

MINNESOTA METRO PREP MEETING MINUTES
February 11, 2009
First American Title-France Place, Bloomington

The meeting was called to order by Jennifer Wagenius.

Introductions were made.

We began with the PRIA PREP Law Enforcement Collaboration Program and the FBI Mortgage Fraud Presentation. Speakers included Jennifer Khan-FBI Special Agent 612-376-3200, Christie Kroells-US Postal Inspector 877-876-2455, Mike Cunniff-Hennepin County Recorder, Amy Roble-First American, Mark Schroeder-attorney with Briggs and Morgan, Glenn Miller-Hennepin County Attorney, Terry Refshaw-title company, and Joe Dixon with the US Attorney's Office-District of Minnesota 612-664-5600. Minnesota is in the top 10 states for mortgage fraud. There were 20,404 mortgage foreclosures in Minnesota in 2007. It is projected that 2008 had 28,282. There has been a 526% increase in mortgage fraud from 2003 to mid 2008. They discussed the T.J. Waconia investigation in Roseville. It involved 162 homes. They are watching for new types of mortgage fraud-possibly rent to own schemes. These are usually white collar crimes, but gangs are becoming involved.

The minutes of the December 4, 2008 meeting were approved.

UNFINISHED/ONGOING BUSINESS

*ERERC is identifying data elements for the uniform conveyancing forms. 42 counties are on-line for e-recording. Dakota County plans to go live with ECRV in May/June. Hennepin County will be next.

*MLTA is following bills relating to foreclosures. They will oppose the \$15 and \$4 additional recording fees.

*Barb Gilmore states she has been connected with all the PREP chapters in Minnesota. She is looking for a list of title companies to invite to the PREP meetings. Their spring seminar will be April 6, 2009 in St. Cloud. They are showing support for the local food shelves by asking for donations at their meetings.

*MLTA website lists defunct underwriters. It also lists all the PREP meetings.

*MN Bar is opposed to additional recording fees. They are working on issues dealing with TODDs and CICCT certificate issues.

*M.S.580.25-which counties are charging? Washington, Ramsey and Dakota.

NEW BUSINESS

*M.S. 273.13 Subd. 34-tax exemption for veterans. How do county tax screens show this? Dakota displays. Ramsey lists.

*Stearns County Recorder's office will be on Landshark March 1st.

*Hennepin County is having problems scanning mortgage foreclosure publisher's affidavits and bankruptcy docs. They are hard to read and odd sized. Possibly we can work with Finance and Commerce Dept and this will be brought back to the table at the next meeting.

*There have not been a lot of comments regarding the County Questionnaire. If you want something added, please submit to Darlene Missler or Jennifer Wagenius by March 15th.

NOTE: CHANGES FOR THE NEXT 2 MEETINGS-

April 9th at Ridgedale Library

June 11th at Ridgedale Library

(due to conflicts with ERERC)

Aug 13, Oct 8, Dec 10 all at First American in France Place.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathryn Conlon

Nicollet County Recorder