State Board of Certified Real Estate Appraisers October 24, 2024

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BOARD MEMBERS:

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Mark V. Smeltzer Sr., Chairman, Professional Member -Absent

William T. Stoerrle Jr., Vice Chairman, Professional

Michael McFarlane, Secretary, Professional Member -Absent

John D. Ausherman, Professional Member - Absent Chandra Mast, Professional Member

Jonathan B. Schuck, Professional Member R. Scott Hartman, Professional Member

Martha H. Brown, Esquire, Secretary of the Commonwealth designee

Laura Pittini, Consumer Protection Agent, Office of Attorney General designee

Paul H. Wentzel Jr., Senior Legislative Director, Department of Banking and Securities designee

BUREAU PERSONNEL:

Ronald K. Rouse, Esquire, Board Counsel Timothy A. Fritsch, Esquire, Board Prosecutor Ashley P. Murphy, Esquire, Board Prosecutor Andrew LaFratte, MPA, Deputy Policy Director, Department of State Kristel Hennessy Hemler, Board Administrator Deon Bowers, Real Estate Commission Administrator

ALSO PRESENT:

Scott DiBiasio, Manager, State and Industry Affairs, Appraisal Institute

Marcus Huertas, Advocacy Manager, Pennsylvania Association of Realtors

Sarah Whyler, Certified Residential Appraiser & Realtor/Appraisal Coordinator, Charles E. Brown Real Estate, LLC & Brown Appraisers, LLC

Teresa Cochran, Executive Director, Assessors' Association of Pennsylvania

Tracy Matroni, Education & Member Services at Lancaster County Association of Realtors/Keystone Chapter of the Appraisal Institute

State Board of Certified Real Estate Appraisers October 24, 2024

ALSO PRESENT: (cont.)

 Tyler Satterfield, SRA, R/W-AC, President, Vista Realty Services Inc., Certified General Real Estate Appraiser

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2 State Board of Certified

Real Estate Appraisers

October 24, 2024

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[Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act, at 9:00 a.m. the Board entered into Executive Session with Ronald K. Rouse, Esquire, Board Counsel, to have attorney-client consultations and for the purpose of conducting quasi-judicial deliberations. The Board returned to open session at 10:30 a.m.]

[Ronald K. Rouse, Esquire, Board Counsel, informed everyone that the meeting of the State Board of Certified Real Estate Appraisers was being held in a hybrid format, in person and by livestreaming teleconference, pursuant to Act 100 of 2021, which requires boards to use a virtual platform to conduct business when a public meeting is held.

Mr. Rouse noted the meeting was being recorded and voluntary participation constituted consent to be recorded.

Mr. Rouse also noted the Board entered into Executive Session with Board Counsel to have attorney-client consultations and for the purpose of

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   conducting quasi-judicial deliberations.]
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        The regularly scheduled meeting of the State
4
   Board of Certified Real Estate Appraisers was held on
   Thursday, October 24, 2024. William T. Stoerrle Jr.,
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6
   Vice Chairman, Professional Member, officially called
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   the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.
                              * * *
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   Roll Call
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   [William T. Stoerrle Jr., Vice Chairman, Professional
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   Member, requested a roll call of Board members. A
12
   quorum of Board members was present.
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        Ms. Hennessy Hemler noted Chair Smeltzer is not
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   in attendance for public session but was present
15
   during Executive Session.]
16
   Introduction of Attendees
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   [Kristel Hennessy Hemler, Board Administrator,
19
   provided an introduction of attendees.]
                              * * *
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21
   Approval of minutes of the September 12, 2024 meeting
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   VICE CHAIRMAN STOERRLE:
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                  Next item would be approval of the
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                  minutes of our meeting on September 12,
25
                  2024.
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                       Do I have a motion to approve?
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   MR. WENTZEL:
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                  So moved.
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   VICE CHAIRMAN STOERRLE:
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                  Second?
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   MR. HARTMAN:
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                  Second.
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   MS. HENNESSY HEMLER:
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                  Roll call.
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                  William Stoerrle, aye; Chandra Mast,
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                  aye; Jonathan Schuck, aye; Scott
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                  Hartman, aye; Martha Brown, abstain;
                  Laura Pittini, aye; Paul Wentzel, aye.
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   [The motion carried. Martha Brown abstained from
16
   voting on the motion.]
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   Report of Prosecutorial Division
19
   [Timothy A. Fritsch, Esquire, Board Prosecutor, on
20
   behalf of Ray Michalowski, Esquire, Senior Board
21
   Prosecutor, presented the amended Consent Agreement
22
   for Case Nos. 23-70-001851, 23-70-002005, & 23-70-
23
   002006.]
24
   MR. ROUSE:
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                  Regarding the Consent Agreement at item
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2 on the agenda, Case Nos. 23-70-
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                  001851, 23-70-002005, & 23-70-002006,
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3
                  after discussion in Executive Session,
                  I believe the Chair would entertain a
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                  motion to adopt the amended Consent
 6
                  Agreement.
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   VICE CHAIRMAN STOERRLE:
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                  Do I have a motion?
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   MR. HARTMAN:
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                  So moved.
   VICE CHAIRMAN STOERRLE:
11
                  Second?
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   MS. BROWN:
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                  Second.
15
   VICE CHAIRMAN STOERRLE:
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                  Any discussion?
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18
                  William Stoerrle, aye; Chandra Mast,
19
                  aye; Jonathan Schuck, aye; Scott
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                  Hartman, aye; Martha Brown, aye; Laura
21
                  Pittini, aye; Paul Wentzel, aye.
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   [The motion carried unanimously. That is the Matter
23
   of BPOA v. Raymond Reile Redner, Case Nos. 23-70-
24
   001851, 23-70-002005, & 23-70-002006.
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[Ronald K. Rouse, Esquire, Board Counsel, provided a Regulatory Status Report for the Board's review. He noted 16A-7029 regarding the Practical Applications of Real Estate Appraisal (PAREA) was in the final rulemaking stage. He mentioned that a package would be brought before the Board that incorporates the comments from the Independent Regulatory Review

