

JANUARY “4C” MEETING

The County Computer Coordination Committee met on January 6, 2009, in the Ad Valorem Division for its monthly meeting.

A handout was distributed by Troy Frazier reflecting the function of the Picture Maintenance Utility Program. He covered the newly finished process of linking pictures to CAMA personal property by matching the owner ID number. He stated the program now creates a log file for use by AA to modify its internal catalog file. The program now uploads the first picture from AA to CAMA for every parcel. It reads the situs address from CAMA and adds that as a line to print on the picture. A demonstration of the program will be presented at the CODA meeting in February.

Repeatedly the legislature requests the impact of changes to the freeze percentage. Accurate data must be gathered to make valid projections. Report Writer can be used to extract the data. However, a county must have put in the cap code date, not just the cap code, to generate the property numbers. A step-by-step instruction has been provided, but some found it to be complicated. Those who have gone through the process found the number generated matched the county report very closely.

It is advised that history should be left on each parcel unless there was a good reason to remove it. If left alone, transaction dates will always be available.

Work is being done on the draw screen regarding angles. A fix is being provided for the land screen to correct it from throwing in several leading zeros in the land units.

The OTC staff is gathering documentation and putting it together in a way that new employees will find useful. Some information regarding CAMA utilities was provided at the computer classes, so it may be that some do not have all of it. Some processes have had changes including those for data entry of transfers and sales. Assessors commented they date documentation as they receive it so as to know what the latest revisions are. Some add their own notes.

Scott Warren said the counties can still maintain their pictures in AA the same way as before, if they choose. However, the current AA program will not control the size of the pictures as the CAMA utility program will. When the OTC staff comes around to install the program, the CCAP team does not have to be there at the same time. They can do that part later.

The OTC team is working on audit data extraction. Scott was working on separating out the extraction process into another program. In order for this to work properly, the 2.8 version of AA is needed.

Carol Bomhoff commented on the importance of good documentation. Even with instructions, some can get it incorrect. CCAP is working to keep on top of the updates and encourages all to keep the update information in the binder that was provided.

Veterans cannot file for preceding year's exemptions. They can, however, make application for the current year anytime during the year, even December 31. Homestead and other exemptions have filing deadlines. Only the veteran exemptions have no deadline except it must be done in that year. This will be explained at the CODA meeting in February.

Kenny gave an update regarding the Creek Nation which will be trying to change to in-lieu payments to school districts and counties instead of a straight ad valorem tax.

It's still agreed that when buying a new computer, one should opt for an XP instead of Vista.

The next meeting of the 4C committee will be February 10, 2009, at 10:00 a.m. at the Biltmore Hotel. This is in conjunction with the CODA winter conference.