

Wyoming, North Dakota, and South Dakota Chapter

June 30, 2023

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Dear Members,

The Summer months are here, and the Chapter has been busy working on the schedule for continuing education and networking, election of new leadership for 2024, and the exciting preparations for the addition of new members as a result of the formation of a Three-State Chapter, known as the Wyoming, North Dakota, and South Dakota Chapter of the Appraisal Institute (WY/DAK).

Chapter News

Announcing the 2024 WY/DAK Board of Directors

Officers

- Chapter President: Mary Houk, SRA, AI-RRS
- Chapter Vice President: Brooke Newstrom, SRA
- Chapter Secretary/Treasurer: Bob Zabel, Candidate
- Immediate Past Chapter President: Deb Clark, MAI

Region Representative

- Mary Houk, SRA, AI-RRS

Region Representative Alternates

- Brooke Newstrom, SRA
- Deb Clark, MAI
- Lindsey Willis, MAI, AI-GRS
- Brent Brooks, MAI

For Your Information: The following individuals continue to serve on the Board of Directors through December 31, 2024. These positions were not eligible for election.

Board of Directors

- Wade Howie, SRA
- Emily Lucke, Candidate
- Cal Young, MAI

Chapter Education

The WY/DAK leadership and Education Committee members have started the process of examining possible education for delivery to the members of the Chapter. If you have a recommendation for specific appraisal education or a particular appraisal topic that you believe would be beneficial to the members, please submit your

recommendation to Sherry Bren, WY/DAK Executive Director (chapter@wydak-ai.org), Deb Clark, MAI, Chapter President (deb@eval.com), or Brooke Newstrom, SRA, Education Committee Chair (brookenewstrom@gmail.com).

President's Message

As spring turns to summer, I am filled with hope and anticipation that we, as a profession, will embrace the challenges and opportunities available for us to strengthen our profession – both locally and nationally – and ultimately become not only the best appraisers we can be to our clients, but the best colleagues we can be to each other.

Now to that end, we are very excited to welcome our North Dakota and eastern South Dakota brothers and sisters into the proposed realigned WY/DAK (Wyoming, North Dakota, and South Dakota) Chapter of the Appraisal Institute! The creation of this new chapter will allow each of us the opportunity to network with, learn from, lean on, and grow through, others who have experienced and overcome similar challenges that we face appraising in our respective states. We understand that bringing together a group of people from such a large geographic area will present its own logistical challenges, the WY/DAK leadership will work hard to overcome the obstacles and ensure everyone feels closely involved and well represented.

As the recently appointed 2023-2024 Chair of the Government Relations Committee for Region II, I will also be closely following legislation affecting our profession at the local, state, and national levels, across residential, commercial, and agricultural sectors. There are multiple issues currently being debated, with many others in the pipeline, that will be shared at the Chapter level as they arise.

In closing, I would like to thank all of you for giving me the opportunity to serve as President during this important and dynamic period in our chapter's – and indeed, our profession's – history. I would also like to invite all of you to please share your thoughts, your concerns, and most importantly, your ideas with us.

Deb Clark, MAI

2023 WY/DAK Chapter President

National News:

New Website: Our new website is currently being built and is on-track for completion this year! The Phase 1 launch is expected in the Fall of 2023 with a Phase 2 launch in the first half of 2024. The website changes will include, among other things:

* Increase AI brand reputation and awareness

- * Standardize the look and feel across sites by utilizing a content model for consistent, uniform presentation
- * Improve customer experience with a responsive design that renders across size and scale of devices
- * Utilize a consistent taxonomy to deliver content using terms that are relevant to visitors
- * Improve overall usability and reduce complexity of navigation

This is part of the Boards' larger long-term strategic plan to modernize technology. This also includes a rebranding effort to ensure consistent AI branding and messaging. More information relating to the rebranding effort will be forthcoming soon.