Commission (IRRC).

Mr. Hartman asked whether 16A-7029 would be ready for December, and Mr. Rouse noted December to be the goal.

Mr. Hartman mentioned that they have 10 graduates from the Appraisal Institute's PAREA program and this would continue every month, noting there is pressure now from people from Pennsylvania who want to get into the PAREA program but are afraid because the regulation is not approved.

Mr. Rouse explained that final rulemaking brought before the Board to vote on has to go back to IRRC. He noted the Board has two years to get a final rulemaking package in place, and the final rulemaking would be submitted when the General

1 | Assembly reconvenes.]

2 **

3 Regulations/Statute - Regulation 16A-7025 Fees

4 [Ronald K. Rouse, Esquire, Board Counsel, addressed

5 Regulation 16A-7025 regarding fees. He noted the

6 Board adopted the proposed annex for the regulation

7 on September 12, 2024. He provided a copy of the

8 proposed preamble and explained that the preamble

9 states the statutory authority for establishing fees,

10 the basis for increasing fees by regulatory

11 amendment, and the description of the proposed

12 regulatory changes to the fees, including how the

13 cost of application fees is determined and how

14 | biennial renewal fee increases were determined.

Mr. Rouse explained that the next step would be

16 | for Board Counsel to complete the proposed regulatory

17 | package to include drafting of the Regulatory

18 Analysis Form if the Board votes to approve the

19 preamble.]

20 MR. ROUSE:

24

21 Would the Vice Chair entertain a motion

22 to adopt the proposed preamble and

23 direct Board Counsel to continue with

the regulatory process?

25 VICE CHAIRMAN STOERRLE:

10 Do I have a motion? 1 2 MR. HARTMAN: 3 So moved. VICE CHAIRMAN STOERRLE: 4 5 Second? 6 MS. MAST: 7 I second. 8 VICE CHAIRMAN STOERRLE: 9 Any discussion? 10 11 William Stoerrle, yes; Chandra Mast, 12 aye; Jonathan Schuck, aye; Scott 13 Hartman, aye; Martha Brown, aye; Laura 14 Pittini, aye; Paul Wentzel, aye. 15 [The motion carried unanimously.] 16 17 Report of Board Chairman - No Report * * * 18 19 Report of Committees 20 [Kristel Hennessy Hemler, Board Administrator, noted 21 the Applications Committee met to discuss revisions 22 to the experience log. 23 Mr. Hartman reported Board members are 24 frequently asked about the process and the paperwork 25 that has to be submitted for a trainee to be allowed

to take the national examination to become a certified appraiser.

Mr. Hartman reported some areas of the experience log form have consistently caused confusion and that the committee went through the whole package required to be submitted for someone to move from a trainee, to be able to take the exam, and then be certified. He mentioned that clarifications were made to make all of the forms align with each other and not be in opposition of each other, which creates a huge area of confusion for an applicant.

Mr. Hartman mentioned that one of the things that lacked consistency was the number of hours claimed on the experience log and whether the number of hours are reasonably equal to the amount of time the appraiser's peers were spending on those types of assignments. He noted (e) on the Appraiser Experience Logs Instructions was modified to show whether it was a residential or commercial property type, requires that hours are directly related to the time spent on the assignment, and requires that hours spent on the assignment are relatively equal to the appraiser's peers.

Mr. Hartman stated the Board has the right to ask for the workfile if it feels that any of the

appraisals listed on the log are excessive so the Board can verify whether there was a rationale reason for the hours. He noted supervisors need to be made aware that they can be held responsible, including disciplinary action, if the experience hours are not supported by the workfile and provided an example.

