

## Minutes

Proofed by Gerald Smith: November 11, 2021

Board of Directors Meeting  
Property Records Industry Association  
11 a.m., ET, Wednesday, October 20, 2021  
Via Conference Call

Present for the call:

Jerry	Lewallen	President	Yes
Annette	Hill	Vice President	No
Gerald	Smith	Secretary	Yes
Brian	Ernissee	Treasurer	Yes
Brandon	Krause	Director - Government	Yes
Kyle	Quackenbush	At-large Director - Government	Yes
Sharon	Martin	Director - Government	Yes
Sharon	Blount-Baker	Director - Government	Yes
Teresa	Kiel	Director - Government	Yes
Elizabeth	Blosser	Director - Business	Yes
Dan	Shmukler	Director - Business	Yes
Jana	Miyasaki	Director - Business	Yes
Penny	Reed	Director - Business	Yes
Larry	Burtness	Immediate Past President	Yes
Mark	Ladd	Advisory Council	No
Charlie	Epperson	Advisory Council	No
Carol	Foglesong	Advisory Council	Yes
Steve	McDonald	Advisory Council	Yes
Marc	Aronson	Advisory Council	Yes
Kelly	Romeo	Advisory Council	Yes
Diane	Swoboda Peterson	Advisory Council	Yes
Brent	Blankenship	Education	No
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
Staci	Hoffman	Governance	No
Christi	Adams	Communications	No
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 20, 2021, meeting of the PRIA Board of Directors to order at 11 a.m., ET, and declared a quorum present.

## **Consent Agenda**

***On a motion by Sharon Martin and a second by Penny Reed, the board accepted the October 15, 2021, consent agenda as distributed.***

## **Old Business**

### **Strategic Planning**

Lewallen reported the strategic planning taskforce met on October 8 and will continue to meet to design the process for the February 13-14 planning session in Phoenix. Several resources have been identified for the pre-planning.

The Sunday (February 13) of Strategic Planning is Super Bowl Sunday. Dinner plans will consider the timing for the Super Bowl so those interested can watch.

### **GIS Work Group Article**

Stevie Kernick reported that a copy of the article drafted by the GIS Work Group was included in the board binder. This article was first discussed during the September 20 board meeting and looks at how GIS could be helpful in cases where homeowners do not have chain of title and, thus, have been prohibited from applying for and receiving FEMA disaster relief funds. The FEMA rules have recently been amended and now allow relief funds for properties where ownership cannot be proven.

### **Board Liaisons**

Lewallen reported that all board members will continue in their liaison roles from 2020-21. New board member Teresa Kiel will move from chair of the Governance Committee to board liaison for that committee, while Sharon Blount-Baker will step in as Standards & Best Practices Committee Liaison.

### **Chief Staff Officer Update**

Kernick reported the search had started again for the Chief Staff Officer position. The initial candidate who was introduced to the officers and announced to the board on August 30 accepted another position outside IMI. Kernick is currently conducting interviews and has five viable candidates.

## **New Business**

### **ULC New Committees**

The Uniform Law Commission recently approved a new study committee on redaction and drafting committee on restrictive covenants.

For both committees, board members Elizabeth Blosser and Penny Reed and Council of Advisors member Marc Aronson will act as observers on behalf of PRIA and their respective organizations. Gerald Smith, secretary, will serve as a PRIA observer on the restrictive covenants drafting committee.

## 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Kernick reminded the board that 2022 will mark PRIA's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the Communications Committee has agreed to take the lead role on planning recognition for the milestone. The committee will meet on Tuesday, October 26, to begin planning. She expects the initial acknowledgement to begin in January 2022, likely culminating with an event at the 2022 Annual Conference in Fort Lauderdale.

## Winter Symposium Planning

Kernick reported the conference planning committee had met and conducted a debrief session for the Annual Conference in Milwaukee. The majority of the members of the Annual Conference Planning Committee have recommitted to serve on the Winter Symposium Planning Committee. The committee will begin meeting bi-weekly in the lead-up to the 2022 Winter Symposium, February 14-17, in Phoenix.

Lewallen said the PRIA officers have discussed a more robust COVID protocol going into the Winter Symposium in the event those practices are needed next February.

The ALTA Convention in New Orleans had much stronger protocols, some of which were mandated by the city. Blosser said masks were required at ALTA, along with social distancing. ALTA worked with the CLEAR Health Pass app to confirm vaccination, a negative COVID test and daily health check-in. They also provide colored wrist bands to distinguish how comfortable attendees were with close contact.

Lewallen said PRIA should monitor the requirements in Phoenix leading up to the conference. He will work with Kernick to define a recommended protocol, in the event it is needed. This process should be board-approved and not the domain of the conference planning committee.

Martin expressed concern that too many restrictions would deter people from attending the Winter Symposium. She then asked about a virtual component for the Winter Symposium. In Wisconsin, several counties have restricted in-person attendance for conferences if there is a virtual option.

Brandon Krause asked about a taskforce to establish protocols. Kelly Romeo suggested working with legal counsel about potential liabilities. ALTA's protocols were driven by the city of New Orleans; the same is the case with Mortgage Bankers Association, although San Diego does not have mandated mask requirements or vaccine requirements. The officers will consider the options during the November 3 meeting and bring those back to the board.

Brian Ernissee said he has no problem following the mandates of the city in which the conference is held. At this time, Phoenix does not have mandates in place but does make recommendations for safe gatherings.

Martin asked about a registration deadline for the Winter Symposium. Kernick said pre-registration should be available before December 1.

## Board Deliverables

Nothing to report.

### **Other Business**

Blosser facilitates an ALTA work group that focuses on relationships with PRIA and county recorders. This is an opportunity to collaborate with the title industry and solicit feedback on PRIA papers and standards.

Reed said Wells Fargo has a list of every county that is eligible for eRecording. She asked whether PRIA could become more granular with each county's ability to take different types of electronic documents. This could be added to the eRecording reports.

Martin thanked the PRIA board and Blosser regarding the issue of federally filing tax liens. Wisconsin received information that statutes encourage electronic filing of tax liens. Martin will forward to Kernick who will distribute to the entire board.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for 11 a.m., ET, Wednesday, November 17, 2021.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:51 a.m., ET.

Jerry Lewallen, president

Stevie Kernick, recording secretary