## Preface

The requirements for the assessment of real property for the purposes of property taxation are found in Nebraska law. The Constitution of Nebraska requires that "taxes shall be levied by valuation uniformly and proportionately upon all real property and franchises as defined by the Legislature except as otherwise provided in or permitted by this Constitution." Neb. Const. art. VIII, sec. 1 (1) (1998). The uniform standard for the assessed value of real property for tax purposes is actual value, which is defined by law as "the market value of real property in the ordinary course of trade." Neb. Rev. Stat. §77-112 (R.R.S., 2003). The assessment level for all real property, except agricultural land and horticultural land, is one hundred percent of actual value. The assessment level for agricultural land and horticultural land, hereinafter referred to as agricultural land, is seventy-five percent of actual value. Neb. Rev. Stat. §77-201 (1) and (2)(R.S. Supp., 2006). More importantly, for purposes of equalization, similar properties must be assessed at the same proportion of actual value when compared to each other. Achieving the constitutional requirement of proportionality ultimately ensures the balance equity in the imposition of the property tax by local units of government on each parcel of real property.

The assessment process, implemented under the authority of the county assessor, seeks to value similarly classed properties at the same proportion to actual value. This is not a precise mathematical process, but instead depends on the judgment of the county assessor, based on his or her analysis of relevant factors that affect the actual value of real property. Nebraska law provides ranges of acceptable levels of value that must be met to achieve the uniform and proportionate valuation of classes and subclasses of real property in each county. Neb. Rev. Stat. §77-5023 (R.S. Supp., 2006) requires that all classes of real property, except agricultural land, be assessed within the range of ninety-two and one hundred percent of actual value; the class of agricultural land be assessed within the range of sixty-nine to seventy-five percent of actual value; the class of agricultural land receiving special valuation be assessed within the range sixty-nine to seventy-five percent of its special value; and, when the land is disqualified for special value the recapture value be assessed at actual value.

To ensure that the classes of real property are assessed at these required levels of actual value, the Department of Property Assessment and Taxation, hereinafter referred to as the Department, under the direction of the Property Tax Administrator, is annually responsible for analyzing and measuring the assessment performance of each county. This responsibility includes requiring the Property Tax Administrator to prepare statistical and narrative reports for the Tax Equalization and Review Commission, hereinafter referred to as the Commission, and the county assessors. Pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §77-5027 (R.S. Supp., 2005):
(2) ... the Property Tax Administrator shall prepare and deliver to the commission and to each county assessor his or her annual reports and opinions.
(3) The annual reports and opinions of the Property Tax Administrator shall contain statistical and narrative reports informing the commission of the level of value and the quality of assessment of the classes and subclasses of real property within the county and a certification of the opinion of the Property Tax

Administrator regarding the level of value and quality of assessment of the classes and subclasses of real property in the county.
(4) In addition to an opinion of level of value and quality of assessment in the county, the Property Tax Administrator may make nonbinding recommendations for consideration by the commission.

The narrative and statistical reports contained in the Reports and Opinions of the Property Tax Administrator, hereinafter referred to as the R\&O, provide a thorough, concise analysis of the assessment process implemented by each county assessor to reach the levels of value and quality of assessment required by Nebraska law. The Property Tax Administrator's opinion of level of value and quality of assessment achieved by each county assessor is a conclusion based upon all the data provided by the county assessor and gathered by the Department regarding the assessment activities during the preceding year. This is done in recognition of the fact that the measurement of assessment compliance, in terms of the concepts of actual value and uniformity and proportionality mandated by Nebraska law, requires both statistical and narrative analysis.

The Department is required by Neb. Rev. Stat. §77-1327 (R. S. Supp., 2005) to develop and maintain a state-wide sales file of all arm's length transactions. From this sales file the Department prepares an assessment sales ratio study in compliance with acceptable mass appraisal standards. The assessment sales ratio study is the primary mass appraisal performance evaluation tool. From the sales file, the Department prepares statistical analysis from a nonrandomly selected set of observations, known as sales, from which inferences about the population, known as a class or subclass of real property, may be drawn. The statistical reports contained in the R\&O are developed in compliance with standards developed by the International Association of Assessing Officers, hereinafter referred to as the IAAO.

However, just as the valuation of property is sometimes more art than science, a narrative analysis of assessment practices in each county is necessary to give proper context to the statistical inferences from the assessment sales ratio study. There may be instances when the analysis of assessment practices outweighs or limits the reliability of the statistical inferences of central tendency or quality measures. This may require an opinion of the level of value that is not identical to the result of the statistical calculation. The Property Tax Administrator's goal is to provide statistical and narrative analysis of the assessment level and practices to the Commission, providing the Commission with the most complete picture possible of the true level of value and quality of assessment in each county.

