

DRAFT
Real Property Tax Administration Committee
Thursday & Friday, June 15 - 16, 2000
Clarion Inn, Latham, New York

Thursday - June 15, 2000

A. Get Organized

There was one item added to the agenda. We will discuss placement of market value on RPS produced assessment rolls at the end of today's meeting.

The group welcomed Tom Bellard as a new member of the group. Tom is the Deputy Executive Director of ORPS.

The minutes from the last meeting with were approved with a few minor changes. They will be posted on the Internet. Bill Cinquanti asked that on page 11, "add the local level" to clarify the statement. Also, last sentence in the third paragraph on page 5 should be "IAO" journal not "IAAO."

Minute taking for the group was discussed. It was agreed that the last set of minutes was too comprehensive. Dan reviewed the Ground Rules where it states that: "Minutes will contain:

1. a summary of the presentation or issue
2. Comments of members identified by member
3. Actions to be taken, any follow-up required
4. Decisions reached where a consensus was not reached, it will be noted.

It is felt by the current group of recorders (ORPS Executive Support) that capturing comments by members is a problem. The recorders are not sure which of the comments are to be captured. Obviously all cannot be taken down.

Tom Griffen suggested that if minutes were to be almost verbatim that we should hire a professional transcriber. This suggestion generated discussion on how comprehensive the minutes need to be.

A proposal was made to change the ground rules. Drop item number 2. **Not accepted.** Several members felt it is important that comments and person be identified.

Another suggestion was made to have the same person record the meeting each time. This person will become familiar with the group as well as the topics for discussion.

For this meeting, we will try to identify for the recorder comments to be included "for the record." Discussion will be held at the end of the two days to see how this works. (Note: this discussion did not occur)

B. Leader's Report

Assessors

Fred Pask suggested that use of cell phones in the meeting be discontinued. **Cell phones should be turned off, or at the very least, ringers off/turned to vibrate or similar type of silencing mode. Dan Curtin will add this to the ground rules.**

There was discussion on RPTAC sending a letter to the Governor with copies to John

Hamilton and Paul Tonko suggesting a task force be set up to handle the problems that come up with this issue. Tom will participate but not initiate. Sue Otis suggested that this would go hand-in-hand with Education.

A suggestion was made by Bill Cinquanti that the letter should be addressed to Tom from County Directors and Assessors suggesting that Tom do a task force. Concern that this will not be addressed before the 2001 rolls need to be finalized. **It was agreed that Tom could not initiate and that Assessors and County Directors will discuss between themselves and come to a decision on next steps.**

Discussion also occurred regarding the sharing of information that ORPS has with assessors on our utility methodology. Assessors would like communication on how we do it and listen to how ORPS does it.

Rick asked whether the decision is based on shared information by the agency. Some of the utility companies provide us some information on a confidential basis. Information is considered trade secrets or would put them at a competitive disadvantage. Tom Griffen suggested we have to try to force the information. Utility companies encourage assessors, on an individual basis, to contact them. Tom Frey asked how can the assessor review your value without all the information?

Action Item: ORPS will share information on utility valuation with Assessors (targeted to affected assessors) on a regional basis (by fall 2000).

Anne Sapienza handed out the press release and Guiding Principles with reference to the Alliance. She wanted the group to note that the Guiding Principles are a "work in progress". Comments can be forwarded to ORPS (Dan Curtin)

County Directors

No report.

ORPS

Tom Griffen discussed the status of utility legislation. "The Freeze" was passed by the Senate and is in the Ways and Means awaiting approval.

Reimbursement of RPTAC members and others (RPS Governance, Alliance), ORPS will provide up to \$25,000. **Rick asked whether his town supervisor has to sign his voucher. Yes. They need to. Steve King addressed why this is important, internal control. Inspector General discovered cases where a person was being reimbursed twice for the travel.**

Edye McCarthy asked can the IAO president sign off on it? Steve King said no. It is an internal control. These requirements are needed to prevent double-dipping.

What happens when we get to \$25,001? **Steve King will keep the group apprized (through the chairman of each of the organizations) of the progress of the ceiling and we'll make the decisions as we need to. Steve King will provide vouchers at tomorrow's session.**

Rensselaer County . Tom Griffen reported that this issue has now been referred to the Attorney General. Vince reported that Jeff Jackson has been moved next to the tax map unit but has not been given responsibility for tax maps. He also said that ORPS next steps will be to try to get them onto V4 and someone in to look at mapping.

