

MINUTES OF THE  
ASSESSING STANDARDS BOARD  
SUB-COMMITTEE

**Approved as Written**

**DATE:** October 29, 2015

**TIME:** 9:30 a.m.

**LOCATION:** Legislative Office Building – Room 304, 107 North Main Street, Concord NH

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

Betsey Patten, Public Member, Chairman  
Joseph Lessard, NHAEO, Towns >3,000  
Eric Stohl, Municipal Official, Towns <3,000

Representative Peter Schmidt  
Representative Patrick Abrami  
Representative Mark Proulx  
Representative Patty Lovejoy

**MEMBERS of the PUBLIC:**

Kathy Temchack, City of Concord Assessing  
George Sansoucy  
Meg Nelson, Sulloway & Hollis  
Ellen Scarponi, Fairpoint  
Maura Weston, Weston & Assoc.  
Len Gerzon, ASB  
Teresa Rosenberger, NHTA  
Kevin O'Quinn, Fairpoint  
Karen Hanks, NHEC  
Scott Dickman, DRA  
Meredith....., Governor's Office

Cindy Brown, BTLA  
Robert J. Gagne, Manchester  
David Cornell, NHDRA  
Keen Wong, NHDRA (intern)  
Bill Stafford, Granite State Tele.  
Stephan Hamilton, NHDRA  
Scott Brooks, TDS Telecom  
Michael Ladam, NHPUC  
Representative Peter J. Spanos  
Cordell A. Johnson, NHMA

**\*\*\* There were issues with the recorder; therefore there is no taped recording of the minutes for 10/29/2015. \*\*\***

Chairman Patten convened the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Introductions followed.

**Documents Received:**

George Hildum and George Sansoucy submitted requested material. Mr. Hildum's was submitted in writing. Mr. Sansoucy's was rather lengthy so was submitted via email. Mr. David Cornell had perused Mr. Sansoucy's report and a discussion followed with questions and answers regarding the findings for these two reports.

**Information not Received:**

Several contractors did not complete or declined to submit requested information. Representative Abrami brought up whether this is public information. Chairman Patten did not feel this would be clarified as "work product". Representative Lovejoy said she was unfamiliar with ASB authority but felt recommendations would

be better coming from ASB than Legislature. Mr. Eric Stohl said the ASB has the authority to make rules and quoted **RSA 21-J:14-b,1-a**. Chairman Patten advised that Senator Boutin requested a decision by December 1<sup>st</sup>. Representative Abrami advised meeting with the full assessor's board as there are no guidelines to value a pole and there needs to be guidelines/rules. Mr. Stohl advised if ASB is to handle this, he would like Representative Abrami to sit in. Representative Abrami accepted the invitation. Mr. Joe Lessard advised there were many lawsuits and that there are problems in how the telecommunications property is assessed. He felt that the lawsuit should continue until they are done and then maybe the problem with the system can be seen more clearly; he did not feel that Legislature or ASB should get involved. Chairman Patten mentioned the wide range (\$107 - \$2100). Mr. Kevin O'Quinn mentioned that there was a 2010 Appeal ruling in Supreme Court regarding equal protection (Docket Number 2015-0067). Ms. Kathy Temchack advised equal protection 2000 – 2010. **Chairman Patten cited 20150067**. Representative Lovejoy said that if the ASB is not going to come up with parameters then Legislature should try. Representative Abrami advised that poles and conduits are treated as real property and Legislature created a problem when they decided to tax poles. He agreed with Representative Lovejoy that Legislature will try if ASB did not. **Mr. Stohl moved that this matter be turned over to the full ASB to remedy the wide range of pole values. Representative Schmidt seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.** Mr. Lessard also suggested that DRA go through USPAP of those towns, not the contractors, that did not send in the information requested for the deep dive.

Chairman Patten adjourned the meeting at 11:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth McGill  
NH Department of Revenue Administration – Municipal and Property Division

Documentation relative to the Assessing Standards Board may be submitted, requested or reviewed by:

Telephone: (603) 230-5967  
Facsimile: (603) 230-5947  
Web: [www.revenue.nh.gov](http://www.revenue.nh.gov)  
E-mail: [asb@dra.nh.gov](mailto:asb@dra.nh.gov)

In person at:  
109 Pleasant Street, Concord  
In writing to:  
NH Department of Revenue  
Assessing Standards Board  
PO Box 487  
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