The Property Tax Administrator's opinions of level of value and quality of assessment are stated as a single numeric representation for level of value and a simple judgment regarding the quality of assessment practices. Based on the information collected in developing this report the Property Tax Administrator may feel further recommendations must be stated for a county to assist the Commission in determining the level of value and quality of assessment within a county. These opinions are made only after considering all narrative and statistical analysis provided by the county assessor and gathered by the Department. An evaluation of these opinions must only be made after considering all other information provided in the R\&O.

Finally, after reviewing all of the information available to the Property Tax Administrator regarding the level and quality of assessment for classes and subclasses of real property in each county, the Property Tax Administrator, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §77-5027(4) (R.S. Supp., 2005), may make recommendations for adjustments to value for classes and subclasses of property. All of the factors relating to the Property Tax Administrator's determination of level of value and quality of assessment shall be taken into account in the making of such recommendations. Such recommendations are not binding on the Commission.

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## 2007 Commission Summary

91 Webster
Commercial Real Property - Current

| Number of Sales |  | $\mathbf{1 8}$ | COD | $\mathbf{6 . 9 4}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Total Sales Price | $\$$ | 928900 | PRD | $\mathbf{1 0 2 . 2 1}$ |
| Total Adj. Sales Price | $\$$ | 625550 | COV | 11.94 |
| Total Assessed Value | $\$$ | 599370 | STD | 11.70 |
| Avg. Adj. Sales Price | $\$$ | 34752.78 | Avg. Abs. Dev. | 6.89 |
| Avg. Assessed Value | $\$$ | 33298.33 | Min | 78.77 |
| Median | $\mathbf{9 9 . 3 6}$ | Max | 134.00 |  |
| Wgt. Mean | 95.81 | $95 \%$ Median C.I. | 95.48 to 100.41 |  |
| Mean | 97.93 | $95 \%$ Wgt. Mean C.I. | 92.85 to 98.78 |  |


| \% of Value of the Class of all Real Property Value in the County | 6.29 |
| :--- | ---: |
| \% of Records Sold in the Study Period | 7.56 |
| \% of Value Sold in the Study Period | 3.23 |
| Average Assessed Value of the Base | 78,033 |


| Commercial Real Property - History |  |  |  |  |
| ---: | :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Year | Number of Sales | Median | COD | PRD |
| $\mathbf{2 0 0 7}$ | $\mathbf{1 8}$ | $\mathbf{9 9 . 3 6}$ | $\mathbf{6 . 9 4}$ | $\mathbf{1 0 2 . 2 1}$ |
| $\mathbf{2 0 0 6}$ | 21 | 96.13 | 13.93 | 95.73 |
| $\mathbf{2 0 0 5}$ | 17 | 96.13 | 12.64 | 107.30 |
| $\mathbf{2 0 0 4}$ | 22 | 100.24 | 15.90 | 104.21 |
| $\mathbf{2 0 0 3}$ | 19 | 99 | 22.51 | 97.42 |
| $\mathbf{2 0 0 2}$ | 28 | 100 | 17.96 | 101.04 |
| $\mathbf{2 0 0 1}$ | 23 | 100 | 18.99 | 97.89 |

## 2007 Opinions of the Property Tax Administrator for Webster County

My opinions and recommendations are stated as a conclusion based on all of the factors known to me about the assessment practices and statistical analysis for this county. See, Neb. Rev. Stat. §77-5027 (R. S. Supp., 2005). While I rely primarily on the median assessment sales ratio from the Qualified Statistical Reports for each class of real property, my opinion of level of value for a class of real property may be determined from other evidence contained in the RO. Although my primary resource regarding quality of assessment are the performance standards issued by the IAAO, my opinion of quality of assessment for a class of real property may be influenced by the assessment practices of the county assessor.

## Residential Real Property

It is my opinion that the level of value of the class of residential real property in Webster County is $99 \%$ of actual value. It is my opinion that the quality of assessment for the class of residential real property in Webster County is in compliance with generally accepted mass appraisal practices.

## Commercial Real Property

It is my opinion that the level of value of the class of commercial real property in Webster County is $99 \%$ of actual value. It is my opinion that the quality of assessment for the class of commercial real property in Webster County is in compliance with generally accepted mass appraisal practices.

