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STATE OF FLORIDA  
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

CERTIFIED FLORIDA APPRAISER  
ADMISSIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS COMMITTEE  
MEETING

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DATE: December 9, 2021

TIME: 2:00 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.

PLACE: Telephonic Teleconference

This meeting came on to be heard at the time and place  
aforesaid, when and where the following proceedings were  
reported by:

Peggy L. Ward, Court Reporter  
For The Record Reporting, Inc.  
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 140  
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

## P R O C E E D I N G S

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3 THE CHAIR: Good afternoon, everyone. Welcome  
4 to the Certified Florida Appraiser Admissions and  
5 Certifications Committee. My name is Rene Lewis.  
6 I am the Deputy Director of the Property Tax  
7 Oversight Program and the Chair for today's  
8 proceeding.

9 The committee, as a public board, is subject to  
10 the Government in the Sunshine laws, and therefore  
11 the committee's meetings are required to be open to  
12 the public and properly noticed. This applies to  
13 any meeting of two or more committee members when  
14 there is discussion about a matter that could come  
15 before the committee for action.

16 Staff from the Property Tax Oversight Program  
17 of the Department of Revenue are attending on-site  
18 or on the telephone. Will our staff members please  
19 introduce themselves by stating their names and  
20 titles?

21 MS. HARPER: Jenna Harper, Compliance  
22 Assistance Process Manager.

23 MS. MILLER: Meghan Miller, Intradepartmental  
24 Projects Administrator.

25 MS. McLEAN: Kelly McLean, Intradepartmental

1 Projects Administrator.

2 MS. GOLDSTEIN: Rachel Goldstein, (inaudible)  
3 counsel of Property Tax Oversight Operations.

4 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

5 MALE SPEAKER: Chris (inaudible), senior  
6 attorney -- I'm sorry. Chris (inaudible), senior  
7 attorney, Property Tax Oversight.

8 THE CHAIR: Thanks, Chris. If you are part of  
9 the public participating by telephone and want to  
10 submit a written comment pertaining to the material  
11 being presented today, please send an email to  
12 ptotraining@floridarevenue.com.

13 In the subject line of your email, please use  
14 "December 9 Committee Meeting." We are monitoring  
15 that email account during the meeting and will read  
16 aloud all comments we receive during the meeting.

17 If you prefer to speak, please state that in  
18 your email and we will unmute the telephone and  
19 recognize you for comment.

20 Before calling roll, I would like to take a  
21 moment and welcome our newest committee members.  
22 Honorable Akin Akinyemi, Florida Association of  
23 Property Appraisers President, and Honorable Leigh  
24 Barfield, Property Appraisers Association of  
25 Florida President, welcome to the Certified Florida

1 Appraiser Admissions and Certifications Committee.

2 We are in the process of filling a committee  
3 seat and have it currently marked as "vacant" on  
4 the agenda.

5 Now, Meghan Miller, secretary of the committee,  
6 will you please call the roll?

7 MS. MILLER: Yes. Rene Lewis?

8 THE CHAIR: Here.

9 MS. MILLER: Akin Akinyemi?

10 MR. AKINYEMI: Here.

11 MS. MILLER: Leigh Barfield?

12 MS. BARFIELD: Here.

13 MS. MILLER Carey Baker?

14 MR. BAKER: Present.

15 MS. MILLER: Mitch Burke?

16 MR. BURKE: Here.

17 MS. MILLER: Tracy Drake?

18 MR. DRAKE: Here.

19 MS. MILLER: Raymond McIntyre?

20 MR. McINTYRE: Here.

21 MS. MILLER: Rebecca Morris-Haid?

22 (No response.)

23 MS. MILLER: And Tim Parker?

24 MR. PARKER: Here.

25 THE CHAIR: According to Rule 12D-19.002(6)

1 Florida Administrative Code, five members of the  
2 Admissions and Certifications Committee constitute  
3 a quorum. Meghan, do we have a quorum?

4 MS. MILLER: Yes.

5 THE CHAIR: Our first order of business today  
6 is the approval of the September 9, 2021, Certified  
7 Florida Appraiser Admissions and Certifications  
8 Committee meeting minutes.

9 Do I have a motion to approve the September 9,  
10 2021, committee meeting minutes? Please state your  
11 name if you make a motion.

12 MR. McINTYRE: So moved. Raymond McIntyre.

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you. I have a motion from  
14 Raymond McIntyre. Do I have a second?

15 MR. BAKER: Second. Carey Baker.

16 THE CHAIR: And we have a second from Carey  
17 Baker. Thank you. All those in favor, indicate by  
18 saying "Aye."

19 (Ayes.)

20 THE CHAIR: All opposed, indicate by saying  
21 "Nay."

22 (No response.)

