

STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

450 N STREET, SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA PO BOX 942879, SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 94279-0080 (916) 322-2270 • FAX (916) 324-3984 www.boe.ca.gov SEN. GEORGE RUNNER (Ret.) First District, Lancaste

FIONA MA, CPA Second District, San Francisco

JEROME E. HORTON Third District, Los Angeles County

> DIANE L. HARKEY Fourth District, Orange County

> > BETTY T. YEE State Controller

CYNTHIA BRIDGES
Executive Director

## STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION MEETING 5901 Green Valley Circle, Room 207, Culver City November 17-18, 2015

#### PRELIMINARY RECORD OF BOARD ACTIONS

Tuesday, November 17, 2015

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## **Board Committee Meeting**

Customer Service and Administrative Efficiency Committee

# **Board Meeting**

- A. Homeowner and Renter Property Tax Assistance Appeals Hearings There are no items for this matter.
- B. Corporate Franchise and Personal Income Tax Appeals Hearings

B1. Robert H. Lowe and Sheryl L. Berkoff, 571973

|   | <u>DECISION</u>             | <u>MEMBER</u>        | BOARD VOTE |
|---|-----------------------------|----------------------|------------|
| ١ | Taxpayers' appeal partially | Mr. Horton           | Yes        |
|   | granted/denied.             | Ms. Harkey           | Yes        |
|   |                             | Mr. Runner           | Yes        |
|   |                             | Ms. Ma               | Yes        |
|   |                             | Ms. Yee/ Ms. Stowers | Yes        |

B2. Maria Phillips (Santamaria-Del Campo) and Michael Del Campo, 741179

| <u>DECISION</u>           | MEMBER               | BOARD VOTE |
|---------------------------|----------------------|------------|
| Taxpayers' appeal denied. | Mr. Horton           | Yes        |
|                           | Ms. Harkey           | Yes        |
|                           | Mr. Runner           | Yes        |
|                           | Ms. Ma               | Yes        |
|                           | Ms. Yee/ Ms. Stowers | Yes        |

B3. Gregory Wimmer, 842007

B4a. Richard Schotts, Jr., 798666

B4b. Andrea Schotts, 800099

B5a. William R. Dobkin and Donya Dobkin, 728014

B5b. Deborah M. Dobkin, 725828

| <u>DECISION</u>             | <u>MEMBER</u>        | BOARD VOTE |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|------------|
| Taxpayers' appeal partially | Mr. Horton           | Yes        |
| granted/denied.             | Ms. Harkey           | Yes        |
|                             | Mr. Runner           | Yes        |
|                             | Ms. Ma               | Yes        |
|                             | Ms. Yee/ Ms. Stowers | Yes        |

B6. Larry Russ, 731267

B7. Cesar Z. Lugo, 790947

B8. Best RV & Self Storage, LLC, 856099

B9. Joseph A. Sciarretta, 809250

B10. John M. Callaghan and Doris K. Callaghan, 843533

# C. Sales and Use Tax Appeals Hearing

C1. Ronald J. Blomquist, 467934, 565903 (FH)

| DECISION  | <u>MEMBER</u>        | BOARD VOTE |
|---|----------------------|------------|
| Taxpayer's petition/claim partially   | Mr. Horton           | Yes        |
| granted/denied.   | Ms. Harkey           | Yes        |
| The Board approved staff's revised  | Mr. Runner           | Yes        |
| recommendation.   | Ms. Ma               | Yes        |
| The Board directed staff to inform the taxpayer of the Offer in Compromise program. | Ms. Yee/ Ms. Stowers | Yes        |

#### D. Special Taxes Appeals Hearing

This item is scheduled for Wednesday, November 18, 2015.

E. Property Tax Appeals Hearing
There are no items for this matter.

## F. Public Hearing

F1. Proposed Amendments to Sales and Use Tax Regulation 1525.4, *Manufacturing and Research & Development Equipment* 

| DECISION                  | MEMBER               | BOARD VOTE |
|---------------------------|----------------------|------------|
| Adopted the amendments as | Mr. Horton           | No         |
| published.                | Ms. Harkey           | Yes        |
|                           | Mr. Runner           | Yes        |
|                           | Ms. Ma               | Yes        |
|                           | Ms. Yee/ Ms. Stowers | No         |