Dated this 9th day of April, 2007.


## Residential Real Property

## I. Correlation

RESIDENTIAL: A review of the 2007 Residential statistics indicates that an accurate measurement of the residential property in Webster County has been achieved. Close to eighty percent of the total residential sales were identified as qualified sales. The measures of central tendency indicate that all three measures are within the acceptable range. Both the coefficient of dispersion and the price-related differential are slightly above the range. Neither of these qualitative measures would give cause for concern.

The difference in the movement and the base, as shown in tables III and IV illustrate the shift in the base from rural parcels that were classified as agricultural but now have been classified as residential due to their primary use determination. This lends support to the fact that this assessor is responsive to legislative changes. The 2007 assessment actions also detail the steps taken for the primary use determination.

Webster County has taken a proactive approach to assessment. Although their preliminary statistics were within the acceptable range, the county chose to implement new pricing for the whole residential class of property. The county also stives to comply with legislative changes as evidenced by their actions in the reclassification of their rural residential properties.

Webster County does an adquate job with their sales review. The assessor and staff leave the office for pick-up work and valuation reviews. The county is technologically adept and takes advantage of the tools available from their computer vendor. This county also undertook the change of electronic transfer of the supplemental worksheets in their order to keep up with technological advances. There is no information available that would suggest that the qualified median is not the best indication of the level of value in the residential property class.

## 2007 Correlation Section <br> for Webster County

## II. Analysis of Percentage of Sales Used

This section documents the utilization of total sales compared to qualified sales in the sales file. Neb. Rev. Stat. §77-1327 (R. S. Supp., 2005) provides that all sales are deemed to be arm's length transactions unless determined to be otherwise under professionally accepted mass appraisal techniques. The county assessor is responsible for the qualification of the sales included in the residential sales file. The Department periodically reviews the procedures utilized by the county assessor to qualify/disqualify sales.

The Standard on Ratio Studies, International Association of Assessing Officials, (1999), indicates that low levels of sale utilization may indicate excessive trimming by the county assessor. Excessive trimming, the arbitrary exclusion or adjustment of arm's length transactions, may indicate an attempt to inappropriately exclude arm's length transactions to create the appearance of a higher level of value and quality of assessment. The sales file, in a case of excess trimming, will fail to properly represent the level of value and quality of assessment of the population of residential real property.

|  | Total Sales | Qualified Sales | Percent Used |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2007 | 211 | 165 | 78.2 |
| 2006 | 196 | 147 | 75 |
| 2005 | 175 | 122 | 69.71 |
| 2004 | 171 | 128 | 74.85 |
| 2003 | 195 | 148 | 75.9 |
| 2002 | 196 | 152 | 77.55 |
| 2001 | 187 | 145 | 77.54 |

RESIDENTIAL: The percentage of qualified residential sales indicates an increase when compared to the previous year. Table II illustrates Webster County determined 78.2\% of the total residential sales to be qualified for use in setting values. The sales verification process in Webster County has been in place for a number of years and Webster County appears to be using a high percentage of sales.

## 2007 Correlation Section <br> for Webster County

## III. Analysis of the Preliminary, Trended Preliminary and R\&O Median Ratio

The trended preliminary ratio is an alternative method to calculate a point estimate as an indicator of the level of value. This table compares the preliminary median ratio, trended preliminary median ratio, and R\&O median ratio, presenting four years of data to reveal any trends in assessment practices. The analysis that follows compares the changes in these ratios to the assessment actions taken by the county assessor. If the county assessor's assessment practices treat all properties in the sales file and properties in the population in a similar manner, the trended preliminary ratio will correlate closely with the $\mathrm{R} \& \mathrm{O}$ median ratio. The following is the justification for the trended preliminary ratio:

## Adjusting for Selective Reappraisal

The reliability of sales ratio statistics depends on unsold parcels being appraised in the same manner as sold parcels. Selective reappraisal of sold parcels distorts sales ratio results, possibly rendering them useless. Equally important, selective reappraisal of sold parcels ("sales chasing") is a serious violation of basic appraisal uniformity and is highly unprofessional. Oversight agencies must be vigilant to detect the practice if it occurs and take necessary corrective action.
[To monitor sales chasing] A preferred approach is to use only sales that occur after appraised values are determined. However, as long as values from the most recent appraisal year are used in ratio studies, this is likely to be impractical. A second approach is to use values from the previous assessment year, so that most (or all) sales in the study follow the date values were set. In this approach, measures of central tendency must be adjusted to reflect changes in value between the previous and current year. For example, assume that the measure of central tendency is 0.924 and, after excluding parcels with changes in use or physical characteristics, that the overall change in value between the previous and current assessment years is 6.3 percent. The adjusted measure of central tendency is $0.924 \times 1.063=0.982$. This approach can be effective in determining the level of appraisal, but measures of uniformity will be unreliable if there has been any meaningful reappraisal activity for the current year.