AI PAREA: This year, the Appraisal Institute will launch its Practical Applications of Real Estate Appraisal (AI PAREA) program. Modules for both licensed and certified residential will assist aspiring appraisers in their pursuit of licensing and will also assist in removing barriers to entry into the profession. Approval from the AQB for the licensed residential path was received on May 18.

<https://www.appraisalinstitute.org/appraisal-institute-parea-program-receives-approval-from-appraiser-qualifications-board/>

CEO Search: Last November, an announcement was sent to membership that our CEO of many years, Jim Amarin, MAI, SRA, AI-GRS, put in his 90-day notice. Our Acting CEO is Beata Swacha, who also serves as our CFO. A CEO Search Project Team led by Chair Jeffrey Enright, MAI, SRA, AI-GRS, and Vice Chair Misty K, Ray, MAI, AI-GRS, has been created with a charge to identify and recommend to the Board of Directors up to three candidates to serve as Appraisal Institute CEO.

The position is posted on Korn Ferry's website. It can also be found through a link on the AI website under Join Our Team/AI Career Opportunities.

<https://www.appraisalinstitute.org/about/job-opportunities/>

Learn more about the Project Team:

<https://www.appraisalinstitute.org/news/presidents-message-february-2023/>

Residential Appraiser Committee: The Board voted to amend Regulation No. 7 to establish a Residential Appraiser Committee. President Steinley appointed Adam B. Johnston, SRA, AI-RRS, to chair this committee and Maria A. Nucci, SRA, AI-RRS, as vice chair.

National Office Move: Build-out of the new, smaller but more efficient office space at our same location is progressing with a move scheduled for this year.

University Relations: Led by Ryan Zink, MAI, the University Relations Committee is launching a pilot program in August designed to target 12 Universities. The purpose of this initiative is to reach out to students, faculty, and administrators at institutions of higher learning in order to promote and enhance awareness of the Appraisal Institute as a leader in the profession, and opportunities in the valuation profession.

DEI Implementation: In August of 2022 the Board approved a DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) plan. Implementation of this plan is well underway.

AI Board of Directors Takes Key Actions During May Meeting:

Following are some important updates from the latest Board of Directors meeting, held May 11-12, in Chicago.

After considering comments received from AI Professionals, the Board voted to adopt amendments to AI Bylaws and Regulation Nos. 7, 8 and 9 regarding the continuing education program requirement for service.

The Board also:

- Voted to establish a Region Project Team to review Regulation No. 9.
- Voted to amend the criteria for the Women's Initiative SPOTLIGHT Award.
- Voted for the Admissions and Designation Qualifications Committee to review annual income eligibility for Practicing Semi-Retired Designated Member status.
- Voted to provide an electronic copy of Robert's Rules of Order to third regional directors.
- Voted to approve Michael Strong, SRA, to serve a third consecutive term as Alaska Chapter president in 2024.
- Directed to expose for a second time proposed amendments to the Bylaws and Regulation No. 4 regarding Life Membership with additional background and rationale.
- Directed to expose for comment proposed amendments to Regulation Nos. 2 and 3 regarding Residential and Residential Review Experience Requirements.
- Directed to expose for comment proposed amendments to Regulation No. 10 related to Designated Member CE Cycles.
- Approved the appointment of Lindsey M. Willis, MAI, AI-GRS, to the Education Committee for a term running through Dec. 31, 2023.
- The Appraisal Institute also held its Statutory Annual Membership Meeting.

AI Board to Consider 2 Candidates for 2024 Vice President in

August: The Appraisal Institute Board of Directors announced June 14 that they will consider two candidates for the position of 2024 vice president at its Aug. 10-11 meeting in Schaumburg, Illinois. The two

nominees are (in alphabetical order) Michael J. Acquaro-Mignogna, MAI, SRA, AI-GRS; and Claire M. Aufrance, MAI, SRA.

Please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Sherry Bren
Executive Director
WYDAK Chapter

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