



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY
LANSING

NICK A. KHOURI
STATE TREASURER

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STATE TAX COMMISSION

***Holiday Inn Express and Okemos Conference Center,
Okemos A & B Rooms
2187 University Park Drive, Okemos, Michigan***

***Monday, October 12, 2015
9:30 a.m.***

***PRESENT: Douglas B. Roberts, Chair STC
Barry S. Simon, Member STC
W. Howard Morris, Member STC

Heather S. Frick, Executive Director
LaNiece Densteadt, Recording Secretary***

The item numbers referred to in the minutes correspond to the agenda items as numbered.

It was moved by Simon, supported by Morris, and unanimously approved to adopt the minutes of September 22, 2015. (Item 1 on agenda)

It was moved by Morris, supported by Simon, and unanimously approved Bulletin 12 of 2015 Property Tax and Equalization Calendar for 2016. (Item 2 on agenda)

It was moved by Simon, supported by Morris, and unanimously approved to release Bulletin 13 of 2015 Inflation Rate Multiplier for 2016 and Bulletin 14 of 2015 Procedural Changes for 2016 once the final CPI information is available after October 14, 2015. (Item 3 and 4 on agenda)

It was moved by Simon, supported by Morris, and unanimously approved to adopt the revised STC Policy Regarding Supervising Preparation of the Assessment Roll. (Item 5 on agenda)

It was moved by Simon, supported by Morris, and unanimously approved to adopt the legislative report for Neighborhood Enterprise Zone Homestead Exemptions for the 2014 Tax Year. (Item 6 on agenda)

It was moved by Simon, supported by Morris, and unanimously approved the updated State Assessed Property Annual Reporting Forms for 2016: 1029 Telephone Form, 1028 Railroad Form, 1027 Car Line Form and Electronic Reporting Forms. (Item 7 on agenda)

It was moved by Morris, supported by Simon, and unanimously approved the updated Forms 1019 – Notice of Assessment, Taxable Valuations, and Property Classification, 3128 – Taxable Value Calculations Worksheet and 4093 – Notice of Assessment, Taxable Valuation (including Leasehold Improvements) and Property Classification. (Item 8 on agenda)

It was moved by Simon, supported by Morris, and unanimously approved the updated Form 632 – 2016 Personal Property Statement. (Item 9 on agenda)

It was moved by Morris, supported by Simon, and unanimously approved to adopt the official order to assume jurisdiction of the 2015 assessment roll for Jasper Township, Midland County as an uncertified unit. (Item 10 on agenda)

It was moved by Simon, supported by Morris, and unanimously approved to adopt the staff recommendation on the Charitable Non-Profit Housing Organization Exemptions for the following: (Item 11 on agenda)

These exemptions will expire on **December 30, 2020**, or until one of the following events occur:

1. The eligible nonprofit housing property is occupied by a low-income person under a lease agreement, or
2. The eligible nonprofit housing property is transferred by the charitable nonprofit housing organization.

| County | Local Unit | Parcel Number |
|---------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Muskegon | City of Roosevelt Park | 61-25-580-000-0010-00 |
| Muskegon | City of Muskegon | 61-24-205-391-0012-00 |
| Muskegon | City of North Muskegon | 61-23-525-003-0002-00 |
| Muskegon | City of Muskegon | 61-24-613-000-0673-00 |
| Muskegon | City of Muskegon | 61-24-205-481-0013-00 |
| Muskegon | City of Muskegon | 61-24-205-481-0014-00 |
| Muskegon | Whitehall Township | 61-03-360-000-0007-00 |
| Muskegon | City of Muskegon | 61-24-612-000-0503-00 |
| Muskegon | City of Muskegon | 61-24-613-000-0853-00 |
| Kent | City of Grand Rapids | 41-13-23-430-006 |
| Dickinson | Breitung Township | 052-488-025-00 |
| Dickinson | Breitung Township | 052-488-020-00 |
| Dickinson | Breitung Township | 22002-661-007-0 |
| Dickinson | City of Norway | 22053-610-032-00 |

It was moved by Morris, supported by Simon, and unanimously approved to adopt the staff recommendation on the Re-certifications and New Certifications of Computerized Tax Rolls for the following: (Item 12 on agenda)

These certifications will expire on **May 1, 2018**.

