

**Tuesday, August 11, 2015**

The Board met at 1920 Squaw Valley Road, Olympic Valley, at 1:40 p.m., with Mr. Horton, Chairman, Mr. Runner, Vice Chairman, Ms. Ma, Ms. Harkey and Ms. Yee present.

### **ANNUAL BOARD MEETING WITH COUNTY ASSESSORS**

Mr. Horton opened the annual meeting of the Board and county assessors required under section 15607 of the Government Code to discuss administrative issues related to assessment and taxation laws and to promote uniformity in tax procedural matters throughout the State of California. Mr. Horton thanked the California Assessors' Association (CAA) Planning Committee and others for putting together the meeting, and welcomed everyone in attendance.

### **Greetings and Introductory Remarks by each Board Member**

Mr. Runner welcomed everyone to the First District. He acknowledged the challenges and limited resources of the counties, and shared that the goal of the BOE is to partner with them to find solutions. Mr. Runner invited county assessors to contact his office with their concerns.

Ms. Harkey expressed appreciation for the relationship between the BOE and the CAA. She invited county assessors to contact her with their concerns.

Ms. Ma discussed meeting with the county assessors in her district. She expressed that she looks forward to working with the county assessors on ways to improve their agencies, as well as her working relationship with them, and invited county assessors to contact her with their concerns.

Ms. Yee congratulated the recently elected county assessors. She extended her appreciation and thanks to the 21 county assessors that comprised the former First District. She discussed the partnership of the BOE and CAA in terms of the property tax administration system. She acknowledged Honorable John Tuteur, Napa County Assessor/Recorder/Clerk, for his work following the earthquake in Napa; and, Honorable Joseph E. Holland, Santa Barbara County Assessor/Recorder/Clerk, for his work he will be doing regarding the oil spill in Santa Barbara. Ms. Yee introduced Yvette Stowers, Deputy State Controller on Taxation.

Mr. Horton acknowledged Honorable Ernest J. Dronenburg, Jr., San Diego County Assessor/Recorder/Clerk; Honorable Jeffrey Prang, Los Angeles County Assessor; and, Honorable Claude Parrish, Orange County Assessor. Mr. Horton discussed epidemic poverty, unemployment and affordable housing in California, and the importance of working together to improve the economy.

### **Opening Remarks by California Assessors' Association**

Honorable Marc C. Tonnesen, President, CAA and Solano County Assessor/Recorder, welcomed Members of the Board to the meeting. Mr. Tonnesen discussed the joint orientation that was held for the new assessors in January, and retirement resolution to Honorable Ken Blakemore, former San Joaquin County Assessor/Recorder/Clerk. He also discussed a resolution to Verne Walton, the longtime Chief of the former Assessment Standards Division within the Property Tax Department (1978 to 1994) in recognition of Verne's leadership and many contributions to the property tax system over the years. Verne passed away on March 5, 2015.

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Honorable Kristen Spears, President-Elect, CAA and Placer County Assessor, welcomed Members of the Board to the meeting. Ms. Spears stated that she looks forward to working together with the Board and CAA toward improving assessment procedures and laws for the public good, and made complementary remarks regarding passed presidents of the CAA. She discussed her goal of updating the CAA website so that it will serve as a more effective resource, and congratulated the BOE on its continued website update.

Mr. Horton offered BOE's assistance to CAA for improving its website and encouraged Ms. Spears to reach out to BOE staff in that regard.

Mr. Horton recognized the appointment of Benjamin Tang to the position of Chief, County-Assessed Properties Division, Property Tax Department.

**Panel Discussion: Low-Income Rental Housing and the Welfare Exemption**

Mr. Horton made introductory remarks regarding the panel discussion on the Board's and Assessors' role in the welfare exemption, as well as funding sources for low-income housing ([Exhibit 8.1](#)).

Exhibits to these minutes are incorporated by reference.

Panel: Lisa Thompson, Property Tax Manager, State Board of Equalization  
Recinda Shafer, Assistant Executive Director, Riverside Charitable Corporation  
Darren Bobrowsky, Senior Vice President-Director of Finance, USA Properties Fund, Inc.  
Mark Stivers, Executive Director, California Tax Credit Allocation Committee  
Bradley C. Sutton, Chief Counsel, Deputy Director, California Department of Housing and Community Development

Honorable John Tuteur, Napa County Assessor/Recorder/Clerk, shared that a highlight of his career was when BOE staff called his cell phone on August 24, 2014 at 4:00 PM, Sunday afternoon, following the 3:20 AM earthquake to say, "The BOE is here to help".

Ms. Yee expressed that her thoughts are with those who are being devastated by the Jerusalem fire in Lake County.

Mr. Horton encouraged formation of more committees well in advance to address specific issues legislatively.

The Board adjourned at 3:33 p.m.

*The foregoing minutes are adopted by the Board on September 16, 2015.*