Mr. Hartman addressed the supervisor's level of involvement on each assignment and referred to (h), where they changed "P" to the supervisor developed and reported that section of the report and all the trainee did was observe. He noted "C" changed to the property was co-appraised, meaning the trainee and the supervisor developed that specific section of the report together. He noted "R" changed to the trainee independently developed and reported that section of the report and all the supervisor did was review and approve.

Mr. Hartman stated it should make logical sense. More "Ts" would be seen early on in the training career than anything else on the log because the trainee is learning and watching the supervisor, and the supervisor is showing them how to do it.

Mr. Hartman explained that they would then move to a "C," where the property is co-appraised, and the trainee and supervisor would work on it together. He

noted they would eventually move to "R" and expect to see mostly "Rs" at the end of the training period, where the trainee developed it and then was reviewed and approved by the supervisor.

Ms. Hennessy Hemler reported receiving many questions under (f) regarding the "client" and referred to the P, C, and R section of the experience log, which is filled out by the supervisor for each assignment. She referred to the column before that, where it has "yes" or "no". She explained that it was the property they were on, and whether it was used for training purposes or an actual client. She clarified that if it was used for training purposes for the client that it would be "no" but an appraisal done with a supervisor would be "yes."

Mr. Hartman stated most supervisors do not actually do the training on a vacant property or somewhere they have access but are done mostly for clients. He mentioned that trainees can earn hours by working on a property that is not being done for a client as an assignment but are developing an appraisal with a conclusion of value in a training mode.

Mr. Hartman stated it also corresponds to PAREA because the student is not appraising an actual

property for an assignment for an actual client in PAREA but are doing a theoretical property for a client who does not exist.

Mr. Rouse asked where the language was derived under (e), "and must be relatively equal to the amount of time submitted by the appraiser's peers." He mentioned that people may not understand that language.

Mr. Hartman explained that the language came from the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraiser Practice (USPAP), and one of the primary tenets of USPAP is they do what their peers do. He noted it was put in there specifically to say if their peers are asking for "x" hours that it is equal to "x", and someone asking for hours equal to "5x" should be prepared to explain why all of their assignments take five times longer than their peers.

Mr. Rouse commented that the language coming from USPAP is providing flexibility and basically setting the parameters for looking at outliers, where most people are submitting "x" amount of time for this particular assignment and someone is outside of the bounds of that, which may be cause for the Board to request to see the workfile.

Mr. Hartman noted that they are expecting it to

be way out of bounds, where it may be 5 hours versus
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Mr. Rouse mentioned that it would apply when the number of hours look inflated or the number of hours are below other peers.

Mr. Hartman explained that they are not saying the individual is wrong, but the Board may ask to see their workfile for that job if it is substantially different. He noted it would be approved if the workfile substantiates the number of hours but would not be approved if they cannot substantiate the number of hours.

Mr. Rouse suggested having a public discussion concerning the page.

Mr. Hart commented that the form has been there for a long time, and the Board continues to make it better. He welcomed comments from the appraiser members of the public and suggested having an exposure draft available at the December 5 meeting, where comments could be received, and the Board could then vote on any changes.

Mr. Rouse again referred to (e), "supervisor appraisers may be held responsible, including the

potential for disciplinary action, if the request for experience hours for a specific appraisal is not supported by the workfile." He noted that the Real Estate Appraisers Certification Act under Section 11 has 17 possible methods for discipline, where the potential for discipline of a supervisor would have to fall into one of those 17 bases for disciplines.

Mr. Hartman explained that the issue primarily is when a trainee tries to claim a lot of hours for an assignment that does not seem to make sense, remembering that the supervisor and the trainee both signed the trainee form submitted in the report.

Mr. Hartman noted they now have an appraisal report governed by USPAP, and it is a violation of USPAP to submit a report that is false or misleading. He explained that the Board could then hold the supervisor responsible because the supervisor is the appraiser on everything the trainee works on and they signed a report that they should have known was false or misleading.

Mr. Rouse referred to Section 11(a)5 of the Real Estate Appraisers Certification Act, where performing an act or omitting an act when such performance or omission involves dishonesty, fraud, or misrepresentation with intent to substantially

benefit the certificate holder or licensee in this
profession or with the intent to substantially injure
another person.

Mr. Hartman commented that the trainee is signing and the supervisor is letting the individual sign. He mentioned that they could refer an application that is clearly false to prosecution.

Mr. Rouse mentioned that the Board does not do investigations and has a separate role.

Ms. Brown commented that Mr. Rouse is trying to point out the underlying authority in the act for any possible disciplinary matter.

Mr. Rouse explained that he is trying to make sure it could really be done if they make a statement like that because it has to be attached to the Board's authority under the act.