Gloudemans, Robert J., Mass Appraisal of Real Property, International Association of Assessing Officers, (1999), p. 315.

## III. Analysis of the Preliminary, Trended Preliminary and R\&O Median Ratio Continued

|  | Preliminary <br> Median | \% Change in Assessed <br> Value (excl. growth) | Trended Preliminary <br> Ratio | R\&O Median |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2007 | 96.03 | $\mathbf{3 1 . 5 9}$ | $\mathbf{1 2 6 . 3 7}$ | 99.25 |
| 2006 | 91.82 | 4.88 | 96.3 | 99.25 |
| 2005 | 96.47 | 1.2 | 97.63 | 98.81 |
| 2004 | 97.64 | -0.85 | 96.81 | 97.79 |
| 2003 | 100 | -3.28 | 96.72 | 99 |
| 2002 | 100 | 5.96 | 105.96 | 100 |
| 2001 | 92 | 16.63 | 107.3 | 100 |

RESIDENTIAL: Table III indicates a large difference between the trended preliminary ratio and the R \& O ratio. The movement in the assessed value base can be attributed to two major occurrences in Webster County. Webster County implemented new pricing which moved both the sales file as well as the base. The second item would be a shift of parcels previously classified as agricultural but now they have been determined to be residential due to "primary use"; well over 100 parcels changed from the ag base to residential base which caused the base to move disproportionately when compared to the sales file. Based on the solid assessment practices in Webster County, I believe the assessed level of value in Webster County for Residential property to be around $99 \%$ of the market value.

## IV. Analysis of Percentage Change in Total Assessed Value in the Sales File to Percentage Change in Assessed Value

This section analyzes the percentage change of the assessed values in the sales file, between the 2007 Preliminary Statistical Reports and the 2007 R\&O Statistical Reports, to the percentage change in the assessed value of all real property base, by class, reported in the 2007 County Abstract of Assessment for Real Property, Form 45, excluding growth valuation, compared to the 2006 Certificate of Taxes Levied (CTL) Report. For purposes of calculating the percentage change in the sales file, only the sales in the most recent year of the study period are used. If assessment practices treat sold and unsold properties consistently, the percentage change in the sale file and assessed base will be similar. The analysis of this data assists in determining if the statistical representations calculated from the sales file are an accurate measure of the population. The following is justification for such an analysis:

## Comparison of Average Value Changes

If sold and unsold properties are similarly appraised, they should experience similar changes in value over time. Accordingly, it is possible to compute the average change in value over a selected period for sold and unsold parcels and, if necessary, test to determine whether observed differences are significant. If, for example, values for vacant sold parcels in an area have increased by 45 percent since the previous reappraisal, but values for vacant unsold parcels have increased only 10 percent, sold and unsold parcels appear to have not been equally appraised. This apparent disparity between the treatment of sold and unsold properties provides an initial indication of poor assessment practices and should trigger further inquiry into the reasons for the disparity.

Gloudemans, Robert J., Mass Appraisal of Real Property, (International Association of Assessing Officers, 1999), p. 311.
IV. Analysis of Percentage Change in Total Assessed Value in the Sales File to Percentage Change in Assessed Value Continued

| \% Change in Total Assessed <br> Value in the Sales File | \% Change in Assessed <br> Value (excl. growth) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 7.62 | 2007 | 31.59 |
| 12.24 | 2006 | 4.88 |
| 3.73 | 2005 | 1.2 |
| 1.14 | 2004 | $-\mathbf{0 . 8 5}$ |
| 2.11 | 2003 | -3.28 |
| 4.36 | 2002 | 5.96 |
| 13.12 | 2001 | 16.63 |

RESIDENTIAL: As explained in Table III there was disproportionate movement between the assessed values in the sales file and the residential assessment base values. Table IV illustrates the same unequal movement between the sales file and the base caused by a shift in classification.

