

approved

**Maine Association of Assessing Officers
Board Meeting Minutes
MMA Augusta & Remote Access - Zoom
March 10, 2023**

Present: Travis Roy, Tammy Brown, Darryl McKenney, Luke Vigue, Taylor Burns, Cindy Namer, Theresa Duff, Valerie Moon, Nick Cloutier, Elisa Marr and Melissa White (MMA)

Present via zoom: Lewis Cousins, Ruth Birtz, William Healey, Jr.

Excused Absent:

Absent: None

Guest:

Call to Order: President Travis Roy called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

It was determined there was a quorum of 7 to conduct business.

Secretary's Report: Tammy Brown presented the minutes from January 13, 2023 for review and approval.

Motion made by Valerie Moon, seconded by Nick Cloutier, all approved the January 13, 2023 minutes.

Treasurer's Report:

Lewis Cousins reported on the balance (Total Assets) as of:

10.31.22	22,004.98	5,875.00	0.00	27,879.98
11.30.22	24,348.21	10,003.00	0.00	27,382.21
12.31.22	25,945.73	1,515.00	0.00	27,460.73

AUCTION SCHOLARSHIP FUND		UN-RESTRICTED FUND BALANCE
9.30.22	3,281.30	17,588.06
10.31.22	3,281.00	17,588.06
11.30.22	3,281.30	17,588.06
12.31.22	3,281.30	17,588.06

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Motion made by Darryl McKinney to place \$2000.00 in the scholarship fund and the remainder of the funds made over budget to go in the unrestricted fund balance, seconded by Luke Vigue, all approved.

Lewis Cousins reported on the following bills:

Expended since January 13, 2023

MMA November Services \$274.72

MMA December Services \$20.68

Motion made by Theresa Duff, seconded by Cindy Namer, all approved the financials as presented.

Committee Reports

1. Audit/Finance

- Darryl McKinney/Luke Vigue Co-Chair Report – Nothing new to report

2. Awards & Scholarship

- Elisa Marr Chair/Tammy Brown Co-Chair Report – No new scholarships have been received. They will be working on awards closer to the September conference.

3. Calendar/Advertisers

- Nick Cloutier/Theresa Duff Co-Chair Report – Nick reported that Lewis was assisting with the transition as most of the advertisers are solicited close to the conference. Melissa will provide Nick with the current forms. Lewis will send Nick a few calendars from last year for review.

1. Conference

- Tammy Brown Chair/Travis Roy/Bill Healey Jr. Co-Chair Report – Bill reported the agenda has been confirmed and being approved for advanced credits. He went over the proposed sessions. Kate Dufour from MMA is not available, but Peter Lacey will provide a Legislative update.

2. Distance Learning

- Travis Roy Chair/ Lewis Cousins Co-Chair Report – The agenda is set and registration is open. There are 16 registered in Caribou and 12 registered to attend via zoom. There was a Maine Chapter meeting on March 9th, they are discussing holding another class in the fall. Nick reported the property tax institute may take place in May via zoom.

3. Education

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- Bill Healey Jr. Report – The BAR workshop will take place in May, and the Excel course will take place in November.
4. Ethics
 - Travis Roy Report – No report

 7. Executive Board - Ruth Birtz Report – No report

 8. Historian
 - Darryl McKenney Report – Brought copies of the 1923 Taxes and farm Maine where the Governor was addressing assessors. Valerie brought in a 1950's Bureau of Taxation guide and some worksheets from the Boca inspection reports. Lauren brought in the person property pricing guide from 1972.

 9. Legislative
 - Darryl McKenney Report – Next Thursday the stabilization hearings will begin. They will have more hearings and then a workshop. There was discussion. There was a questions if MAAO was planning on writing testimony as a board. Darryl read the proposed bill.

 10. Membership
 - Theresa Duff Chair – There are 308 members, 67 are unpaid as of March 1, 2023.

 11. Newsletter
 - Lewis Cousins Chair/ Theresa Duff Co-Chair Report – The February newsletter went out on time. They committee is working on putting together the April newsletter. Lewis encouraged all to participate and send articles. Travis volunteered April Buchanan in Old Town for a new Assessor profile. Elisa offered an idea to include the grade factor paperwork that Nick handed out at a meeting yesterday. Nick will send the document, and/or someone else can write a up a summary article. Elisa will ask Patrick to do the write up.

 12. Technology Report
 - Elisa Marr/Taylor Burns Co-Chairs Report – Elisa reported the vendors have been moved to the front page. Luke may have the assessor legacy award information to include.

New Business:

- Legacy Assessor Award
 - Luke would like to have a draft document prepared in the next few weeks. He is working to pull information together and needs assistance regarding the criteria. There was discussion. Luke will reach out to Rick Mace who began this award initiative.

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- Photos for website.
-The plan is to take the photo at the May 19th board meeting.
- Conference contracts for 2025
-Tammy reviewed the Sebasco proposal and highlighted some of the areas of concern. There are no complimentary rooms in the proposal, the meeting room space is \$500.00. The Samoset and Sunday River proposals did not come prior to this meeting.
- Other
Darryl asked if MAAO would like to do a session at the MMA Convention with the Maine Chapter of the IAAO.
Cindy offered an idea to do a panel discussion with Code Officers. Ruth noted that in her office, Assessors and Code Officers are co-trained. Melissa will assist Cindy with putting her in touch with MBOIA for this session.

Travis reported on discussions that took place at the Maine Chapter of IAAO's training on March 9th. One idea was to put together an Advisory council for assessor training. This will help the effort to offer training for assessors but not to duplicate the efforts. Lewis noted that it is becoming more difficult to get advanced credits and the additional credit hours are excessive. Cindy offered an idea to add the CEU certification in the next newsletter. Lewis will include that. A letter will be drafted to Maine Revenue Services.

Travis suggested that the MAAO joins with the Maine Chapter of IAAO to produce a joint newsletter. Nick also offered that the newsletters are done every other quarter by each group. Cindy suggested that the two groups try a pilot of combining these to see if it would work well. The board was in support to move forward with this effort and report back at the May 19 meeting.

- Adjournment

Adjournment: Motion made by Theresa Duff, seconded by Valerie Moon, all approved to adjourn the meeting at 12:33 p.m.