Association of Equalization Directors
Executive Board Meeting Minutes
Doherty Hotel
604 North McEwan St, Clare, MI 48617
September 8, 2023

Call to Order
President Jamie Houserman called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

Roll Call
Board Members Present:
President, Jamie Houserman; Vice-President, Justin Sears; Treasurer, Josh Simmons; Secretary, Mellissa Hayduk; Past President, Anthony Meyaard, Denise Joseph (Virtual), Eric Harger

Board Members Absent:
Michael Woolford

Membership:
18 other members were present, 25 additional on Zoom.

Attendance
A total of 49 people were in attendance.

Approval of Agenda
A motion was made by Tony Meyaard and supported by Justin Sears to approve the agenda.
Motion carried.

Approval of Previous Minutes
A motion was made by Tony Meyaard and supported by Josh Simmons to approve the minutes from July 26, 2023.
Motion carried.

Correspondence/Announcements
Introduction of Megan VanHoose as the new director for Kent County and Ravyn Schneider as the new director for Emmet County. Dan Bengel announced the birth of his fifth granddaughter. New daughter of Keagan Bengel. Keagan is also the new director for Bay County. Washtenaw and Branch Counties are still looking for directors.

Treasurer's Report
Vice-President, Justin Sears presented the report. The beginning balance for July was $42,406.25 and the ending balance was $48,779.93. The beginning balance for August was $48,779.93 and the ending balance is $27,739.35. A motion was made by Mellissa Hayduk and supported by Tony Meyaard to place the July and August reports on file for Audit. Motion carried.

Conference Committee

President Jamie Houserman reported that she is collaborating with Soaring Eagle in Mt Pleasant for the 2024 annual MAED conference. The tentative dates are July 28 – 31, 2024. The theme is Your Rocking Roll.

Standards Committee

Standards Committee Chairperson, Brian Busscher reported that he is working with the STC Standards Committee on taking the standards list and separating it into two separate items. One being the actual standards and the second being a resource guide. He is also updating the Equalization Directors Handbook. If there is a topic or subject you would like to have addressed in the handbook, please reach out to Brian.

Legislative Report

Chairperson Tony Meyaard reported on several bills, including HB 4675 that exempts use fees from Land Banks. The committee is opposing this bill because it also exempts special assessments which will burden other taxpayers. There is also a bill to exempt electrical vehicle charging stations. The committee is opposing this because they wanted it to exempt residential and the way it is written now, it will exempt every single electric car charging station. There are bills for the Disabled Veterans Exemption to go into income tax rather than property taxes. The committee is monitoring these bills. There is a bill for the surviving remarried spouse. They would still have to remain in the home; however, it would allow them to get remarried and still receive the exemption. The committee is opposed to this bill. There is a bill that will allow more splits on non-farmland by local ordinance. The committee is in support of this bill. The committee is monitoring a Disabled Veterans bill that adds cooperative housing.

He also reported that he attended two meetings held by the Michigan Property Tax Coalition regarding them wanting to implement a law that requires every assessor to meet the IAAO standards for PRD, PRB and COD. Also, if the assessor does not meet these standards, they will be immediately pushed into a corrective action plan. He is not sure how far this will go, but he will testify in opposition if it moves through.

Scholarship Fund Committee

Chairperson Mellissa Hayduk reported that there were no applications received for review.

Education

Chairperson Shila Kiander reported that Doug Stover Day is Thursday November 2, 2023, at the Doherty Hotel in Clare, MI and that there are only three seats available for in person. Registration is open to attend virtually.

MAA

Chairperson Mellissa Hayduk reported that the MAA conference was a success. The 2023 award recipients were:

- Beth Botke - Ernest (Ernie) Beren Most Valuable Member Award
- Tony Meyaard - David Bone Education Award
- Michigan STC, Will Gast - Distinguished Assessment Jurisdiction Award
- Brian Kienle - Michigan Property Tax Achievement Award
- Autumn Hoffman - David Heinowski Subscribing Member Award
- Laura Hallahan - President's Distinguished Service Award
- Linda Stevenson - President's Distinguished Service Award
- Matthew Raftary - President's Distinguished Service Award
- Stronger Together Awards - Phillip Wall, Sandy Birkenshaw, Dan Bengel, Jason Rosenzweig, Jeannie Diaz, and Josh Morgan
- Legacy Awards - Joyce Foondle and Evelyn Markowski

The 2024 MAA annual conference will be at Soaring Eagle in Mt. Pleasant. Fall School is September 27 – 29, 2023 at Treetops Resort. RFPs were sent out for the positions of Webmaster, Magazine Editor, Membership

Services, and Education Coordinator. The next meeting is on September 29, 2023, during Fall School at Treetops Resort.

STC/PSD

Treasurer, Josh Simmons reported on August 22, 2023, STC meeting.

STC Property Services Division representative, Michael Markes reported MEG update. There were six enhancements that pertain to assessors and counties. Three will be deployed at the end of September - the ability for the EQ Deputy to delete uploaded files in the file cabinet, the local unit will be able to render a tentative pdf of a report once it is saved by EQ, and the 4015's and 4015a's will be able to be import the JSON files by individual class. The three enhancements that they do not have roll out dates for yet are – breaking the 4015's into sales periods so it is like the BS & A report, include next unit button at bottom and to of screens, and include a draft watermark on the draft viewable pdf forms and view only folders for the local units.

All the counties have returned the Hydroelectric survey. There was discussion on what the survey will be used for. It is for informational purposes.

MAC

No report.

IAAO

Chairperson Donna VanderVries reported that the 2023 Annual Conference registration held August 27-30, 2023, in Salt Lake City, Utah was a success. The 2024 Annual Conference will be the 90th anniversary and will be held in Denver, CO. Donna's conference as IAAO president will be September 21 - 24, 2025 in Orlando Florida. Looking for volunteers from Michigan.

BS&A

Representative Dan Bengel reported that they are still working on waterfront codes.

Ad-Hoc Committees

Aerial Photography Committee

Chairperson Justin Sears reported that they are currently working on the planning stages for 2024 MiSail program. There are some counties that are opting out to fly that were scheduled for 2024. A few counties want to stay on the 5-year flight schedule rather than the 4-year flight schedule. They are open to discussion with these counties if they want to fly in 2025 instead of 2024. They will have the pricing back from the vendor this week for the cost of the 2024 flight. They can come to our next MAED meeting to discuss this.

Waterfront Committee

No report.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Other Matters of Concern

Donna VanderVries reported that Mid-Michigan is having a meeting next week in Grand Haven, MI at The Kirby House. The meeting will include a speaker discussing Brownfields. She also stated that they are offering a PRE class in Muskegon in November.

Adjournment

The next meeting of the Executive Board of the Michigan Association of Equalization Directors will be held on October 6, 2023, at 10:00 am at the Doherty Hotel, Clare, MI.

A motion was made by Tony Meyaard and supported by Josh Simmons to adjourn the meeting.
Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:46 am.