

January 8, 2008

The Pinellas County Value Adjustment Board (VAB) met in the County Commission Conference Room, 315 Court Street, Clearwater, Florida, at 8:00 a.m. on this date with the following members present:

Calvin D. Harris, County Commissioner, Chairman
Kenneth T. Welch, County Commissioner
Carol J. Cook, School Board Member

Members Late:

Susan Latvala, County Commissioner
Peggy L. O'Shea, School Board Member

Also Present:

Ken Burke, Clerk of the Circuit Court
Claretha N. Harris, Chief Deputy Director, Finance
Frederick L. Dean, Director, Finance
James L. Bennett, Interim County Attorney
Christina Le Blanc, Assistant County Attorney
Pam Dubov, Chief Deputy Property Appraiser
Ron Anderson, Deputy of Appraisals
Stephen G. Watts, Esquire, VAB Counsel
Linda R. Reed, Manager, Board Records
Cynthia N. Haumann, Assistant Manager, Board Records
Helen Groves, Deputy Clerk

A G E N D A

1. Meeting Called to Order
2. Approval of Minutes of the Meeting of October 9, 2007
3. Pam Dubov
 - a. Discussion on Issues with Remanded Petitions
 - b. Final Disposition of Petition No. 467
4. Final Action of All Recommendations of Special Magistrates
5. Second Certification of 2007 Tax Rolls
6. Miscellaneous
 - a. VAB Statistics
 - b. Contracting with Vendors re Special Accommodations
7. Selection of Chairman for 2008
8. Adjournment

#1 MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairman Harris called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

#2 MINUTES OF MEETING OF OCTOBER 9, 2007 - APPROVED

On motion by Commissioner Welch, seconded by School Board Member Cook and carried, the minutes of the meeting of October 9, 2007 were approved.

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At this time, 8:03 a.m., Commissioner Latvala entered the meeting.

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#3 REMANDED PETITIONS

Ms. Dubov presented a report titled *2007 Value Adjustment Board Remanded Petitions Final Values as of 07-Jan-2008*, which has been filed and made a part of the record, noting that the Special Magistrates remanded 23 petitions to the Property Appraiser. She indicated that the Property Appraiser found valid evidence to make reductions on 438 of the 439 parcels covered under the petitions; and that one petition, No. 556, was denied and no adjustment made. In response to query by Commissioner Welch, Ms. Dubov indicated that the overall decrease in taxable value in 2007 as a result of VAB decisions was \$61 million; and that she will include the decrease as a result of remands in next year's report.

Clerk Burke noted that fewer petitions are filed per capita in Pinellas County than any county of comparable size in the state; and recognized the Property Appraiser staff for their efficiency.

Thereupon, Commissioner Welch moved, seconded by School Board Member Cook and carried, that Petition No. 556 be accepted as a denial and the other remanded petitions be accepted as adjustments, as recommended by Ms. Dubov.

#4 FINAL ACTION OF ALL RECOMMENDATIONS OF SPECIAL MAGISTRATES - APPROVED

Commissioner Latvala moved, seconded by Commissioner Welch and carried, that the recommendations of the Special Magistrates be approved.

#5 SECOND CERTIFICATION OF 2005 TAX ROLLS – APPROVED

Following input by Ms. Haumann, Commissioner Welch moved, seconded by Commissioner Latvala and carried, that the second certification of the 2007 tax rolls be approved.

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At this time, 8:08 a.m., School Board Member O'Shea entered the meeting.

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#6 MISCELLANEOUS

a. VAB Statistics for Two Year Period

Noting that there were fewer petitions filed this year, Ms. Haumann indicated that of 1,411 petitions filed, 654 were withdrawn; and that the other petitions were set for hearings.

b. Contracting with Vendors re Special Accommodations

Following discussion with input by Ms. Reed, it was the consensus of the board to handle the requests on a case-by-case basis.

c. Clerk Burke announced that Ms. Reed would be retiring this year; whereupon, Ms. Dubov and Chairman Harris thanked her for her many years of outstanding service to the Value Adjustment Board.

#7 COMMISSIONER HARRIS RE-ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF VALUE ADJUSTMENT BOARD FOR 2008

Commissioner Welch moved, seconded by School Board Member O'Shea and carried, that Commissioner Harris be re-elected Chairman for 2008.

#8 ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Commissioner Welch, seconded by School Board Member Cook and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 a.m.

Chairman