

CHAPTER 274

ASSESSMENTS; REVIEW, CORRECTION,
EQUALIZATION

274.01 Board of review.

274.14 Length of session; record.

274.01 BOARD OF REVIEW.

Subdivision 1. **Ordinary board; meetings, deadlines, grievances.** (a) The town board of a town, or the council or other governing body of a city, is the board of review except in cities whose charters provide for a board of equalization. The county assessor shall fix a day and time when the board or the board of equalization shall meet in the assessment districts of the county. On or before February 15 of each year the assessor shall give written notice of the time to the city or town clerk. Notwithstanding the provisions of any charter to the contrary, the meetings must be held between April 1 and May 31 each year. The clerk shall give published and posted notice of the meeting at least ten days before the date of the meeting. If in any county, at least 25 percent of the total net tax capacity of a city or town is noncommercial seasonal residential recreational property classified under section 273.13, subdivision 25, the county must hold two countywide informational meetings on Saturdays. The meetings will allow noncommercial seasonal residential recreational taxpayers to discuss their property valuation with the appropriate assessment staff. These Saturday informational meetings must be scheduled to allow the owner of the noncommercial seasonal residential recreational property the opportunity to attend one of the meetings prior to the scheduled board of review for their city or town. The Saturday meeting dates must be contained on the notice of valuation of real property under section 273.121. The board shall meet at the office of the clerk to review the assessment and classification of property in the town or city. No changes in valuation or classification which are intended to correct errors in judgment by the county assessor may be made by the county assessor after the board of review or the county board of equalization has adjourned; however, corrections of errors that are merely clerical in nature or changes that extend homestead treatment to property are permitted after adjournment until the tax extension date for that assessment year. The changes must be fully documented and maintained in the assessor's office and must be available for review by any person. A copy of the changes made during this period must be sent to the county board no later than December 31 of the assessment year.

(b) The board shall determine whether the taxable property in the town or city has been properly placed on the list and properly valued by the assessor. If real or personal property has been omitted, the board shall place it on the list with its market value, and correct the assessment so that each tract or lot of real property, and each article, parcel, or class of personal property, is entered on the assessment list at its market value. No assessment of the property of any person may be raised unless the person has been duly notified of the intent of the board to do so. On application of any person feeling aggrieved, the board shall review the assessment or classification, or both, and correct it as appears just.

(c) A local board of review may reduce assessments upon petition of the taxpayer but the total reductions must not reduce the aggregate assessment made by the county assessor by more than one percent. If the total reductions would lower the aggregate assessments made by the county assessor by more than one percent, none of the adjustments may be made. The assessor shall correct any clerical errors or double assessments discovered by the board of review without regard to the one percent limitation.

(d) A majority of the members may act at the meeting, and adjourn from day to day until they finish hearing the cases presented. The assessor shall attend, with the assessment books and papers, and take part in the proceedings, but must not vote. The county assessor, or an assistant delegated by the county assessor shall attend the meetings. The board shall list separately, on a form appended to the assessment book, all omitted property added to the list by the board and all items of property increased or decreased, with the market value of each item of property, added or changed by the board, placed opposite the item. The county assessor shall enter all changes made by the board in the assessment book.

(e) If a person fails to appear in person, by counsel, or by written communication before the board after being duly notified of the board's intent to raise the assessment of the property, or if a person feeling aggrieved by an assessment or classification fails to apply for a review of the assessment or classification, the person may not appear before the county board of equalization for a review of the assessment or classification. This paragraph does not apply if an assessment was made after the board meeting, as provided in section 273.01, or if the person can establish not having received notice of market value at least five days before the local board of review meeting.

(f) The board of review or the board of equalization must complete its work and adjourn within 20 days from the time of convening stated in the notice of the clerk, unless a longer period is approved by the commissioner of revenue. No action taken after that date is valid. All complaints about an assessment or classification made after the meeting of the board must be heard and determined by the county board of equalization. A nonresident may, at any time, before the meeting of the board of review file written objections to an assessment or classification with the county assessor. The objections must be presented to the board of review at its meeting by the county assessor for its consideration.

[For text of subd 2, see M.S.1994]

History: 1995 c 264 art 3 s 13

274.14 LENGTH OF SESSION; RECORD.

The county board of equalization or the special board of equalization appointed by it shall meet during the last ten meeting days in June. For this purpose, "meeting days" are defined as any day of the week excluding Saturday and Sunday. The board may meet on any ten consecutive meeting days in June, after the second Friday in June, if the actual meeting dates are contained on the valuation notices mailed to each property owner in the county under section 273.121. No action taken by the county board of review after June 30 is valid, except for corrections permitted in sections 273.01 and 274.01. The county auditor shall keep an accurate record of the proceedings and orders of the board. The record must be published like other proceedings of county commissioners. A copy of the published record must be sent to the commissioner of revenue, with the abstract of assessment required by section 274.16.

History: 1995 c 264 art 11 s 5