New Certifications:

Alcona County
Hawes Township

Missaukee County
Aetna Township

It was moved by Simon, supported by Morris, and unanimously approved to adopt the staff recommendation on the Special Items Exemptions Agenda. (Item 13 on agenda) ([See attached link for file identification.](#))

It was moved by Morris, supported by Simon, and unanimously approved to adopt the staff recommendations on the Exemptions Agenda. (Item 14 on agenda) ([See attached link for file identification.](#))

It was moved by Simon, supported by Morris, and unanimously approved to adopt the MCL 211.154 **Concurrences**. (Item 15 on agenda) ([See attached link for file identification](#))

It was moved by Simon, supported by Morris, and unanimously approved to adopt staff recommendations on MCL 211.154 petitions on the **Special Items Agenda** and approved petition 154-14-0712 to be reheard at the December 16th meeting. (Item 16 on agenda) ([See attached link for file identification](#))

It was moved by Simon, supported by Morris, and unanimously approved to **postpone** the following MCL 211.154 petitions until **December 16, 2015**. (Item 17 on agenda)

City of Eaton Rapids, Eaton County

154-14-0508 MAGNESIUM PRODUCTS OF AMERICA; 300-090-010-162-00; Personal Property

2012 AV from \$ 5,611,150 to \$ 4,789,788 TV from \$ 5,611,150 to \$ 4,789,788

2013 AV from \$ 5,601,600 to \$ 4,888,318 TV from \$ 5,601,600 to \$ 4,888,318

154-14-0509 MAGNESIUM PRODUCTS OF AMERICA; 300-091-027-040-15; Personal Property

2012 AV from \$ 2,551,050 to \$ 2,204,968 TV from \$ 2,551,050 to \$ 2,204,968

2013 AV from \$ 2,019,300 to \$ 1,519,804 TV from \$ 2,019,300 to \$ 1,519,804

154-14-0510 MAGNESIUM PRODUCTS OF AMERICA; 300-091-027-100-45; Personal Property

2012 AV from \$ 483,150 to \$ 217,601 TV from \$ 483,150 to \$ 217,601

2013 AV from \$ 189,950 to \$ 201,472 TV from \$ 189,950 to \$ 201,472

City of Eaton Rapids, Eaton County

154-14-0511 MAGNESIUM PRODUCTS OF AMERICA; 300-091-027-100-55; Personal Property

2012 AV from \$ 1,836,350 to \$ 1,807,146 TV from \$ 1,836,350 to \$ 1,807,146
2013 AV from \$ 1,686,900 to \$ 1,576,092 TV from \$ 1,686,900 to \$ 1,576,092

154-14-0512 MAGNESIUM PRODUCTS OF AMERICA; 300-091-027-100-65; Personal Property

2012 AV from \$ 2,620,600 to \$ 2,347,830 TV from \$ 2,620,600 to \$ 2,347,830
2013 AV from \$ 2,350,200 to \$ 2,009,179 TV from \$ 2,350,200 to \$ 2,009,179

154-14-0513 MAGNESIUM PRODUCTS OF AMERICA; 300-091-027-100-75; Personal Property

2012 AV from \$ 3,827,250 to \$ 3,380,013 TV from \$ 3,827,250 to \$ 3,380,013
2013 AV from \$ 3,734,650 to \$ 3,486,294 TV from \$ 3,734,650 to \$ 3,486,294

154-14-0514 MAGNESIUM PRODUCTS OF AMERICA; 300-091-027-100-85; Personal Property

2013 AV from \$ 749,250 to \$ 607,596 TV from \$ 749,250 to \$ 607,596

Hillman Township, Montmorency County

154-15-0041 MILLTOWN VILLAGE INC; 044-023-000-004-17; REAL PROPERTY

2014 AV from \$ 0 to \$ 410,400 TV from \$ 0 to \$ 410,400

City of Highland Park, Wayne County

154-14-1142 HOOVER UNIVERSAL, INC.; 43-999-00-2500-011; PERSONAL PROPERTY

2012 AV from \$ 3,823,000 to \$ 0 TV from \$ 3,823,000 to \$ 0
2013 AV from \$ 1,467,700 to \$ 0 TV from \$ 1,467,700 to \$ 0
2014 AV from \$ 1,298,800 to \$ 0 TV from \$ 1,298,800 to \$ 0

154-14-1143 INTERTEC SYSTEMS, LLC; 43-999-00-2500-013; PERSONAL PROPERTY

2013 AV from \$ 2,129,500 to \$ 0 TV from \$ 2,129,500 to \$ 0
2014 AV from \$ 1,855,100 to \$ 0 TV from \$ 1,855,100 to \$ 0

It was moved by Simon, supported by Morris, and unanimously approved to **amend** the following MCL 211.154 petitions. (Item 17 on agenda)

City of Detroit, Wayne County

154-15-0421 PRESSURE VESSEL SERVICE INC.; 21991283.00; PERSONAL PROPERTY

**This was also a concurrence.

2013 AV from \$ 268,060 to \$ 420,300 TV from \$ 268,060 to \$ 420,300

2014 AV from \$ 247,920 to \$ 679,300 TV from \$ 247,920 to \$ 679,300

2015 AV from \$ 395,700 to \$ 709,300 TV from \$ 395,700 to \$ 709,300

It was moved by Simon, supported by Morris, and unanimously approved to **deny** the following MCL 211.154 petitions. (Item 17 on agenda)