23 THE CHAIR: All right. Thank you. Our next  
24 item of business is the presentation and  
25 recommendation of applicants.

1           The program posted the list of applicants,  
2           along with the completed applications, on the  
3           Department's website and sent the meeting materials  
4           link to each of you.

5           Each application has a checklist at the front  
6           to assist you in your review of the applicants.  
7           This checklist has the certification criteria  
8           required in Rule Chapter 12D-19, Florida  
9           Administrative Code.

10          Meghan, will you please list the requirements  
11          of the Certified Florida Appraiser, Certified  
12          Florida Evaluator, and Certified Cadastralist of  
13          Florida designations, please.

14          MS. MILLER: Yes. The qualifications for the  
15          Certified Florida Appraiser and Certified Florida  
16          Evaluator professional designations include at  
17          least two years of experience with a Florida  
18          property appraiser's or tax collector's office or  
19          the Florida Department of Revenue, at least 120  
20          hours of approved education, and current employment  
21          with a Florida County property appraiser's or tax  
22          collector's office or the Florida Department of  
23          Revenue. The Certified Florida Appraiser  
24          designation is reserved for the county official.

25          The qualifications for the Certified

1 Cadastralist of Florida include at least two years  
2 of experience with a Florida property appraiser's  
3 office or the Florida Department of Revenue, at  
4 least 150 hours of approved education, and current  
5 employment with a Florida property appraiser's  
6 office or the Florida Department of Revenue.

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Meghan. Now I need for  
8 each Committee Member to individually answer the  
9 following question on the record. After I read the  
10 question, Meghan will call the name of each member.  
11 Please state your answer of yes or no.

12 The question is: Are you aware of any facts,  
13 situations, or reasons which you feel may  
14 disqualify or otherwise make it improper for you to  
15 hear and deliberate on any of the applicants  
16 scheduled to be reviewed today?

17 MS. MILLER: Rene Lewis?

18 THE CHAIR: No.

19 MS. MILLER: Akin Akinyemi?

20 MR. AKINYEMI: No.

21 MS. MILLER: Leigh Barfield?

22 MS. BARFIELD: No.

23 MS. MILLER: Carey Baker?

24 MR. BAKER: No.

25 MS. MILLER: Mitch Burke?

1 MR. BURKE: No.

2 MS. MILLER: Tracy Drake?

3 MR. DRAKE: No.

4 MS. MILLER: Raymond McIntyre?

5 MR. McINTYRE: No.

6 MS. MILLER: Rebecca Morris-Haid?

7 (No response.)

8 MS. MILLER: Tim Parker?

9 MR. PARKER: No.

10 THE CHAIR: Do any committee members have  
11 anything they wish to discuss about the applicants'  
12 credentials?

13 (No response.)

14 THE CHAIR: Okay. Does the public have any  
15 comments on any of the applicants? If you are  
16 attending by telephone, please send us an email so  
17 we can recognize you. Again, that email address is  
18 ptotraining@floridarevenue.com. Kelly, have we --

19 MS. McLEAN: We have. The request is would you  
20 unmute the phone. She would like to participate in  
21 public comments.

22 THE CHAIR: Okay.

23 MS. McLEAN: Bear with me, because I think that --

24 THE CHAIR: And you -- and you cut out.

25 MS. McLEAN: -- (inaudible) control her own

1 phone, I believe.

2 MS. CUCCHI: Can you hear me?

3 MS. McLEAN: Yes. Is this Miss Cucchi?

4 MS. CUCCHI: Yes, this is Miss Cucchi.

5 MS. McLEAN: Okay. I was just emailing you  
6 back. Okay. Perfect.

7 MS. CUCCHI: All right. I have five questions  
8 that I have for Rene Lewis. The first one is: Are  
9 you or have you ever been an appraiser certified by  
10 DBPR or DOR?

11 THE CHAIR: No, ma'am.

12 MS. CUCCHI: And who designated you to be the  
13 Chair of the Certified Florida Appraiser Training  
14 Certification committee?

15 UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: I thought the  
16 questions had to pertain to the matter on which the  
17 committee is meeting.

18 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: Yes.

19 MS. CUCCHI: But the committee is meeting and  
20 there's qualifications -- certain qualifications  
21 must be met. So who designated you?

22 THE CHAIR: If I may. Rachel, as counsel, is  
23 this an appropriate forum for questions and answers  
24 in this matter since it hasn't been?

25 MS. GOLDSTEIN: We would ask that you limit

1 your comments or questions to the applicants before  
2 the committee today.

3 But all designations have been made in  
4 accordance with the law. And that would have come  
5 from our PTO Director, Sue Harlan.