Mr. Fritsch offered to have a conversation with Mr. Rouse regarding that authority, noting prosecution deals with the statute and the regulations. He reported bringing cases against the applicant for filing an application that was false or fraudulent but was not aware of a supervisor being charged in that situation. He mentioned that they could look at the law and confirm if there is authority there.

Mr. Rouse stated it is an issue nationally in terms of when the supervisor can be held responsible in cases where an experience log is submitted to the Board and believed there should be further discussion on that issue.

Mr. Hartman mentioned that Pennsylvania is unique among many states because they have a trainee form that is attached to the appraisal, which becomes part of the appraisal signed by the supervisor and the trainee. He noted the supervisor should know what is there and violates USPAP if they create a false or misleading appraisal.

Ms. Hennessy Hemler addressed the Registry for Supervisor of Licensed Appraiser Trainee

Instructions. She reported the language is changing until page 4, "the certification of the supervisory appraiser."

She noted the Applications Committee wanted the addition of having the supervisor certify the following statement: "I certify that as part of my supervision of any trainee that I shall supervisor supervise the completion of the Appraiser Experience Log, and experience hours claimed must be directly equal to actual time spent on the assignment, and hours are relatively equal to the trainee's peers.

I further certify that the Board may request the workfile for any and all appraisals that may be deemed in excess of experience hours. I further understand that I may be held responsible, including the potential for disciplinary action, if the request for experience hours for a specific appraisal is not supported by the workfile."

Mr. Hartman again mentioned that they are trying to make all of the forms as aligned as possible, and any future changes will be reflected on all of the forms.

Ms. Mast asked whether there would be a schedule for trainees to understand what an expected peer equivalency would be or whether they would be expected to just understand that because most trainees would not have a good idea of how much time to spend on a new type of report that they have never done.

Mr. Hartman explained that trainees are supposed to be truthful from the very beginning as far as how many hours were spent on the job. He explained that every appraisal would be to the schedule if they publish a schedule, and it is not the intention to have every residential report to have the same number of hours. He mentioned a progression should be seen

from the trainee over time by seeing a report reflecting a decrease in the normal 8 hours due to being more proficient over time.

Vice Chair Stoerrle mentioned that this form has trainee's peers but in the other forms only use peers.

Mr. Hartman noted that should be changed for consistency.

Mr. Hartman addressed the Pennsylvania State
Board of Certified Real Estate Appraisers Required
Checklist for Licensed Appraisal Trainee. He
reported adding the number of hours spent on the
appraisal for a link between the appraisal and the
trainee log, because the trainee does not currently
notate in the trainee form how many hours were spent
on it and then it gets confusing when they go to the
log.

Ms. Brown referred to the prior document and suggested it read, "may request the workfile for any and all appraisals that are deemed to contain deficient or excessive hours," and Board members agreed.

Mr. Hartman also mentioned that residential appraisers sometimes need assistance from certified general appraisers, but the workfile would contain

1 all of the necessary information if they are doing

2 everything correctly. He noted they are trying to

3 avoid someone claiming unreasonable levels of hours

4 for the assignment to shortcut the experience time.

5 Mr. Rouse suggested placing revisions to

6 experience logs and the supervisor application and

7 training checklist on the next Board agenda to notify

8 people of what will be discussed at the meeting.]

* *

10 Report of Board Administrator - No Report

11 ***

12 | Next Board Meeting Date

13 [Kristel Hennessy Hemler, Board Administrator, noted

14 the next scheduled Board meeting is December 5.]

15 ***

16 Adjournment

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17 VICE CHAIRMAN STOERRLE:

Motion to adjourn.

19 MR. WENTZEL:

20 So moved.

21 VICE CHAIRMAN STOERRLE:

22 Second?

23 MS. BROWN:

24 Second.

25 **

[There being no further business, the State Board of Certified Real Estate Appraisers Meeting adjourned at 11:22 a.m.] * * * CERTIFICATE I hereby certify that the foregoing summary minutes of the State Board of Certified Real Estate Appraisers meeting, was reduced to writing by me or under my supervision, and that the minutes accurately summarize the substance of the State Board of Certified Real Estate Appraisers meeting. Derek Richmond, Minute Clerk Sargent's Court Reporting Service, Inc.

		23
	STATE BOARD OF CERTIFIED REAL ESTATE APPRAISERS REFERENCE INDEX	
	October 24, 2024	
TIME	AGENDA	
9:00 10:30	Executive Session Return to Open Session	
10:30	Official Call to Order	
10:32	Roll Call	
10:32	Introduction of Attendees	
10:34	Approval of Minutes	
10:34	Report of Prosecutorial Division	
10:38	Regulations/Statute	
10:44	Report of Committees	
11:22	Adjournment	