## **G.** Tax Program Nonappearance Matters – Consent

G1. Legal Appeals Matters

| DECISION                        | <u>MEMBER</u>        | BOARD VOTE |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|------------|
| Approved staff recommendations. | Mr. Horton           | Yes        |
|                                 | Ms. Harkey           | Yes        |
|                                 | Mr. Runner           | Yes        |
|                                 | Ms. Ma               | Yes        |
|                                 | Ms. Yee/ Ms. Stowers | Yes        |

- Hearing Notice Sent No Response
  - 1. Agean Group, LLC, 729924 (EA)
  - 2. Cathedral City Ventures, LLC, 613621, 742660 (EH)
  - 3. Andrew Churukian, 780460 (UT)
  - 4. Coronado Business Supplies, 568083 (FH)
  - 5. Coronado Business Supplies, LLC, 568082 (FH)
  - 6. Federated Auction Systems, Inc., 328471, 328474 (EH)
  - 7. Federated Public Auction Agency of San Jose, Inc., 328469, 328479 (GH)
  - 8. Federated Public Auction Agency of Upland, Inc., 328505, 328512 (EH)
  - 9. Gerardo Herrera, 736765 (FH)
  - 10. Just Livin' The Dream, Inc., 763609 (EH)
  - 11. Ravinder Kaur, 713053 (EH)
  - 12. Sabina Khatun Khan, 609760 (EH)
  - 13. L.A. Liquidators, Inc., 328467, 341048 (AS)
  - 14. Liquor Castle, Inc., 627014 (AC)
  - 15. Migz Graphics and Printing, Inc., 611751 (AP)
  - 16a. Om Namah Shivam, Inc., 394740 (EH)
  - 16b. Om Namah Shivam, Inc., 727104 (EH)
  - 17. Pollo Amigo, 803427 (EA)
  - 18. James Paul Ramsey, 597044 (AA)
  - 19. Bijan Sharifi, 328545, 328546, 328547, 328548, 328549, 328550, 328551, 359618 (EH)
- > Petition for Release of Seized Property
  - 20. Rouhollah Nowrouzi, 916384 (STF)
- Petitions for Rehearing
  - 21. G & C Equipment Corporation, 373826 (AS)
  - 22. Azim Shaalemi, 521073 (AC)

#### G2. Franchise and Income Tax Matters

| <u>DECISION</u>                 | MEMBER               | BOARD VOTE |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|------------|
| Approved staff recommendations. | Mr. Horton           | Yes        |
|                                 | Ms. Harkey           | Yes        |
|                                 | Mr. Runner           | Yes        |
|                                 | Ms. Ma               | Yes        |
|                                 | Ms. Yee/ Ms. Stowers | Yes        |

- Hearing Notice Sent No Response
  - 1. Toni M. Ognibene, 607091
- Decisions
  - 2. Margaret Albertson and John Albertson, 837570
  - 3. Francisco Alvarez, 852205
  - 4. Brett Burton, 840587
  - 5. Edward J. Carroll and Joan L. Carroll, 809823
  - 6. Connie Carter, 796767
  - 7. CSL Behring, LLC, 837577
  - 8. Karen Douglas and Estate of Richard J. Ellis (Dec'd), 843527
  - 9. Ramiro Flores, 841005
  - 10. Dwayne L. Free, 815443
  - 11. Lauren L. Johnson, 826596
  - 12. Jeremy Oranje, 856316
  - 13. Pitney Bowes, Inc., 625617
  - 14. Mark Rivest, 841194
  - 15a. Darren R. Saville, 799683
  - 15b. Michael S. Saville and Roberta S. Saville, 800046
- Petitions for Rehearing
  - 16. Clifford L. Marshall and Deanna R. Marshall, 816195
  - 17. Ruben Moriel and Diane Moriel, 797314
- G3. Homeowner and Renter Property Tax Assistance Matters There are no items for this matter.

