

# MORRIS COUNTY BOARD OF TAXATION

P.O. Box 900

Morristown, New Jersey 07963-0900

## Commissioners

William Kersey, *President*

Dr. Michael D. DiFazio, *Vice President*

Matthew R. Petracca

Bernard J. Tyson



*County Tax Administrator*

Ralph T. Meloro, IV

January 17, 2019

## AGENDA

### REGULAR MEETING OF THE MORRIS COUNTY BOARD OF TAXATION

- I Call to order
  - II. Announcement regarding Sunshine Law
  - III Roll call
  - IV Public Input any pertinent subject
  - V Minutes – September 20, 2018, December 20, 2018
  - VI Business
    - 1. Certify 2019 Tax Lists
    - 2. Any other business that may properly come before the Board
  - VII Adjournment
- Minutes*

The Morris County Board of Taxation met at its office on 30 Schuyler Place, Morristown, New Jersey on January 17, 2019 at 10:00 A.M.

President Kersey presided and Commissioners Dr. DiFazio and Tyson were present. Commissioner Petracca was absent. President Kersey announced that proper and timely notice of the meeting had been posted and filed with the County Clerk, the Daily Record, the Star Ledger and The Record.

Also present: Kim Roggenkamp and Patty Marsh.

Commissioner Kersey inquired as to Tax Administrator Ralph T. Meloro, IV's absence. He asked if any of the other Commissioners were notified by the Administrator that he would not be present at the meeting. Neither Commissioner Dr. DiFazio nor Commissioner Tyson had been informed. Commissioner Kersey stated that he feels that it is disrespectful of Mr. Meloro not to have notified any of his supervisors of his absence especially since the meeting dates were set back in May. Commissioner Kersey continued that as a FULL-TIME Administrator the Board had a right to expect Mr. Meloro to be in attendance at monthly Board meetings.

No one from the public was present. That portion of the meeting devoted to the public was closed.

Minutes: On motion by Commissioner Dr. DiFazio seconded by Commissioner Tyson the minutes of September 20, 2018 were approved as amended. On motion by Commissioner Dr. DiFazio seconded by Commissioner Tyson the minutes of December 20, 2018 were approved.

Business: on Motion by Commissioner Dr. DiFazio seconded by Commissioner Tyson the Board certified the 2019 Tax Lists for all municipalities except Rockaway Township and Roxbury Township. Rockaway Twp. and Roxbury Twp. had previously been granted an extension of time until January 26, 2019 to complete work on their tax lists. The Board will vote to certify those lists via email when they are received by the office.

Commissioner Tyson asked if it was possible that his signature be excluded from any tax appeal

judgments where he did not hear the case going forward. Kim Roggenkamp told him that it was possible. Commissioner Tyson will advise the office how he would like to proceed this appeal season.

A discussion was held concerning the Tax Administrator's office hours and attendance. Commissioner Kersey feels that the Board needs to exercise their authority to supervise the Administrator. He doesn't feel that the Tax Assessors or the Tax Board staff can rely on Mr. Meloro. He feels that the Board needs to be more rigid in making sure that the Administrator works his required hours. Commissioner Tyson asked how long Mr. Meloro had not been working the required hours. Commissioner Dr. DiFazio responded that he will not be part and party to the Administrator's theft of service. Commissioner Kersey reported that in discussions with the Division of Taxation and also the Attorney General's office he was advised that the Board needed to be more involved in supervising the Tax Administrator. Commissioner Tyson said that he feels that Mr. Meloro is abusing the system. Commissioner Dr. DiFazio asked if the Board had the authority to see that the Administrator only gets paid for the hours he actually works unless sick or vacation time is used. After further discussion the Board will draft policies to put in place to ensure closer supervision of the Tax Administrator.

There being no further business, on motion the meeting adjourned at 10:25 A.M.