Tom Griffen reported on the pending organization structure change at ORPS. Effective

June 22nd ORPS Senior Management will be rotated. Dick Harris will oversee Regional Customer Service Delivery (RCSD), Vince O'Connor will head up State Assessment Services (SAS), Frank Ferrari has been charged with Technology and Program Support Services (PSS). Along with the Senior Management changes, Bob Mancuso (formerly RCSD) has been shifted to work with Frank Ferrari with PSS and Dave Williams will be shifted to work with Dick Harris with RCSD.

Memorandum and org chart were provided to the group on Friday.

C. RPTAC's Mission/Purpose

1. Review mission statement to make sure we're in alignment.

Rick's concern is that we come to the group and be reactive instead of proactive. We should be initiating change.

Jack Shutleworth suggested to change "all taxpayers" to "its taxpayers". Bill Cinquanti suggested drop "for all taxpayers". **"For all taxpayers" will be dropped from the statement.**

2. Discussion of items for discussion for RPTAC for the next 6-18 months

Dan brought the group through an exercise to capture the ideas from the different groups. The items that were brought to the group were voted on and prioritized. The results of that exercise are listed below:

Annual Reassessment (15 votes)

- cycle bill
- ORPS assistance - if not on annual reassessment schedule
- systematic analysis
- County services
- State aid to county

Education/Training(12)

Utility Deregulation (12)

- from Sub committees
- equalization
- valuation
- RS6
- Utility inventory reporting
- valuation team charter
- valuation methodology
- utility valuation

Large Parcel/Forest Land (8)

- updated maps
- valued as economic units
- state valuation methodology
- large parcel out of equalization rate
- [value in use/highest and best use]

Version 4 Software (8)

Data Quality (7)

- inventory quality
- sales quality

Future Role of ORPS as Consultants (7)

Valuation Templates (7)

- submitted to assessors and county directors for review prior going to RPTAC

Maintenance Aid (6)

- for equitable roll less than 100%
- lack of consistency between regions
- 5-2-2 must be reinstated

E-Commerce (4)

What is it? Dick Harris discussed E Commerce - a new State initiative "government without walls." Governor Pataki has proposed that we conduct business all the time via the Net. The concept right now is that government to business transactions first, government to government transactions second and government to citizens transactions third.

Public Understanding (3)

Bank Code Process (2)

[Administration] Exemption Reimbursement - e.g. STAR (1)

- compensation for tax loss

GIS (1)

Items that were brought up and did not receive any votes:

New STAR Administration

- money directly to assessors
- income and reporting guidelines same for both

RR Value Ceiling

Focus on stated on uniform percentage uniformity

Highest and Best Use

RPTAC Standing Committee Reports (review charters reports quarterly)

- Frank Ferrari suggested that lack of reporting of subcommittees (RPTAC) needs to be addressed (with the exception of Ag Committee). The subcommittee's need to report to RPTAC Quarterly. **Dan Curtin will notify the chairpersons of each committee of this request.**

Director roles and responsibilities

Small Claims

- Hearing Officers

Parking Lot: Correction of Errors

D. Corrections of Errors (COE)

Real Property Tax Directors submitted proposed amendments to the Corrections of Errors law (distributed with agenda). Bill Budde was present to address the document. Bill Cinquanti read a specific concern to the proposed amendments that was submitted to him via e-mail from Ramona Salmon, Director, RPTS Lewis County. Rich Sinnott addressed the concern, but cautioned that the concern should not drive the decision. Discussion occurred regarding specific issues. Bill Budde

is asking ORPS to initiate the Legislation and that County Directors and Assessors' Associations contact their representatives.

Tom Frey suggested that RPTAC get a group together to craft the legislation. Steve Harrison suggested that where there are items that affect County Treasurers and collectors, they be given an opportunity to address the proposal. Bring them in on the onset. Steve also suggested that a memorandum in support of legislation that includes the support of affected organizations moves along quicker.

Discussion occurred on each item in the proposal. As a result, the following decisions were made:

(1) An amendment that would permit for the correction of an erroneous tax billing after the tax collector's warrant for collection of taxes has expired.

The group agreed to move forward with Item #1 as long as County Treasurers and Collectors are brought in to the discussions. County directors will have the responsibility to initiate those discussions.

(2) An amendment that would automatically provide for the correction of the final assessment roll once it has been ascertained by the RPTS Director that an error as defined in RPTL 550 exists.

After clarification an adjustment was made to the bulleted text, the group agreed to move this forward.