#### G4. Sales and Use Taxes Matters

| <u>DECISION</u>                 | <u>MEMBER</u>        | BOARD VOTE |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|------------|
| Approved staff recommendations. | Mr. Horton           | Yes        |
|                                 | Ms. Harkey           | Yes        |
|                                 | Mr. Runner           | Yes        |
|                                 | Ms. Ma               | Yes        |
|                                 | Ms. Yee/ Ms. Stowers | Yes        |

- Redeterminations
  - 1. Children's Hospital of Los Angeles, 869257 (AC)
  - 2. Alla S. Filmus, 835536 (BH)
  - 3. GE-Prolec Transformers, Inc., 602987 (OH)
  - 4. A & J Assembly, Inc., 668215 (GH)
  - 5. Ameripride Services, Inc., 733846 (OH)
  - 6. Expotechnik Limited Partnership, 603236 (OH)

- Denials of Claims for Refund
  - 7. Logitech, Inc., 839868 (CH)
  - 8. Federal Express Corporation, 812266 (OH)
  - 9. Kraft Foods Group, Inc., 863664 (OH)
- Grant-One Day Interest Relief
  - 10. A & L Equipment, Inc., 915810 (DF)
  - 11. Anthony Joe Lewis, 915811 (KH)
- G5. Sales and Use Taxes Matters Credits, Cancellations, and Refunds

|   | <u>DECISION</u>                 | <u>MEMBER</u>        | BOARD VOTE |
|---|---------------------------------|----------------------|------------|
|   | Approved staff recommendations. | Mr. Horton           | Yes        |
|   |                                 | Ms. Harkey           | Yes        |
|   |                                 | Mr. Runner           | Yes        |
| • |                                 | Ms. Ma               | Yes        |
|   |                                 | Ms. Yee/ Ms. Stowers | Yes        |

- Credits and Cancellations
  - 1. Larry Sault, 627495 (EH)
  - 2. Mitra Jarrahzadeh, 914106 (AA)
  - 3. Pavers Etc., Inc., 914403 (EH)
- Refunds
  - 4. Unisource Worldwide, Inc., 908335 (OH)
  - 5. Wells Fargo Bank, National Assn., 558357 (OH)
  - 6. Capri Sun, Inc., 862297 (OH)
  - 7. County Riverside Auditor-Controller, 744614 (EH)
  - 8. Federal Express Corporation, 812266 (OH)
  - 9. Chevrolet Motor Division, 910376 (OH)
  - 10. Tata Technologies, Inc., 574178 (OH)
  - 11. Kraft Foods Group, Inc., 863664 (OH)
  - 12. Lobel Financial Corporation, 876288 (EA)
  - 13. Medcal Sales, LLC, 850946 (EH)
  - 14. Harley-Davidson Credit Corp., 876292 (OH)
  - 15. First American Title Insurance Company, 569009 (EA)
  - 16. Disney Online, 850304 (OH)
  - 17. U.S. Bank National Association ND, 745136 (OH)
- G6. Special Taxes Matters

There are no items for this matter.

G7. Special Taxes Matters – Credits, Cancellations, and Refunds

| <u>DECISION</u>         | <u>MEMBER</u>        | <b>BOARD VOTE</b> |
|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| No final determination. | Mr. Horton           |                   |
|                         | Ms. Harkey           |                   |
|                         | Mr. Runner           |                   |
|                         | Ms. Ma               |                   |
|                         | Ms. Yee/ Ms. Stowers |                   |

- Refunds
  - 1. GFBC, Inc., 845603 (STF) 'CF'

There are no items for the following matters:

- G8. Property Tax Matters
- G9. Cigarette License Fee Matters

G10. Legal Appeals Property Tax Matters

| <u>DECISION</u>                | <u>MEMBER</u>        | BOARD VOTE        |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Approved staff recommendation. | Mr. Horton           | Yes               |
| No final determination on      | Ms. Harkey           | Yes               |
| sub-items 2 and 3.             | Mr. Runner           | Yes               |
|                                | Ms. Ma               | Yes               |
|                                | Ms. Yee/ Ms. Stowers | Not participating |

- Petitions for Reassessment of Unitary Value
  - 1. La Paloma Generating Company, LLC (1112), 901576 'CF'
  - 2. Verizon California, Inc. (201), 903737 'CF'
- Petition for Penalty Abatement on Unitary Value
  - 3. SES Americom California, Inc. (7621), 908059 'CF'

# H. Tax Program Nonappearance Matters – Adjudicatory

- H1. Legal Appeals Matters
  - ➤ Hearing Notice Sent No Response
    - 1. California Restaurant Authority, Inc., 485060 (AC)

| DECISIO                | <u>N</u> | <u>MEMBER</u>        | BOARD VOTE |
|------------------------|----------|----------------------|------------|
| Taxpayer's petition pa | artially | Mr. Horton           | Yes        |
| granted/denied.        |          | Ms. Harkey           | Yes        |
|                        |          | Mr. Runner           | Yes        |
|                        |          | Ms. Ma               | Yes        |
|                        |          | Ms. Yee/ Ms. Stowers | Yes        |