## V. Analysis of the R\&O Median, Wgt. Mean, and Mean Ratios

There are three measures of central tendency calculated by the Department: median ratio, weighted mean ratio, and mean ratio. Because each measure of central tendency has its own strengths and weaknesses, the use of any statistic for equalization should be reconciled with the other two, as in an appraisal, based on the appropriateness in the use of the statistic for a defined purpose, the quantity of the information from which it was drawn, and the reliability of the data that was used in its calculation. An examination of the three measures can serve to illustrate important trends in the data if the measures do not closely correlate to each other.

The IAAO considers the median ratio the most appropriate statistical measure for use in determining level of value for "direct" equalization; the process of adjusting the values of classes or subclasses of property in response to the determination of level of value at a point above or below a particular range. Because the median ratio is considered neutral in relationship to either assessed value or selling price, its use in adjusting the class or subclass of properties will not change the relationships between assessed value and level of value already present within the class or subclass of properties, thus rendering an adjustment neutral in its impact on relative tax burden to an individual property. Additionally, the median ratio is less influenced by the presence of extreme ratios, commonly called outliers. One outlier in a small sample size of sales can have controlling influence over the other measures of central tendency. The median ratio limits the distortion potential of an outlier.

The weighted mean ratio is viewed by the IAAO as the most appropriate statistical measure for "indirect" equalization; to ensure proper funding distribution of aid to political subdivisions, particularly when the distribution in part is based on the assessable value in that political subdivision, Standard on Ratio Studies, International Association of Assessing Officers, (1999). The weighted mean, because it is a value weighted ratio, best reflects a comparison of the assessed and market value of property in the political subdivision. If the distribution of aid to political subdivisions must relate to the market value available for assessment in the political subdivision, the measurement of central tendency used to analyze level of value should reflect the dollars of value available to be assessed. The weighted mean ratio does that more than either of the other measures of central tendency.

If the weighted mean ratio, because of its dollar-weighting feature, is significantly different from the median ratio, it may be an indication of other problems with assessment proportionality. When this occurs, an evaluation of the county's assessment practices and procedures is appropriate to discover remedies to the situation.

The mean ratio is used as a basis for other statistical calculations, such as the price related differential and coefficient of variation. However, the mean ratio has limited application in the analysis of level of value because it assumes a normal distribution of the data set around the mean ratio with each ratio having the same impact on the calculation regardless of the assessed value or the selling price.
V. Analysis of the R\&O Median, Wgt. Mean, and Mean Ratios Continued

|  | Median | Wgt. Mean | Mean |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| R\&O Statistics | $\mathbf{9 9 . 2 5}$ | $\mathbf{9 4 . 3 5}$ | $\mathbf{9 9 . 3 3}$ |

RESIDENTIAL: The measures of central tendency shown in table 5 reflect that the median, weighted mean and mean for the qualified residential sales file are all within the acceptable level of value. This is another indication that the median is a reliable measure of the level of assessment in this class of property.

## 2007 Correlation Section <br> for Webster County

## VI. Analysis of R\&O COD and PRD

In analyzing the statistical data of assessment quality, there are two measures primarily relied upon by assessment officials. The Coefficient of Dispersion, COD, is produced to measure assessment uniformity. A low COD tends to indicate good assessment uniformity as there is a smaller "spread" or dispersion of the ratios in the sales file. Mass Appraisal of Real Property, International Association of Assessing Officers, (1999), pp. 235-237 indicates that a COD of less than 15 suggests that there is good assessment uniformity. The IAAO has issued performance standards for major property groups:

Single-family residences: a COD of 15 percent or less.
For newer and fairly homogeneous areas: a COD of 10 or less.
Income-producing property: a COD of 20 or less, or in larger urban jurisdictions, 15 or less. Vacant land and other unimproved property, such as agricultural land: a COD of 20 or less. Rural residential and seasonal properties: a COD of 20 or less.

Mass Appraisal of Real Property, International Association of Assessing Officers, (1999), p. 246.
The Price Related Differential, PRD, is produced to measure assessment vertical uniformity (progressivity or regressivity). For example, assessments are considered regressive if high value properties are under-assessed relative to low value properties. Mass Appraisal of Real Property, International Association of Assessing Officers, (1999), pp. 239-240 indicates that a PRD of greater than 100 suggests that high value properties are relatively under-assessed. A PRD of less than 100 indicates that high value properties are relatively over-assessed. As a general rule, except for small samples, a PRD should range between 98 and 103. This range is centered slightly above 100 to allow for a slightly upward measurement bias inherent in the PRD. Mass Appraisal of Real Property, International Association of Assessing Officers, (1999), p. 247.

