field work continues in Nameoki Township and will move onto Venice Township once completed.

Mr. Dauderman noted he got dollars approved through the reappropriation process and will be using it for a new microfiche scanner and a new plotter for maps.

BOARD OF REVIEW:

S. Rolens reported they have 1 more appeals hearing on Monday. A decision for Dynergy is still pending; the attorneys for the taxing districts and the appellant are in negotiations currently and the Board of Review will receive a recommendation for their decision by next week. Ms. Rolens said they continue to write 2018 bill corrections for Senior Freeze and Home Improvement Exemptions. They are also still taking corrections for 2019 from the Assessors and processing applications for tax exempt parcels that will be sent to the state. Ms. Rolens concluded her report by saying they are working on sending evidence to the Property Tax Appeal Board for complaints that have been filed.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY:

P. Krome followed up on a question from last month on GIS data and reported nobody has contacted them to obtain such information. Mr. Chapman clarified his inquiry on if the appropriate fees are being charged since the most recent resolution has passed regarding GIS info. He mentioned that Chairman Prenzler said that the real estate groups showing interest in the information are pleased with the one-time fee of \$2,500 and \$25 for additional information.

Ms. Krome also reported they have been providing general assistance to county departments.

Ms. Wathan reported the 5 year contract with DevNet will expire in May and hopes to pass the resolution to renew in April.

Mr. Walters moved, seconded by Mr. Hankins to approve the bills for the month as presented. The ayes and nays being called on the motion to approve resulted in a vote as follows: AYES: M. King, C. Hankins, M. Walters NAYS: None. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Mr. Walters moved, seconded by Mr. King to approve the Property Trustee Report as presented. The ayes and nays being called on the motion to approve resulted in a vote as follows: AYES: M. King, C. Hankins, M. Walters NAYS: None. **MOTION CARRIED.**

NEW BUSINESS:

D. Ming-Mendoza mentioned she was able to reappropriate funds for a one-time purchase of a new printer for \$41,000 that will be housed in the I.T Department; \$23,000 will get reimbursed through the HAVA Grant. She noted that all county departments will benefit from the printer. She also stated she will be printing over a half a million ballots in 2020.

Mr. Walters moved, seconded by Mr. Hankins to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

/mds