2. Haja, LLC, 674641 (AS)

| <u>DECISION</u>               | <u>MEMBER</u>        | BOARD VOTE |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|------------|
| Taxpayer's partially petition | Mr. Horton           | Yes        |
| granted/denied.               | Ms. Harkey           | Yes        |
|                               | Mr. Runner           | Yes        |
|                               | Ms. Ma               | Yes        |
|                               | Ms. Yee/ Ms. Stowers | Yes        |

3. Hezghiahoo Aharon Investment, Inc., 611158 (AR)

| <u>DECISION</u>             | <u>MEMBER</u>        | BOARD VOTE |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|------------|
| Taxpayer's petition denied. | Mr. Horton           | Yes        |
|                             | Ms. Harkey           | Yes        |
|                             | Mr. Runner           | Yes        |
|                             | Ms. Ma               | Yes        |
|                             | Ms. Yee/ Ms. Stowers | Yes        |

#### H2. Franchise and Income Tax Matters

Section 40 (AB 2323) Matter

1. Unified Precious Metals, Inc., 606172

| DECISION                         | MEMBER               | BOARD VOTE |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|------------|
| The Board adopted the written    | Mr. Horton           | Yes        |
| summary decision as presented by | Ms. Harkey           | No         |
| staff.                           | Mr. Runner           | No         |
|                                  | Ms. Ma               | Yes        |
|                                  | Ms. Yee/ Ms. Stowers | Yes        |

There are no items for the following matters:

- H3. Homeowner and Renter Property Tax Assistance Matters
- H4. Sales and Use Taxes Matters
- H5. Sales and Use Taxes Matters Credits, Cancellations, and Refunds
- H6. Special Taxes Matters
- H7. Special Taxes Matters Credits, Cancellations, and Refunds
- H8. Property Tax Matters
- H9. Cigarette License Fee Matter
- H10. Legal Appeals Property Tax Matters

## I. Tax Program Nonappearance Matters

Property Taxes Matters
 There are no items for this matter.

12. Offer in Compromise Recommendations

| Ī | <u>DECISION</u>                 | <u>MEMBER</u>        | BOARD VOTE |
|---|---------------------------------|----------------------|------------|
|   | Approved staff recommendations. | Mr. Horton           | Yes        |
|   | No final determination on       | Ms. Harkey           | Yes        |
|   | sub-item 1.                     | Mr. Runner           | Yes        |
|   |                                 | Ms. Ma               | Yes        |
|   |                                 | Ms. Yee/ Ms. Stowers | Yes        |

- 1. 420 For The People Cooperative, Inc.
- 2. Samir Rizk Abbushi
- 3. Anna Reina Caballero
- 4a. Robert T. De Castro
- 4b. Alive and Well, Inc.
- 5. Remik Davoodi Chigani
- 6a. Constable Jack's, LLC
- 6b. Timothy G. Looper
- 6c. Jacquelin Looper
- 7a. Thomas Dean Franciskovich
- 7b. Colorworks Printing, Inc.
- 8. Brian Henry Jones
- 9a. Rodney M. Maister
- 9b. Rancho Barbeques, Inc.
- 9c. Maister Enterprises, Inc.

- 10. Michael David Olivetti
- 11. Karl Heinz Sabarth
- 12. Gordgi Safarian
- 13. Asish Singh
- 14. Stella Sutton
- Local Tax Reallocation Matters
   There are no items for this matter.

#### **Chief Counsel Matters**

There are no items for the following matters:

- J. Rulemaking
- K. Business Taxes
- L. Property Taxes
- M. Other Chief Counsel Matters

#### **Administrative Session**

N. Consent Agenda

| <u>DECISION</u>                 | <u>MEMBER</u>        | BOARD VOTE |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|------------|
| Approved staff recommendations. | Mr. Horton           | Yes        |
|                                 | Ms. Harkey           | Yes        |
|                                 | Mr. Runner           | Yes        |
|                                 | Ms. Ma               | Yes        |
|                                 | Ms. Yee/ Ms. Stowers | Yes        |

