

**STATE OF MAINE CHAPTER
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ASSESSING OFFICERS
Executive Committee Meeting
October 16, 2015 * 9:30 a.m.
MRS, Augusta, Maine**

MINUTES

Executive Committee Members in attendance: President Wade Rainey, Vice President Kerry Leichtman, Secretary Judy Mathiau, Treasurer Matt Sturgis and Directors Martine Painchaud, Cathy Jamison, Susan Russo and Kyle Avila. Also present was Jeff Kendall of MRS

Members absent: Past President Helen Taylor

The meeting opened at 9:35 a.m.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Kyle moved to accept the 9/11/15 minutes as written, seconded by Martine, all in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Matt reported on the following:

Checking	\$2,144.34
Savings	\$8,930.29

Judy moved to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Kyle, all in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Education – Kyle reported on the upcoming annual meeting to be held at the Wishcampers Center in Portland on November 20th. Matt stated that there will not be a user fee of the center and that he is securing a caterer.

The proposed agenda as follows:

Registration	8:30 – 9:00
Opening Remarks/Business Meeting	9:00 – 9:15
Joe Young/Office of GIS	9:15 – 9:30
Basic Course Instructors/Panel	9:30 – 10:30
BREAK	10:30 – 10:45
Bill Dale/Recent Court Decisions	10:45 – noon
LUNCH	12:00 – 1:00
Awards & Scholarship	1:00 – 1:15
Dave Ledew/Assessing Standards	1:15 – 2:30

The committee agreed to keep the focus on "Assessing Standards" – with the basic course instructors comments on the course material and their own experience over the years, moderated by Kerry; the Bill Dale session will focus on current decisions and how they impact assessor's standards; Dave Ledew will follow up in the afternoon with a history lesson of assessing standards and how they have evolved to current day.

The committee also discussed the scholarship, free meeting certificates and speaker gift cards.

Kyle moved to award the following at the annual meeting; a \$500 Michael Austin scholarship, 2 free meeting certificate drawings and 2 gift card drawings, as well as gift cards for all speakers, seconded by Matt, all in favor.

Judy will confirm the number of gift cards for Matt and she will prepare the meeting certificates and the scholarship certificate. Judy will also contact Dave Ledew to confirm his presence at the meeting as well as the basic course instructors.

Kerry suggested an award of appreciation for Bill Brunelle, an employee at the Property Tax Division, who has created an assessors page on their web site. This site has current and updated information and is appreciated. The committee agreed to award a certificate to Bill. Judy will create a certificate and share with the committee via e-mail.

Legislation – Nothing to report.

Membership – Judy reported that there are currently 127 members. Of those, 18 are new CMA registrants, 118 CMAs, 6 CATs, 21 Appraisers. She has also mailed 7 letters to new CMAs for free membership.

Audit – Nothing to report.

Nominating – Martine reported that she has confirmed Julie's return as secretary. There was discussion on the fact that Cathy's term ends and the committee hoped she would decide to stay on again for two years.

Newsletter – Kerry said he would complete the newsletter 3 weeks before the annual meeting if all information is ready to publish.

OLD BUSINESS:

Chapter Purpose – Kerry continues to gather documents and hopes to get a good perspective on assessing standards from the annual meeting sessions.

MMA Booth – Judy and Kerry manned the booth along with Rick Mace and Darryl McKenney. They reported that several discussions took place with municipal officials including town clerks, managers and assessors. They both thought that the booth was important but that perhaps the display should have bullet points so that it would be clear as to what we are presenting as an information booth and not as advertising.

The MMA Convention next year will be in Bangor. One complaint from assessors was that there were not enough sessions for assessors.

Discussion continued and the committee agreed that we would have a booth again next year and that we should meet with the MAAO committee and collaborate on full sessions for assessors and even offer a luncheon for assessors. Kyle will speak with Bill Healey.

MMA By-Laws – the IAAO Affiliate Committee rejected our proposed by-laws based on recent updates to their Procedural Rules. Judy will contact them before our annual meeting to insure that our updates be acceptable, then present it to the chapter at the annual meeting.

BY-LAW Update – Judy reported that the IAAO Office reviewed our proposed by-law updates and approved. These will be distributed along with the annual meeting registration to chapter members and a vote will be taken at the annual meeting for final adoption.

NEW BUSINESS:

Property Tax Institute - Judy met with Dave Ledew, Laurie Thomas, Justin Poirier and Jeff Kendall last week to discuss their idea to hold a two day session at Sunday River in April of 2016. They wanted her feedback as an assessor and as a representative of the IAAO Chapter. They expressed their concern that they did not want to interfere with the organization's education plans.

Judy reported to the committee that they want to offer the chapter to be a sponsor (endorser) of this program. Our name would be associated with the institute.

The committee discussed the idea enthusiastically. This same idea was discussed at an earlier committee meeting in the hopes that the chapter could offer the same type of training. It was suggested that we begin notifying our chapter members about the upcoming Property Tax Institute as soon as possible.

Matt moved and Martine seconded to allow Judy to act as liaison to the committee and to keep them apprised of plans by the Property Tax Division. All in favor.

Judy said she also discussed with Dave and the other three about the need for "back to the basics" training and suggested one day training workshops using real life scenarios. A different topic for each day at tax school. Judy and Kerry had previously created a list of topics that would benefit this need.

Kerry suggested that we invite Dave to our January meeting to discuss the initiative to train new assessors. The committee agreed.

Discussion continued by the committee regarding the property tax institute which evolved into the purpose of the Chapter Organization itself. There was some concern that the chapter does not offer IAAO courses, however, it was also agreed that the chapter was meeting the needs for overall training for all levels of assessing. This will be discussed in more depth at a board future meeting.

Martine moved to adjourn at 11:10 a.m., seconded by Cathy, all in favor.

The next committee meeting will be December 11, 2015.

*Respectfully Submitted By
Judy Mathiau, Secretary*