(3) Provide for a correction in an assessed value where an inventory error has been found to cause a change of 10% or more in the assessed valuation of an improvement.

Quite a few of the group had a problem with this proposal. The consensus was to strike it from the proposal.

(4) Amend the RPTL so as to allow for the recovery of taxes lost as a result of a partial exemption being erroneously granted to a property not originally entitled to such partial exemption. May be okay if there's a limited window for this to occur.

Other Ideas

First bullet - Allow the assessor to file for a corrected tax roll with the County Director. Assessors had a problem with this. A suggestion was made that the assessors discuss this as a group. **The assessors will discuss and get back to Bill Budde.**

Second bullet allowing the County Director at local option, to issue a correction change notice directly to the tax collector (up to a certain local option \$ amount) to correct an erroneous County/Town Tax billings. This item was not discussed. Bill Budde stated that it will be brought to Tax Collectors and Treasurers and he will bring this back after those discussions.

Suggestions to corrections to the form should be sent to Steve Harrison, **broaden "reason" and define "applicant."** Jack Shuttleworth asked about the statement that "This form should be available in the tax collecting offices of the tax collecting officers." Are banks tax collecting officers? Joe Gerberg answered the question that the tax collecting officers are those who are authorized to collect taxes.

E. Hot Legislative Items

Paul Miller arrived just in time to present the group the status of real property legislative items. He distributed up-to-the-minute information regarding the status of the bills. He outlined for

the group some of the more significant bill's of interest to the group. He updated the status of the utility "freeze" bill . This bill was modified inconsequentially. He answered specific questions on the two lists that were distributed. **Keep an eye on the web site for updated information. It is updated regularly by Paul Miller.**

The group thanked Paul Miller and Joe Gerberg for the information. They are grateful for their ongoing communication.

E-1. Modification of Assessment Roll Format

Rick Hubner asked what precipitated the current format on the 2000 assessment roll? He feels the design makes it an impractical work product. What was the thought process that went into it? Dick Harris explained that Dawn Farrar was the person who developed this. He reported that when the legislation passed requiring that full value be printed on the assessment roll, there was only a short time to get the modification in. When looking at in they felt the best place is where they put it. They originally tried to code so that they could leave a space in between each of those numbers. But because of the limitations in the original coding of the programs, these programs are probably over 20 years old, that couldn't happen. Would be open to suggestions for the 2001 roll.

Rick asked for a legal opinion if you are at 100% do you have to show both numbers? Rich answered that the unwritten assumption is that these two numbers are different, if they are the same they shouldn't have to be shown.

Assuming that we can do something with the layout, does anyone have thoughts on an appropriate layout? Rick handed out five suggestions. Dick will bring the suggestions back to the people who developed the initial layout to get their input and will bring report it back

Action Items: If the assessed value equals the market value does the market value have to appear?

Modify the report. Consider Rick's proposed revisions to the roll.

Rich Sinnott asked: Is there any valid reason to carry forward the break out of "land" and "total", or would "total" be enough? (For assessment review purposes, only the total is the subject of review.)

DAY 2 - June 16, 2000

Additional Attendees: David Williams, Kathy Gustafson, JoAnn Whalen, Bill Godell, Bruce Sauter, Donald Card, Jeff Jordan, Sally Cooney and Dennis Jersey

F. Get Organized

Fred Pask announced that today would be Edye's last RPTAC meeting and thanked her for all the fine work she's done for the group. (Note: due to scheduling of next RPTAC meeting, this was not Edye's last meeting.)

Steve Curren also announced that today would be his last meeting.

G. ORPS Strategic Management Plan

In Ruth Henahan's absence, Tom Griffen reviewed the Strategic Plan for RPTAC members.

Tom stated that there are 70 work plans and each plan has an owner. He also noted that the Strategic Plan will be out on Internet shortly.

Tom went on to discuss equalization rate process and ORPS' goal of having 60-70% of parcels in the state assessing at 100%. He indicated the need for possible legislative action regarding uniform assessing.

Vince distributed and reviewed material regarding localities doing annual reassessments and a list of municipalities doing 2000 reassessments.

Discussion continued regarding annual reassessments (six-year plan).

Rick Hubner feels problem with New York State is that it is 4th in nation depending on property tax. Feels there is a need to get state off reliance on property tax.

H. Update on CTG and PSG Conferences

CTG - April 19 met in Syracuse with subset of 162 attendees. Meeting focused on developing planned action; looked at do ability, etc. Mark Levine said reports should be issued in next week or so. There will be a two-week comment period.