- N1. Retirement Resolutions
  - K. John Emmett
  - Tze-Ming Lau
  - James M. Njiiri
  - Neil Shah
- N2. Approval of the 2016 Timberland Production Zone Values
- N3. Approval of Assessors' Handbook Section 581, Equipment and Fixtures Index, Percent Good and Valuation Factors
- N4. Proposed revisions to Compliance Policy and Procedures Manual (CPPM) Chapter 1, *General*; Chapter 7, *Collections*; Chapter 8, *Consumer Use Tax*; and Chapter 9, *Miscellaneous*
- N5. Proposed revisions to Audit Manual (AM) Chapter 2, *Preparation of Field Audit Reports* and Compliance Policy and Procedures Manual (CPPM) Chapter 7, *Collections*

# O. Adoption of Board Committee Report and Approval of Committee Actions

O1. Customer Service and Administrative Efficiency Committee

| DECISION   | <u>MEMBER</u>        | BOARD VOTE |
|--|----------------------|------------|
| Adopted committee report and                               | Mr. Horton           | Yes        |
| approved the actions therein as reflected by the committee | Ms. Harkey           | Yes        |
| members' votes.  | Mr. Runner           | Yes        |
| For details see:   | Ms. Ma               | Yes        |
| www.boe.ca.gov/meetings/custsrv/                           | Ms. Yee/ Ms. Stowers | Yes        |
| custsrv15.htm  |                      |            |

#### P. Other Administrative Matters

- P1. Executive Director's Report
  - 1. CROS Project Update and Actions
- P2. Chief Counsel Report

There are no items for this matter.

- P3. Special Taxes and Fees Deputy Director's Report
  - 1. Effects of Proposition 10 on Cigarette and Tobacco Products Consumption

| <u>DECISION</u>                | <u>MEMBER</u>        | BOARD VOTE |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|------------|
| Approved staff recommendation. | Mr. Horton           | Yes        |
|                                | Ms. Harkey           | Yes        |
|                                | Mr. Runner           | Yes        |
|                                | Ms. Ma               | Yes        |
|                                | Ms. Yee/ Ms. Stowers | Yes        |

There are no items for the following matters:

- P4. Property Tax Deputy Director's Report
- P5. Administration Deputy Director's Report
- P6. Technology Deputy Director's Report
- P7. External Affairs Deputy Director's Report

#### Q. Closed Session



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# C. Sales and Use Tax Appeals Hearings

C2. Stainless Fixtures, Inc., 505327 (AP)

|   | <u>DECISION</u>   | <u>MEMBER</u>        | BOARD VOTE |
|---|---|----------------------|------------|
|   | No final Board determination.                                     | Mr. Horton           | Yes        |
| ١ | The Board ordered that the hearing                                | Ms. Harkey           | Yes        |
|   | be continued to a later date,                                     | Mr. Runner           | Yes        |
|   | granting the petitioner 30 days to file supporting documents, the | Ms. Ma               | Yes        |
| Ш | Department 30 days to respond,                                    | Ms. Yee/ Ms. Stowers | Yes        |
|   | and the Appeals Division 30 days                                  |                      |            |
|   | thereafter to review the parties' submissions and provide its     |                      |            |
|   | recommendation to the Board.                                      |                      |            |

C3. Johnny Zegarra, 600482 (AA)

C4. Arturo Rojas Castaneda, 556722 (EH)

C5. Richard Clark Farrell, 600710 (EA)

C6. Port Petroleum, Inc., 474336, 551074 (AA)

| DECISION                            | <u>MEMBER</u>        | BOARD VOTE |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|------------|
| Taxpayer's petition/claim partially | Mr. Horton           | Yes        |
| granted/denied.                     | Ms. Harkey           | Yes        |
| The Board relieved all interest.    | Mr. Runner           | Yes        |
|                                     | Ms. Ma               | Yes        |
|                                     | Ms. Yee/ Ms. Stowers | Yes        |

# D. Special Taxes Appeals HearingPetition for Release of Seized Property Hearing

D1. Almond Corporation, 867053 (STF)

| DECISION                    | MEMBER               | BOARD VOTE |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|------------|
| Taxpayer's petition denied. | Mr. Horton           | Yes        |
|                             | Ms. Harkey           | Yes        |
|                             | Mr. Runner           | Yes        |
|                             | Ms. Ma               | Yes        |
|                             | Ms. Yee/ Ms. Stowers | Yes        |