

Training Advisory Group Meeting Minutes

March 30, 2022 – Teleconference and WebEx

Present: Bill Film, Cathy Conklin, Anne Sapienza, Warren Wheeler, Dave Ange, Sean Fitzsimmons, Gary Drake, Erica Foley, and Andrew DiMartino.

Get Organized

This meeting was held using WebEx video conference software. There were no questions about the minutes from the last meeting.

NYSAA and IAO Update

- A) Ithaca School
 - a. Scheduled for July 17 - 24, 2022
 - b. Many course offerings including CMI course 1 and 2, three 3 RPS V4 classes, Advanced Valuation, and exemptions-advanced and basic.
 - c. Tompkins Community College to provide computer labs for RPS classes.
- B) Training classes: 23 one day seminars scheduled for this year so far.

ORPTS Training Update

The training schedule is posted and was featured in the Assessment Community weekly. There are no in person classes this semester. Assessment Administration and Mass Appraisal are being offered both online and the North and Central are teaching both as WebEx classes. There are also two online Data Collection classes and twelve different dates for self-studies. Two of the dates have multiple locations: Westchester and Suffolk counties. The assessors asked if we'd reach out to Denise Trudell about helping to teach the Assessment Administration WebEx. There was concern about the Assessment Administration class in January. It was explained that there was an SLMS update that caused a temporary issue, but all the students were able to successfully complete the class.

Reimbursement Update

\$45,329.56 has been paid out with \$25,686.23 either processed and sent to fiscal or waiting to be processed. There is \$103,984.21 remaining. Below are the number of assessors/county directors who have submitted for reimbursement and the total reimbursed for the last five years.

Fiscal Year	Assessor/Co. Director Vouchers	Reimbursement Paid Out
2016-2017	317 Assrs/Co. Directors	\$157,719.03
2017-2018	126 Assrs/Co. Directors	\$81,293.55
2018-2019	233 Assrs/Co. Directors	117,588.72
2019-2020	305 Assrs/Co. Directors	147,762.77
2020-2021	144 Assrs/Co. Directors	45,329.56 (doesn't including pending)

Statewide Learning Management System (SLMS) Survey Results

We reviewed the surveys from the last five online classes. There was one Assessment Administration class, two Data Collection, and two Mass Appraisal classes. ORPTS went over the survey responses. Comments were generally positive. One of the earlier Data Collection classes had an issue that some of the appendices didn't line up and some of the activities online weren't in the paper manual. ORPTS investigated and found that some of the appendices on the Assessors manuals were changed. The new appendix names and the activities have been added to the new version of the class.

Update on Farm Appraisal class

There was an overview given of the current updates occurring for the Introduction to Farm Appraisal class. ORPTS has a team that is reviewing the course and have divided the different sections up to review. The plan is not to rewrite the class, but to modernize it and get it ready to be taught in the fall. Farm Appraisal will be taught by a team of instructors, and it will stay consistent between classes. The assessors were concerned that the class hadn't been taught in a while and stated that the week prior, Bob Wright approached them about teaching the class in Ithaca this summer. ORPTS will discuss internally and let the assessors know.

Open Floor

There was discussion that assessors should be pushed to take classes and there was concern about the few who don't regularly take trainings. Bill Film brought up the assessor's shortage that is currently occurring and feels it will get worse. His solution was the counties each hiring a full time Data Collector who could then take over an assessor position when someone retires or leaves.

Action Items

We reached out to Denise Trudell about co-teaching the Assessment Administration WebEx. She was unable to. ORPTS discussed having Bob Wright teach the Farm class in Ithaca. It was agreed that we would approve it for Basic and CE credit. An agreement was also reached to have the ORPTS instructors involved in the course.

Next Meeting

The next Tag meeting is tentatively scheduled for 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, September 28, 2022.