

**AT AN INFORMAL MEETING OF THE VALUE ADJUSTMENT
BOARD HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN COUNTY, FL ON
AUGUST 2, 2022 AT 3:00 P.M, THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDING
WAS HAD, VIZ:**

**Present: Gay Steffen, Homestead Property Representative
Cathy Johnson, School Board Representative
Eric Hinson, County Commissioner
Kimblin Nesmith, County Commissioner
Jean Baptiste, Attorney
Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk
Crystal Jimenez, Deputy Clerk**

1. Call to Order – Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

Deputy Clerk Marcella called the meeting to order.

2. Introduction of Board Members

Deputy Clerk Marcella introduced all of the Board members. She confirmed the quorum was met by having at least one County Commissioner, one property representative, and a school board representative.

3. Introduction of Clerk's Designee to Act as Clerk to VAB

Deputy Clerk Marcella introduced the clerks to the Value Adjustment Board.

4. Discussion and Nomination of VAB Attorney

Commissioner Hinson motioned to approve Attorney Baptiste. Commissioner Nesmith second with a question. He asked Mr. Baptiste if he was interested in being the attorney for the Value Adjustment Board. Mr. Baptiste stated yes, he is a litigation counsel for the Florida Tax Collector's Association. He handles all litigation matters for the tax collectors across the state, from Key West to Escambia.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HINSON AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER NESMITH, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

5. Adoption of Petition Filing fee of \$15.00

Commissioner Hinson asked if Attorney Baptiste should take a seat on the dais. Mr. Baptiste took his seat on the dais as a board member. Deputy Clerk Marcella asked for a motion for the filing fee. Commissioner Hinson made the motion and a second was made by Commissioner Nesmith with a question. He asked if that was the same fee that they typically charge. Clerk Marcella said that is the statute standard fee.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HINSON AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER NESMITH, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

6. Discussion of Dates for Organizational Meeting

Deputy Clerk Marcella asked for the dates that work for everyone for the organizational meeting. She stated that the training on the Department of Revenue website will be up soon and she will need the certificate before the petition hearings. Commissioner Nesmith asked if the attorney has everyone's contact information. Clerk Marcella said she will make sure he does. Commissioner Nesmith asked if there will be a letter from the board or was this just a verbal approval. Clerk Marcella said it is a verbal approval. She said at the organizational meeting she will have a resolution for the chairman to sign for the petition filling fee. Commissioner Nesmith asked for the timeframe for the meeting. Clerk Marcella does not have those dates yet. She said the property appraiser has always been good at working out the questions and issues. She has been here for ten years and there have only been two hearings in the whole ten years. Commissioner Nesmith asked Mr. Baptiste if he is ready to schedule the meeting. Mr. Baptiste asked how long the meeting will be. Clerk Marcella said 30-45 minutes. She said preferably the middle of August. Mr. Baptiste asked for August 9th and everyone agreed. Clerk Marcella asked what time they preferred. Everyone agreed to 4:00 p.m.

The organizational meeting is set for August 9th at 4:00 p.m.

7. VAB Hearing Dates – September 9, 2022 starting at 9:30 a.m. If any hearings need to be rescheduled, it will be on September 12, 2022.

Deputy Clerk Marcella went over the petition hearing dates. The hearing date will be September 12th, at 9:30 a.m. The trim notices have not been mailed out.

Adjournment

With nothing else to be said, Clerk Marcella entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Hinson made the motion with a second from Commissioner Nesmith.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CLERK MARCELLA DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 3:13 P.M.

, Chair

ATTEST:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk