

### **April 7, 2016 - Board of Equalization Meeting**

The board of equalization meeting was called to order by Francis Burch at 7:04pm at the Bergen Town Hall. Supervisors present were Francis Burch, Albert Teubert and Ryan Ide. Angela Leverich was acting as clerk to take the meeting minutes. Brenda Chmielewski from the Assessor's Office and Shawn McCoi from McLeod County were also present.

Chmielewski gave an update of the sales study from the Assessor's Office. In 2013 and 2014 all the buildings in McLeod County were measured to update the taxes. They looked at all agricultural land to update taxes for 2017. In 1997 soil borings were taken.

It was noted that land in the township for sale doesn't last long on the market, only about 4 weeks.

Thomas Feltmann – Parcel #02.015.0100. He was wondering why his taxes went up. He owns land that is not connected to his homesteaded property so that land has to be classified as "seasonal recreation" or "residential non-homestead". The land consists of cattails and non-tillable. His properties need to be contiguous to all be classified as homestead.

Harlan Mathews – Parcel #02.032.1100. His taxes went up even though the Bergen levy stayed the same. Chmielewski encouraged those with questions to contact her.

Francis Romulad – Parcel #02.017.1400. He was wondering about the value of his property as comparable to his neighbor who just sold his land.

Albert Teubert – Parcel #02.028.0500. He was concerned about a stake that may be misplaced between his land in sections 28 and 33 and that he was paying taxes on his roads. Chmielewski said he was not.

There have been a lot of calls to the Assessor's Office regarding CPI (Crop Production Index) values. They are using aerial photos now to assess.

There were no recommendations.

Burch and Teubert are certified through 7/1/2016. Ide is not certified yet. They may be able to get certified online.

Teubert motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:58pm. Ide seconded the motion, motion carried.

Francis Burch, Chairman

Angela Leverich, Acting Clerk