

STATE TAX EQUALIZATION BOARD MINUTES

May 17, 2023

11:00 A.M.

In attendance:

Peter Barsz, STEB Board Chairman
Brittany Mercadante, STEB Board Secretary
Gary Baker, STEB Board Member
Renee Reynolds, STEB Director
Nicole Porr, STEB Administrator
Shawn Kerns, Assistant Counsel
Ted Martin, DCED/CLGS Deputy Director - Call-In

Members of the Public:

John Silvestri

Chairman Barsz called the scheduled meeting to order at 11:03 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Silvestri made public comment. He wanted to thank the Board members for their service, and it was a pleasure meeting them previously. He also asked the Board for the Common Level Ratios to be published. Counsel confirmed with Ms. Reynolds this is standard practice and the ratios would be made public in the PA Bulletin and on the STEB website.

OLD BUSINESS

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

1. There were no corrections to be made to the meeting minutes of April 19, 2023. Chairman Barsz asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes as stated. Mr. Baker motioned to approve the meeting minutes and Ms. Mercadante seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Litigation Updates:

2. Mr. Kerns presented the Board with an update on Boguslavsky v. N. Pocono Sch. Dist., et al., no. 348 MD 2021 (Pa. Cmwth.), and stated according to the court's docket, there has been no further activity since February 2022. As such, the matter remains in the discovery process.

3. Mr. Kerns presented the Board with an update on Gioffre, et al. v. STEB, Objections to Sales Data for 2020 CLR, no. 1100 CD 2021 (Pa. Cmwth.) and stated on April 25, 2023, President Judge Jubelirer of the Commonwealth Court issued an Order vacating the stay and remanded the matter back to STEB directing STEB to recalculate the 2020 CLR for Allegheny County using the revised sales data provided by Allegheny County. Pursuant to the Order,

STEB's Director has performed the recalculation and will present the recalculation for certification when the Board gets to New Business on the Agenda.

4. Mr. Kerns presented the Board with an update on Vaysburd v. N. Pocono Sch. Dist., et al., Docket No. 40 MD 2023, and stated as follows: on April 19, 2023, attorneys from the Attorney General's office, who are representing this Board and the Department of Education in this matter, filed preliminary objections to the Petition for Review. Petitioners have not yet filed their response. No further updates at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Ms. Reynolds presented the Board with the court order recalculation of the 2020 Allegheny CLR based on the updated sales file resubmitted by the county. The recalculation is 63.45 which when rounded will be 63.5 when approved by the Board. Hearing no other questions surrounding the recalculated 2020 Allegheny CLR Chairman Barsz asked for a motion to approve the ratio. Ms. Mercadante motioned to approve the court ordered recalculation of the 2020 Allegheny CLR at 63.5 and seconded by Mr. Baker. The updated 2020 Allegheny CLR was approved unanimously.

2. Ms. Reynolds presented the Board with the newly calculated 2022 Common Level Ratios (CLR) using the International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO) Interquartile Range (IQR) Trimming methodology and the median calculation which was also sent to the Board for their review in advance of today's meeting. She stated preliminary CLR's were sent to all chief assessors in March of 2023 for their review and feedback. Ms. Reynolds indicated there were several counties who did review their data again. Hearing no other questions surrounding the Common Level Ratios and abstaining from Chester and Delaware counties, Chairman Barsz asked for a motion to approve the ratios. Ms. Mercadante motioned to approve the 2022 CLRs and seconded by Mr. Baker. The 2022 Common Level Ratios were approved unanimously.

NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING:

Governor's Center for Local Government Services
State Tax Equalization Board
Commonwealth Keystone Building
June 21, 2023, at 11:00 A.M.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Having attended to all matters of concern, Chairman Barsz asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Baker motioned to adjourn, and Ms. Mercadante seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. The Board concluded at 11:19 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brittany Mercadante

Brittany Mercadante, STEB Secretary