City of St. Clair Shores, Macomb County

154-15-0021 PAUL R. THOMPSON; 14-23-362-002; REAL PROPERTY

2014 AV from \$ 0 to \$ 103,600 TV from \$ 0 to \$ 75,700

It was moved by Simon, supported by Morris, and unanimously approved the following MCL 211.154 petitions as **concurrences**, initially noticed as non-concurrences. (Item 17 on agenda)

City of Brighton, Livingston County

154-15-0438 AIRTECH LLC; 4718-99-003-421; PERSONAL PROPERTY

2015 AV from \$ 0 to \$ 172,600 TV from \$ 0 to \$ 172,600

City of Detroit, Wayne County

154-15-0414 FPT SCHLAFER DIVISION LLC; 09990194.10; PERSONAL PROPERTY

2015 AV from \$ 1,192,890 to \$ 1,378,040 TV from \$ 1,192,890 to \$ 1,378,040

154-15-0418 LARAMIE ENTERPRISES INC.; 25990586.031; PERSONAL PROPERTY

2015 AV from \$ 0 to \$ 99,910 TV from \$ 0 to \$ 99,910

It was moved by Simon, supported by Morris, and unanimously approved to adopt all other MCL 211.154 petitions. ([See attached link for file identification.](#)) (Item 17 on agenda)

The State Tax Commission received from the Department of Treasury a memorandum regarding proposed changes to the assessor education programs. The Commission directed staff to accept public comments until November 18, 2015 regarding the proposed changes. All comments must be in writing and e-mailed to the State Tax Commission e-mail address at State-Tax-Commission@michigan.gov. Staff was instructed to review and report back to the Commission at the December 16th meeting. (Item 18 on agenda)

Public Comment (Item 19 on agenda):

Pete Arbour appeared before the Commission and stated the following: I am representing myself in this matter. I am an instructor for classes at each level of the assessment programs. I teach classes for the MCAO, MAAO and MMAO programs. I just want the Commission to be aware that in the higher level classes the brightest and the best students are the ones that have come through the MCAO program. You can really tell the difference in the students. I just wanted the Commission to be aware that this is my observation and how the current program is working.

Matt Schmidt and Margaret Ford representing the Michigan Assessors Association (MAA) appeared before the Commission. Mr. Schmidt stated the following: I would like to start by saying that as members of the State Tax Commission, I am sure you are aware of MAA and the roll we have had in education in the past years and intimately involved in educating assessors. To be honest with you, that is our biggest mission that the MAA has. Educating assessors is the most important function we do and obviously we are very concerned about the changes that are proposed to take place. One of the things that Mr. Steckelberg talked about today that we are pleased to hear is the initial reaching out to other organizations for suggestions on how to make the programs better. We are very concerned with making the programs better and we support that and wish to have a whole lot of input with regards to how the programs are going to look coming out. We understand that it is an aggressive time frame. At this point, I understand that comments are to be in by late November and we are willing to do that. We have already started on meeting on those issues. We have also been in the process of hiring an educational services coordinator, which for all extensive purposes will be the liaison between the STC and the MAA. We are willing to not only to take the time and effort to try and shape the programs moving forward, but we are also willing to expend resources and make sure that the process flows smoothly. One thing I also heard in the presentation briefly from Mr. Steckelberg, was that they are soliciting comments across the board on these programs and the memo that came out obviously is kind of a roll out of the program, but also the way I heard it based on the suggestions that maybe everything in that memo may not be set in stone. What we are here today is not to offer specific suggestions regarding the programs moving forward, but we want to pledge to the STC that we will get written comments by the required deadline. We pledge moving forward that we want to make this work as much as the STC and we are willing to do whatever it takes.

Ms. Ford stated the following: I think Matt said it very eloquently, so I don't think I have to add anything else other than we are for bettering the profession of assessing.

Nick Wheeler representing Michigan Association of Equalization Directors appeared before the Commission and stated the following: My name is Nick Wheeler and I am the Equalization Director in Hillsdale County and am currently the Vice President of the Michigan Association of Equalization Directors. We appreciate the time the State Tax Commission has taken in reviewing this. Mr. Steckelberg attended our meeting on October 2nd and he discussed these proposed changes. We have not had a full opportunity as a Board to be able to take a position. We are currently conducting a survey through our President Matt Woolford; who will share those results with the Commission when we deem we have had proper time and our members have been able to review the questions that were basically outlined in the memo from Mr. Steckelberg. The only thing we ask is to be part of the discussion.

The next Commission meeting will be held December 16, 2015 at the Okemos Conference Center in the Okemos A & B Rooms, 2187 University Park Drive, Okemos.

It was moved by Roberts, supported by Simon, and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting of the State Tax Commission at 10:45 a.m.

DATE TYPED: **October 13, 2015**

DATE APPROVED: **December 16, 2015**

Douglas B. Roberts, Chair
State Tax Commission

Barry N. Simon, Member
State Tax Commission

W. Howard Morris, Member
State Tax Commission