PSG - Group went to Minnesota to set up draft plan to be presented next week in Glens Falls.

Dick Harris stated fifteen people; three from ORPS, 6 PSG staffers, current Commissioner of Revenue from State of Minnesota and former commissioner, Larry Walker, and technology/graphic artist attended brainstorming type session.

Bill Cinquanti asked why there wasn't at least one person included from other groups; Tom Frey had concerns about ORPS putting plan together. Dick stated PSG is putting the plan together. Tom Frey also expressed concern that others weren't included. Dan Curtin stated its PSG's design not ORPS= design. Tom Frey felt there is a problem with perception since they were hired by ORPS and ORPS is in Minnesota putting plan together. Dan Curtin stated PSG has done this the same way in the past.

Sue Otis asked if ORPS will see plan before next week. Vince O'CONNOR stated we have already seen it; but not the final plan.

Ann Sapienza requested a copy of plan be provided to RPTAC at next meeting.

Action Item: Dan Curtin will send CTG & PSG reports to RPTAC when available.

I. Advisory Appraisals

Dick Harris stated that the defense policy is essentially that we will provide support for appraisal. Staff will be happy to provide locality with whatever support we can. ORPS will not prepare a court ready appraisal; will not testify as witness in defense of appraisal; and cannot provide resources in defense of appraisal.

Don Card indicated ORPS would send out a draft advisory appraisal; it would be certified a month to two months later. Locality should receive notification that there has been no change in appraisal. ORPS only provides appraisals where revaluations or updates are being done.

Vince O'Connor asked if localities get updated value do they get new inventory or trend it.

Don Card replied that with a reappraisal - mass and structures – with mass you get inventory; accounting dollars, not physical inventory; structural - do not get inventory unless requested; do have physical quantities but not sent with appraisal.

Update - Getting trended value until reappraisal is done on structure - trending structures, getting trended values on mass property. Data will include trends and inventory changes in terms of dollars. If major changes, a new appraisal will be done.

Rich Hubner would like to have document put together regarding what process is. There is a need to understand whether advisory appraisal has to be used.

Frank Ferrari indicated that if advisory appraisal is requested, it does not mean it has to be used to get maintenance aid.

Group indicated there is confusion about use of requested advisory appraisal. Sue Otis stated there is a need for clarification. Rick Hubner stated there is a need for distinction between mass appraisal and structural. Need time line.

Rick Hubner raised concerns regarding generating facilities and whether the assessor will get documentation. Don Card responded that the assessor would get documentation with information blacked out due to "trade secret" status.

Tom Griffen stated ORPS needs to:

- do a better job with regard to complex appraisals;
- free up resources to enable ORPS to provide more information to localities;
- identify data sources;
- build up network with assessing community to obtain more data.

Jack Shuttleworth asked if ORPS can get parcel breakdown in valuation from utilities for complex properties. Don Card replied that we do in terms of buildings and service -broken down to municipal location. In terms of generation we do not get information. We have collected data in terms of structural and we get inventories provided by site for generating facilities. ORPS has inventory from utilities.

Fred Pask asked if all retirements and demolitions are reported. Don Card responded in the affirmative.

Group agreed that a trending program is needed.

Steve Curren stated that several years ago Jim Dombrowski had started a valuation "help desk" at ORPS and feels agency should move back in that direction.

Edye McCarthy questioned whether instructions had been given to staff. Vince O'Connor responded that instructions haven't been reviewed but that regional staff will be involved in commercial and industrial appraisals - less than 100 statewide; they will work with assessor using data we have; show assessor how to do appraisals; share data with assessor, owner and ORPS staff. Vince stated that ORPS has no official policy.

Edge indicated that she is uncomfortable with ORPS only assisting assessors who do reassessments since politicians decide whether reassessment are done.

Action items: ORPS will put together information regarding advisories appraisal program; what's provided; when provided; mass v. structure -relationship to annual reassessment. Ann Sapienza volunteered to review before distributed.

TRAINING

ORPS Reorganization

Tom Frey distributed (for Dan Curtin) the organization chart and memo regarding ORPS organizational revisions. Dan Curtin reviewed changes to organizational structure.

J. Team Reports

Dennis Jersey reported on RPS governance.

Dennis distributed and reviewed a draft memorandum regarding latest release of Version 4.

Dennis indicated that over 50 municipalities ran rolls in version 4; 62 places using version 4; 101 on version but running V4 and V3; 163 on version 4 in first year; approximately 200 places planning to go to V4 between now and January 1, and that there would be over 400 places on V4 before next assessment roll.

