

NOVEMBER 07, 2011

A Meeting of the 2011 Value Adjustment Board (VAB) was held on this date in the East Room of the Old Courthouse with the following members present:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

A. Brian Bigelow, Chairman
John Manning

LEE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

Ms. Mary Fischer, alternate for Dr. Jane Kuckel

CITIZEN MEMBERS

Richard Ripp, School Board Appointee, Vice Chairman
Alan Garges, Board of County Commissioners Appointee

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by Chairman Bigelow.

Value Adjustment Board Holly Cosby approved, as to the legal form and sufficiency, the Affidavit of Publication for this meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The Chairman called for public comment, and the following individual came forward to offer comment:

Consent Agenda Item C-2 - Margaret Tuya of Tuya Property Tax Management explained that extenuating circumstances resulted in the petitioner's late filing for Agricultural Classification.

The following are the Consent Agenda items that each Board member wished to have discussed:

Commissioner Manning - C-2
Mr. Ripp - None
Mr. Garges - None
Dr. Kuckel - None
Commissioner Bigelow - None

CONSENT AGENDA**VAB Administration****C-1 ACTION REQUESTED/PURPOSE**

Approve the Minutes of August 12, 2011 Organizational Meeting - Exhibit C-1

Commissioner Manning moved approval, seconded by Mr. Ripp called and carried.

C-2 ACTION REQUESTED/PURPOSE

Approve recommendations as provided by VAB Special Magistrates - Exhibit C-2

DURING THE PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION OF THE MEETING:

In response to Ms. Tuya's comments and questions from the members, Attorney Cosby described the process usually employed for review of recommendations brought to the attention of the Board and VAB policies as to which topics raised by speakers could be considered by the Board.

PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

Commissioner Manning moved to request that the VAB Attorney review Petition 2011-00004 and report at the January VAB meeting, seconded by Mr. Ripp, called and carried.

Commissioner Manning moved approval of the balance of Special Magistrate recommendations as listed, second by Mr. Garges, called and carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA**VAB Counsel****A-1 ACTION REQUESTED/PURPOSE**

Review and approve changes to VAB Local Forms - [Exhibit A-1](#)

- a. Form VAB ELS - Evidence List and Summary

Attorney Holly Cosby described the evidence exchange process and noted that until recently the process had been considered optional for the petitioner. She explained that she had been working with the Property Appraiser's Office (PAO) to clarify various steps in the process, including the PAO request for specific information from the petitioner and admissibility of evidence uploaded by the petitioner into the Axia system. She added that, because the Axia program is owned and maintained by the VAB, uploading of evidence into the system would not constitute initiation by the petitioner of the evidence exchange process. Commissioner Manning moved approval, seconded by Mr. Ripp. After Commissioner Bigelow requested that the changed portion remain bolded and underlined so it would stand out, the motion was called and carried.

VAB Administration**A-2 ACTION REQUESTED/PURPOSE**

Discuss proposed 2011 VAB Meeting in January 2012 to review recommendations as received from Special Magistrates and to conduct other business as needed

One date during the week of January 9 thru January 13, 2012 or as determined by the Board

Lead VAB Clerk Michele Cooper explained that the January meeting would not necessarily be the final meeting, depending on the number of re-schedules that would be required; and that a February or March meeting would probably be needed. Commissioner Bigelow stated that the 10:30 am Monday meetings worked well for him, and there was consensus to schedule the January meeting for a Monday morning.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**VAB MEMBERS' DISCUSSION ITEMS**

ONLINE MEETING AGENDA - Commissioner Bigelow mentioned that the meeting agenda had not been online prior to the meeting, and Ms. Cooper reported that it would be updated as soon as possible.

VAB ATTORNEY COMPENSATION - In response to Commissioner Bigelow's inquiry, Attorney Cosby stated that her current contract would expire June 30, 2012. Commissioner Bigelow requested that the Board direct VAB Administration to review the VAB Attorney compensation package in comparison with other counties, especially those that are the same size as Lee County. Following general discussion, Commissioner Bigelow specifically requested that VAB Administration conduct independent research on this item.

VAB Administration**I-1 VAB Clerk Report on 2011 VAB Petitions Received to date - [Exhibit I-1](#)**

Ms. Cooper briefly reviewed the information contained in the Exhibit, noted that approximately 400 fewer petitions had been received than in 2010, and mentioned that "late filed" petitions must be accepted for review until such time as they would be considered detrimental to the VAB process.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 10:57 a.m.

ATTEST:

CHARLIE GREEN, CLERK

Deputy Clerk

Chairman