

Minutes

Proofed by Gerald Smith: Nov. 5, 2020

Board of Directors Meeting
Property Records Industry Association
11 a.m., ET, Wednesday, October 21, 2020
Via Conference Call

Present for the call:

Jerry	Lewallen	President	Yes
Annette	Hill	Vice President	Yes
Gerald	Smith	Secretary	Yes
Brian	Ernissee	Treasurer	Yes
Brandon	Krause	Director - Government	No
Kyle	Quackenbush	At-large Director - Government	Yes
Sharon	Martin	Director - Government	Yes
Chris	Walker	Director - Government	No
Elizabeth	Blosser	Director - Business	Yes
Dan	Shmukler	Director - Business	Yes
Jana	Miyasaki	Director - Business	Yes
Penny	Reed	Director - Business	No
Larry	Burtness	Immediate Past President	Yes
Mark	Ladd	Advisory Council	Yes
Charlie	Epperson	Advisory Council	Yes
Carol	Foglesong	Advisory Council	Yes
Steve	McDonald	Advisory Council	No
Marc	Aronson	Advisory Council	Yes
Kelly	Romeo	Advisory Council	Yes
Diane	Swoboda Peterson	Advisory Council	Yes
Brent	Blankenship	Education	Yes
Dan	Crank	Education	No
Liz	Kelly	Membership	No
John	Murphy	Membership	No
David	Rooney	Standards/Practices	Yes
Nakia	McFarland	Standards/Practices	No
Ryan	Crowley	Governance	No
Teresa	Kiel	Governance	Yes
Christi	Adams	Communications	Yes
Michael	Miller	Communications	No
Carolyn	Ableman	PRIA Local Coordinator	Yes
Stevie	Kernick	Chief Staff Officer	Yes

Call to Order

President Jerry Lewallen called the October 21, 2020, meeting of the PRIA Board of Directors to order at 11:04 ET, and, subsequently, reported there was a quorum present.

Consent Agenda

For the October board meeting, the September 30, 2020, financial reports were removed from the Consent Agenda.

On a motion by Sharon Martin and a second by Elizabeth Blosser, the board approved the October consent agenda as distributed.

September 30, 2020, Financial Reports

Stevie Kernick explained the significant revenue and expenses for the year-to-date.

Notable is the revenue for 2020-21 compared to 2019-20. The 2020 Virtual Conference had a significant impact on the budget. Registration fees were \$99 compared with \$395 for an in-person conference and sponsorship values were lower for the virtual conference than for the customary in-person events.

On a positive note, membership dues, to-date, are within \$1,000 of the total annual budget. Although there is a significant change in revenue and expenses compared to 2019-20, when looking at the actual revenue and expense compared to budget, there is more alignment with 2020-21 budget projections.

Old Business

October Strategic Planning

Lewallen acknowledged the robust discussion, which took place during the October 13 board planning call. Everyone on the call was engaged. The major topic of discussion was PRIA's advocacy role. The consensus was that PRIA should be more specific with its advocacy policy. Lewallen said he would like a taskforce, consisting of the Council of Advisors and officers, to work on drafting a policy. The Council of Advisors brings collective institutional history to this discussion and by adding the officers to the discussion two additional government members will be involved.

The one-hour call did not allow time to complete the October planning agenda, which also included discussion of transparency. For the November planning meeting, the agenda will include both transparency and options for a PRIA certification program.

eNotary Hub

Kernick explained the proposal from Pro-West & Associates to create a new map layer to the existing eRecording Hub that will track electronic notarization and RON. Pennsylvania Association of Notaries (PAN) provides the information and the graphic for the map that is currently on the public side of the PRIA website. Mark Ladd expressed concerns about the nuances involved with electronic notarization suggesting it would be difficult to cover accurately what is transpiring in all states. Carol Foglesong reminded the board about the wide range of documents accepted by eRecording jurisdictions but they are still considered eRecording jurisdictions.

On a motion by Brian Ernissee and a second by Martin, the board approved taking the current state eNotary and RON information currently on the website as a static map and adding a layer to the eRecording Hub map based on the Pro-West quote of \$770.

David Rooney observed that once the mapping layer is in place (by Pro-West), updating the data is relatively simple.

Lewallen said there should be a disclaimer about the validity of the information in the map.

GIS Toolkit

Rooney, chair of the GIS Work Project, said the toolkit publication is ready to publish to the PRIA Resource Library.

It has been through a 30-day comment period and Style Committee without substantive changes. With the addition of the GIS Toolkit, there is enough data for a new learning module.

On a motion by Ernissee and a second by Larry Burtness, the board approved the GIS Toolkit for publication.

Electronic Notary: How Does It Impact Recording?

Ladd said the paper had been posted for 30-day comment and has now gone through Style Committee. It is ready to be approved for publication.

On a motion by Ernissee and a second by Martin, the board approved the Electronic Notary: How Does It Impact Recording? paper for publication.

Conference Cancellations

Lewallen said PRIA was able to cancel and reschedule its in-person Annual Conference in Milwaukee in August 2020 because the Democratic National Committee rescheduled its convention over the same dates as PRIA's conference. This cancellation without penalty was not a direct cause from the COVID-19 epidemic.

For February 2021, at the Renaissance Phoenix, there will be significant cancellation penalties if PRIA can't meet its contractual obligation based on the "impossibilities clause" (included in the October board materials).

Ernissee suggested PRIA should plan to move forward with the Winter Symposium rather than pay penalties.

Kyle Quackenbush suggested a survey to determine who would plan to attend, if budget allows. Blosser said that some states are closed down, while others are opening up. Ernissee said most businesses are making decisions about budget and travel now so if cancellation is being considered a decision needs to be made soon.

Kelly Romeo said the human factor should be considered. Will potential attendees travel? Stay in a hotel? Does this work financially? Cancelling now will be costly to the association.

Kernick said she plans to meet with the hotel to find out how they will handle room setups and food functions. She can report after that meeting. Kernick stressed the importance of gathering more information to make an informed decision.

Lewallen observed there are a number of considerations to be addressed before we pull the plug.

ALTA PRIA Work Group

Blosser said the committee structure at ALTA has been reconfigured. Liaison groups were formed around major stakeholders of ALTA. PRIA is one of those stakeholders. The first meeting of the PRIA Work Group will be set up for the beginning of the year.

Lewallen acknowledged it's good news ALTA considers PRIA a significant partner.

New Business

Governance Committee

Lewallen announced Teresa Kiel, Guadalupe Co., TX, has accepted the government co-chair position on the Governance Committee.

Board Liaisons for 2020-21

Lewallen said that no board members had contacted him about a change to their current committee liaison position. Based on that, he assigned new board members Brandon Krause and Kyle Quackenbush to the Membership and Education Committees respectively.

Work Project Request

Kernick explained the work project request to form a work group to develop a publication on Disaster Preparedness – Natural Disasters and Pandemics. This topic is particularly important in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

On a motion by Gerald Smith and a second by Ernissee, the board approved the work project for natural disasters and pandemics pending recruitment of business and government co-chairs.

Board Deliverables

Kernick said there were no outstanding deliverables to be addressed for this meeting.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for Wednesday, November 18, 2020, at 11 a.m., ET.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:19 p.m., ET.

Jerry Lewallen, president

Stevie Kernick, recording secretary