6 THE CHAIR: And I've been designated as chair  
7 of the committee by the Director of the Department  
8 of Revenue.

9 MS. CUCCHI: Okay. That's what I was  
10 wondering. The third question is: Does the  
11 meeting materials contain equivalencies to the  
12 actual approved courses? Who made the  
13 determination that a course from decades ago is  
14 equivalent to the current approved course?

15 THE CHAIR: Miss Cucchi, the qualifications  
16 were provided in the packets to the members of this  
17 committee. They have met the rule requirements,  
18 and that is what is before this committee today.

19 MS. CUCCHI: Well, the equivalencies, that  
20 means that somebody made a decision. So when was  
21 the public meeting held that that decision was made  
22 that those courses were equivalent?

23 THE CHAIR: Again, Miss Cucchi, we have --  
24 these materials have been reviewed and presented to  
25 the committee and they meet the rule.

1 MS. CUCCHI: Okay. I'll do a public records  
2 request later.

3 The fifth one is: Rule 12D-19.003(6) states to  
4 receive credit for the education requirement,  
5 applicants must be present in the classroom during  
6 all instructional hours. In (inaudible) materials  
7 there's an IAAO policy, attendance policy that  
8 states that they allow for half a day of missed  
9 class from a 30-hour class.

10 So the IAAO will give a certificate that says  
11 that a person was there for 30 hours, and that's  
12 what the applicants are providing to DOR.

13 But, in fact, they might not have been there  
14 for the full 30 hours. They may have only been  
15 there for 26 hours.

16 So my question is: Did DOR request the  
17 attendance logs to confirm that today's applicants  
18 were in the classrooms for all 30 hours as Florida  
19 law requires for a DOR certificate?

20 THE CHAIR: Miss Cucchi, again, requirements  
21 have been met, including attendance, including the  
22 certifications that are before this committee  
23 today. If you have additional questions or  
24 comments and you would like to submit those in  
25 writing, please do so to the email address

1 provided.

2 MS. CUCCHI: Okay. The last question for the  
3 property appraisers in this room is: Who -- who  
4 will be voting on this applicant? 12D-9.003(6)  
5 requires presence in the classroom for all  
6 instructional hours.

7 You have in your meeting materials confirmation  
8 that IAAO does not require all. You have  
9 confirmation from the Department of Revenue, since  
10 they're avoiding the question, that they do not  
11 have the log from IAAO to show that attendance was  
12 there for all.

13 There is further, there's 12D-19.003(2) which  
14 requires a minimum of 120 hours of presence in the  
15 classroom. And, again, IAAO attendance policy  
16 gives credit for less hours. DOR has failed to  
17 confirm any of these applicants meet these two  
18 requirements of law.

19 All property appraisers in this room, or on the  
20 phone, took an oath to uphold the laws of Florida.  
21 Will you uphold the law today? Your vote will  
22 tell. Thank you very much.

23 THE CHAIR: Thank you for your comments,  
24 Miss Cucchi.

25 So hearing no additional comments or discussion

1 of the credentials, the committee will now vote on  
2 consideration of the applicant list. Do I have a  
3 motion for recommendation of the applicants?

4 Please state your name when making your motion.

5 MR. BAKER: I make a recommendation to accept  
6 the applicants. Carey Baker.

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you. I have a motion by  
8 Carey Baker. Do I have a second?

9 MR. AKINYEMI: I second the motion. Akin  
10 Akinyemi.

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Akin Akinyemi. All  
12 those in favor, indicate by saying "Aye."

13 (Ayes.)

14 THE CHAIR: Thank you. All opposed, indicate  
15 by saying "Nay."

16 (No response.)

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Let the record reflect  
18 that the committee has recommended all applicants  
19 for certification. Congratulations to the new  
20 Certified Florida Appraisers, Certified Florida  
21 Evaluators and Certified Cadastralists of Florida.  
22 The professional designees will receive  
23 documentation of their certification from the  
24 Department.

25 That concludes today's agenda for the Certified

1 Florida Appraiser Admissions and Certifications  
2 Committee meeting. Again, thank you all very much  
3 for your leadership and participation. And we wish  
4 you very happy holidays and a healthy new year. We  
5 are adjourned.

6 (Proceedings concluded at 2:15 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

STATE OF FLORIDA )

COUNTY OF LEON )

I, Peggy L. Ward, do hereby certify that I was authorized to and did stenographically report the foregoing proceedings, and that the transcript is a true and complete record of my stenographic notes.

DATED THIS 13th day of January, 2022, at Tallahassee, Leon County, Florida.

Peggy L. Ward  
Peggy L. Ward, Court Reporter  
Commission No. GG957644  
Expires: February 12, 2024