Dennis indicated that ORPS is planning to release newer version on Monday. This release will have assessor reporting, etc., with more functionality in GIS being added. Will have sale points; batched costs, and comparable sales in batch will be released later this summer.

Dennis gave overview of land valuation function that will be included in Monday's release. New comparable sales features will also be available. On schedule to complete additional enhancements for September release. Draft memorandum indicates expected enhancements to September release.

Sue Otis asked what the status is of reversion for AS400. Dennis indicated that problems with reversion have been fixed. Dennis stated that Version 4 was presented to governance group and AS400 users were receptive. V4 would continue to run on PCs; would not run on AS400. Would like AS400 pilot volunteer.

Assessors and County Directors expressed need for assistance in the regions – help line.

Rick Hubner expressed need for reporting system when system goes down; how long to fix.

Frank Ferrari indicated a resolution will involve regional and technical staff. RPS Governance Team will get together before next RPTAC meeting to determine who has responsibility for what and come up with game plan for next meeting.

Action item: Frank Ferrari will investigate centralized help line virtual delivery

Equalization

JoAnn Whalen stated that Equalization Project Team was charged with requirement that Team submit written report to RPTAC once a year, usually done in December. She asked if this is still working. Currently agendas are sent to Ann.

JoAnn indicated Team is discussing current utility deregulations; future process where we don't do independent measurements; involved in reviewing procedures. Does RPTAC have a need for Team to bring different people to discuss equalization measures? What does RPTAC need or want?

Bill Cinquanti asked if minutes are sent to everyone on RPTAC. JoAnn stated that they are only sent to him. JoAnn indicated that if RPTAC members would like to receive minutes, they can be sent to all members.

Dan Curtin also indicated that they could also be posted to web board.

JoAnn noted that ORPS is issuing rate for current roll for September tax apportionment. She distributed and reviewed map regarding 2000 rates indicating that ORPS is doing rates for 479 assessing units with 204 municipalities doing 2000 reassessments. JoAnn indicated that some localities are not going to have current rate reflecting uniform percentage of value. She stated the map is delineated by school district and that there is a need to look at school district boundaries and not just town boundaries.

Tom Frey asked for explanation as to why southern region was not on map.

JoAnn responded that certain places involved with utility; that west and central have a larger number of reassessments; data more current and more reassessment activity; looking at map places where entire counties will have 2000 current rates - others not reflecting current rates for September.

JoAnn reviewed school district map

Doug Barton inquired as to when 2000 rates would be out.

JoAnn responded that next week ORPS would begin making tentative rates.

K. Sales

SalesWeb and Data Warehouse

Bill Godell distributed flow chart for information management system. Discussed having integrated data sets working on Internet with strong emphasis on reassessment; ability to connect into system to run valuation; accessibility to all areas on chart; ability to interact via Internet.

Tom Frey expressed concern regarding what should be made available to public over Internet.

Anne Sapienza expressed concerns regarding use of information on SalesWeb by public and impact on assessing community.

Bill Cinquanti stated that this information will be out there whether Assessors/County Directors put it out there and that there is a need to work on it together so that its acceptable to everyone.

Bill Godell discussed future SalesWeb initiatives: integrated data sets; building data warehousing; internet having 5217 information; current inventories (won't be for public only for assessing community).

Edey McCarthy expressed concerns regarding opening this information up to the public since a lot of information on 5217 is incorrect and assessors need time to make corrections. There may be need for a disclaimer.

Rick Hubner would like to look at what other states are doing.

Bill Godell indicated ORPS is moving to put out parcel and assessment inventory information. Should be complete by end of year and will be produced out on Internet. Focus groups will be conducted in regions within next month - Syracuse and Newburgh.

Concern was expressed regarding short notice for focus groups - might not get good cross section of representatives.

Frank Ferrari responded that January 1 is date for getting data out on net; need six months to develop.

Tom Griffen suggested holding additional focus groups.

Bill Godell suggested doing demo for RPTAC.

Action item: Hold additional focus sessions on data warehouse. (Bill Godell)

Action Item: Examine Experian decision regarding copyrighting of tax maps and how that may apply to other data e.g., inventory. (Rich Sinnott) (add to agenda for next meeting)

SalesNet

Clayton Ash updated where we are with SalesNet indicating that last December ORPS tried initiative to institute reporting of 5217 at county level in mechanized format. This was well accepted. Unfortunately, software was antiquated and in April it started to deteriorate; 7 users on hold. Staff is in the process of rewriting to run directly on county system transmitting data to us on a weekly basis. Municipalities are receiving 50 cents per sale to send us data. Data is in mechanized format so it can be passed to assessor.

