

**MARYLAND REAL ESTATE COMMISSION**  
**500 North Calvert Street**  
**Baltimore, MD 21202**

Mission: Protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the public  
through examination, licensing, and regulatory activities regarding real estate

**BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**  
**July 19, 2017, 10:30 a.m.**

**Highlights from the meeting:**

- Current license count is 43,390
- Guaranty fund balance for May - \$996,028.39
- Train the Trainer workshops are still being held for the MREC required supervision course

**PRESENT:**

Commissioner J. Nicholas D'Ambrosia, Chair (Industry)  
Commissioner Anne Cook (Industry)  
Commissioner Jeff Wright (Industry)  
Commissioner Owen Taylor (Consumer)  
Commissioner Marla Johnson (Industry)  
Commissioner Karen Baker (Consumer)  
Commissioner Demetria Scott (Industry)  
Commissioner Kambon Williams (Consumer)  
Stewart Cordish, AAG  
Kathrine F. Connelly, Executive Director  
Charlene Faison, Education Director, Session Recorder

**ABSENT:**

Commissioner James Reeder (Consumer)

**PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mark Feinroth, MAR  
Robert Johnston, AACAR

**CALL TO ORDER:**

J. Nicholas D'Ambrosia, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:33 A.M. Chair asked counsel to introduce himself.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Motion** (made by Marla Johnson, seconded by Jeff Wright) **To approve the minutes of the June 21, 2017 business meeting. Unanimous approval.**

**REPORT OF COMPLAINTS/ADMINISTRATIVE DISMISSALS:**

**Motion** (made by Demetria Scott, seconded by Kambon Williams) **To approve the Administrative Dismissals for the month of July 2017. Motion carried.**  
Commissioner Taylor raised question on a case to which it was decided that the language will be updated.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### 1. Education – Jeff Wright

- For the month of June 2017 PSI administered 1038 salesperson and 50 broker exams, compared to 958 salesperson and 62 broker exams in June 2016.

### 2. Legislative – Marla Johnson, Legislative Chair

- No comment from Legislative Chair.
- Ms. Connelly noted that she had received an email that the Governor is asking all boards and commissions to review their regulations. REC has already done that.

## **COMMENTS FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:** Katherine F. Connelly

1. Current license count totals 43,390, of which 4,334 are brokers, 3,070 are associate brokers, 34,920 salespersons. Of the total count, 1,617 are inactive.
2. Guaranty fund balance for June 2017 is \$996,028.36 and \$495.00 was paid out in claims.
3. Ms. Connelly attended several sales meetings and events with various brokers this past month.
4. The Commission has held two Train the Trainer sessions for the required supervision class so far and there are three more to be held. There is plenty of room if any of the Commissioners would like to attend. The remaining dates are July 27 at MAR in Annapolis, August 17 at GBBR in Timonium and September 10 at OC Convention Center during the MAR conference.
5. The next meeting is August 16, 2017

## **COMMENTS FROM COUNSEL:** Stewart Cordish, AAG

1. No comment from counsel.

## **COMMENTS FROM CHAIR:** J. Nicholas D'Ambrosia

- Chair D'Ambrosia is still looking at the issue of earnest money deposits. Industry is looking at the role of title companies and third party vendors that hold earnest money. Commissioner Scott raises concern that no legislation is in place to address this ongoing issue.
- Mark Feinroth, MAR, offers information they're working on language to address earnest money deposits; issues like who holds the money and when does it get returned. They're working with Maryland Land Title on the matter.
- Chair D'Ambrosia has no further news on the selection of a new Executive Director.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- None

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Topic of number of billboard ads that have been appearing was brought up. Ms. Connelly advises if language is correct, as well as the company name and phone numbers then this is acceptable.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:48 A.M. The next monthly business meeting is Wednesday, August 16, 2017.

APPROVED AS PRESENTED \_\_\_\_\_  
J. Nicholas D'Ambrosia, Chairperson

APPROVED AS AMENDED \_\_\_\_\_  
J. Nicholas D'Ambrosia, Chairperson