



Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation
Division of Professional Regulation

ROD BLAGOJEVICH
Governor

Dean Martinez
Secretary

Daniel E. Bluthardt
Director
Division of Professional Regulation

MINUTES
HOME INSPECTOR ADVISORY BOARD
January 23, 2008

The Home Inspector Advisory Board convened at 11:00 a.m. on January 23, 2008, at the Department of Financial & Professional Regulation, 100 West Randolph Street, 9th Floor, Chicago, Illinois 60601 for the purpose of conducting a general business meeting.

The following members were present for all or part of the meeting:

Rob Clause, Member
Rita Starkey, Member
Dana Strumpher, Member

Present for all or part of the meeting was:

Debbie Niemann, Board Liaison
Young Brockhouse, Licensing Manager
Michael Garvin, Acting Chief of Prosecutions
John Botner, Chief of Prosecutions

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made/seconded to approve the July 10, 2007 Illinois Home Inspector Advisory Board Minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD & NEW BUSINESS:

The introduction of all Advisory Board Members was had to the new Real Estate Chief of Prosecutions, John Botner.

New dates for advisory board meeting dates were distributed. It was also announced that any applications for new advisory board members be forwarded to the Director's office in Springfield, along with resumes and background information.

A discussion was had regarding open enforcement cases for home inspection. Currently there are only 13 complaints pending. Debbie Niemann, Administrator for Home Inspection has been assisting the Real Estate Division with over 300 cases that fell into a 2006 CE broker audit. The renewal date for brokers is April 30, 2008, and given the state's understaffed condition, the support was needed.

The advisory board members were informed that back in 2004 there were 4 licensed home inspectors who were female. A check in January 2008 showed only an additional 4.

A discussion was had regarding the pending changes to the Home Inspector Rule. The members were informed that more revisions and added language was stricken/inserted into the new Administrative Rule draft and is pending final review. It was also discussed that some of the advisory board's recommendations on educational matters were not inserted into the draft of the rule. A discussion was had regarding the JCAR process and the IDFPR Legislative Unit process.

The Illinois Radon Awareness Act, which took effect on January 1, 2008, was distributed to the Home Inspector Advisory Board members.

LICENSING:

Mr. Brockhouse, Manager of Licensing distributed an updated license report. Pass rate for the Home Inspector Exam is at 71.9%.

Active Licensee's:	Inspectors	2784
	Entity	476
	Education Providers	46
	Pre-lic courses	50
	CE courses	209

There was a decline in the number of actual licensed home inspectors, compared to last year at this time. Estimated decline amount is 1000.

A discussion was had regarding the internal database for IDFPR, and how it relates to the entire agency. It appears to be close to the old system, however will enable the Real Estate Division to cross-reference other professional licenses one may hold. The conversion process will begin next week.

The Home Inspector Advisory Board member had a brief discussion regarding the Illinois Licensing Exam.

ENFORCEMENT:

Acting Chief of Prosecutions, Mike Garvin gave a report indicating that there are 13 open cases in the Home Inspection Section. Total cases in Investigation for the entire RE Bureau (Home Inspector, Real Estate, Appraisal, Auction, Timeshare and Land Sales) is 1344. Total cases in Legal is 534. There is one Consent Order to present in closed session for a Home Inspector case.

MOTION:

A motion was made/seconded to go into closed session to discuss matters pursuant to the provisions of Section 2 of the Open Public Meetings Act. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION:

A motion was made/seconded to reopen the closed meeting of the Home Inspection Advisory Board. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION:

A motion was made/seconded to ratify the decision to approve the Consent Order as presented for Larry Burks. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Motion made/seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously. The next scheduled meeting of the Home Inspector Advisory Board is March 26, 2008.

APPROVED:

Respectfully submitted,
Home Inspector Advisory Board

Debbie Niemann
Advisory Board Administrator/Liaison

DR:dn