Edey McCarthy asked how much the 5217 fee is. Clayton responded that it is a \$25 filing fee - \$3 goes to the County Clerk with the State getting \$22.

Clayton stated that in July/August a county version should be ready to go. Indicated desire to further enhance so it goes to RPS file.

Frank Ferrari questioned the need for follow-up with assessors in counties where implemented. He feels there is a need to do this. Anne Sapienza concurred.

L. Training

RFP

Frank Ferrari indicated an RFP was sent out and a contract has been signed with PSG to provide a comprehensive and fundamental review of the training program for Assessment Administrators.

An RFP was sent to five companies. All five initially declined to submit a proposal. Subsequently, PSG contacted ORPS and ORPS has signed an agreement with them. Project will be starting next week with sessions in Albany for the purpose of gathering information. PSG will provide ORPS with recommendations in October. ORPS has asked that TCPC be used as a resource group for this project. Also, ORPS has asked for multiple interviews in the assessment community. Frank doesn't know exactly how the interviews will be conducted. PSG will control the conduct of the interviews.

Rick Hubner asked what the procedure was when we didn't get proposals.

Frank Ferrari responded that ORPS went back to GOER after not receiving proposals, but that PSG had contacted us. We were advised if we could clarify and ask for a proposal.

Rick Hubner expressed concern that PSG is working on two projects and that possibly first RFP was not clear as to what ORPS wanted.

Frank Ferrari and Kathy Gustafson reviewed the issue with the PSG project director , emphasizing that there was a need for separation of the two projects.

Rick Hubner asked if anything would be mailed to TCPC. Kathy responded that it will be sent.

BAR video

Frank Ferrari stated the last video was done in 1994 and that ORPS is attempting to have new video shot and out by February 1, 2001. Video will be professional production to make sure everything done right – initial contacts indicate that the cost could be upwards of \$80,000 to do this. Anticipate starting project in week or two. Production and editing will be done this fall. Looking at revising curriculum around bar training; trying to integrate video and training.

M. Action Items

Tax Maps - Rules indicate that the County Director is responsible for maintenance and certification of tax maps. Controversy surrounding Rensselaer County maps and fact that they were not certified by the County Director.

After much discussion regarding the legality of someone other than the County Director certifying the Rensselaer County tax maps, it was decided that Rich Sinnott would present the issue regarding the conduct of a 216 hearing to the State Board at its August meeting.

Aid Rules/Proc. - ORPS held off in some instances making denials on 98 rolls. Currently there is a backlog - this should be cleaned up by end of August. Will be looking at beginning review and making determinations for 1999 and 2000 very soon.

Anne Sapienza asked if assessors could be notified when checks are sent. Sally Cooney responded that assessor gets certification copy.

Frank Ferrari stated that as a result of rules being processed 42 municipalities got aid that probably wouldn't have under old rules. Majority of problems were with utility class; approximately ten places had problems with other classes, vacant, industrial, etc.

Anticipated starting 1999 cycle quickly - putting together new team to review rules and procedures for 2001; Sally and Dave will be doing this. Purpose is to conduct review of rules and procedures.

Edye McCarthy asked if there would be something in survey regarding percent changes for maintenance aid. Sally responded there was something in survey about rules but not about tolerances for class uniformity.

Action Item: Dick Harris will send notification to assessors when maintenance aid checks are sent

N. Current Issues

Edye McCarthy asked for a copy of utility deregulation memo discussed at State Board Meeting.

Action Item: Tom Griffen will provide memo on utility deregulation discussed at Board meeting.

Edye McCarthy asked that current policy on findings and determinations on equalization rates be put on agenda for next meeting.

A question was asked regarding staffing in the Newburgh office. Dan Curtin referred committee members to Vince's memorandum in the information packet distributed with the agenda.

Rich Sinnott pointed out that Action Item 34 (Experian decision relating to copyrighting of tax maps) is not Action Item but will be discussed as agenda item. Rich will send copy of decision to interested parties.

15. Next meeting: September 7 & 8
Clarion Inn
Latham, NY

Agenda Items: Legal issues regarding data (Suffolk County court decision and copyrights)
Current policy on findings and determinations on equalization rates
Land on assessment roll