The analysis in this section indicates whether the COD and PRD meet the performance standards described above.

|  | COD | PRD |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| R\&O Statistics | $\mathbf{1 7 . 8 4}$ | 105.28 |
| Difference | $\mathbf{2 . 8 4}$ | $\mathbf{2 . 2 8}$ |

RESIDENTIAL: The coefficient of dispersion and price-related differential are both slightly above the range. These qualitative measures sufficiently support each other to indicate that Webster County has achieved a general level of good assessment uniformity for the residential property class as a whole.

## VII. Analysis of Change in Statistics Due to Assessor Actions

This section compares the statistical indicators from the Preliminary Statistical Reports to the same statistical indicators from the R\&O Statistical Reports. The analysis that follows explains the changes in the statistical indicators in consideration of the assessment actions taken by the county assessor.

|  | Preliminary Statistics | R\&O Statistics | Change |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Number of Sales | 170 | 165 | -5 |
| Median | 96.03 | 99.25 | 3.22 |
| Wgt. Mean | 89.13 | 94.35 | 5.22 |
| Mean | 97.20 | 99.33 | 2.13 |
| COD | 27.34 | 17.84 | -9.5 |
| PRD | 109.06 | 105.28 | -3.78 |
| Min Sales Ratio | 16.20 | 35.05 | 18.85 |
| Max Sales Ratio | 680.00 | 280.62 | -399.38 |

RESIDENTIAL: A review of Table VII indicates five sales were removed from the qualified residential roster. Of these sales four moved into the improved agricultural sales file and remained qualified. One sale was removed due and exchange of property being involved in the sale. After reviewing the Preliminary Statistical Report, the reported assessment actions and the 2007 R \& O Statistical Report for residential real property, the statistical measurements appear to be a realistic reflection of the assessment action taken in Webster County.

Commerical Real Property

## I. Correlation

COMMERCIAL: A review of the 2007 Commercial statistics indicates that an accurate measurement of the commercial property in Webster County has been achieved. The measures of central tendency indicate that all three measures are within the acceptable range. In addition, both the coefficient of dispersion and the price-related differential are within the range.

As explained, the difference in the movement and the base, as shown in tables III and IV illustrate are the result of very few commercial sales, the repricing of the class of property and a missing personal property adjustment.

Webster County has taken a proactive approach to assessment. Although their preliminary statistics were within the acceptable range, the county chose to implement new pricing for the whole commercial class of property.

Webster County does an adquate job with their sales review. The assessor and staff leave the office for pick-up work and valuation reviews. The county is technologically adept and takes advantage of the tools available from their computer vendor. This county also undertook the change of electronic transfer of the supplemental worksheets in their order to keep up with technological advances. There is no information available that would suggest that the qualified median is not the best indication of the level of value in the commercial property class.

## 2007 Correlation Section <br> for Webster County

## II. Analysis of Percentage of Sales Used

This section documents the utilization of total sales compared to qualified sales in the sales file. Neb. Rev. Stat. §77-1327 (R. S. Supp., 2005) provides that all sales are deemed to be arm's length transactions unless determined to be otherwise under professionally accepted mass appraisal techniques. The county assessor is responsible for the qualification of the sales included in the residential sales file. The Department periodically reviews the procedures utilized by the county assessor to qualify/disqualify sales.

The Standard on Ratio Studies, International Association of Assessing Officials, (1999), indicates that low levels of sale utilization may indicate excessive trimming by the county assessor. Excessive trimming, the arbitrary exclusion or adjustment of arm's length transactions, may indicate an attempt to inappropriately exclude arm's length transactions to create the appearance of a higher level of value and quality of assessment. The sales file, in a case of excess trimming, will fail to properly represent the level of value and quality of assessment of the population of residential real property.

|  | Total Sales | Qualified Sales | Percent Used |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2007 | 33 | 18 | 54.55 |
| 2006 | 38 | 21 | 55.26 |
| 2005 | 31 | 17 | 54.84 |
| 2004 | 34 | 22 | 64.71 |
| 2003 | 27 | 19 | 70.37 |
| 2002 | 34 | 28 | 82.35 |
| 2001 | 28 | 23 | 82.14 |

COMMERCIAL: The percentage of qualified commercial sales indicates little change when compared to the previous two years. Table II illustrates that there was a decrease in the number of total commercial sales in Webster County; however the percentage of qualified sales stayed relatively the same at $54.55 \%$. The sales verification process in this county has been in place for a number of years and Webster County appears to be using an acceptable number of qualified sales.

## 2007 Correlation Section <br> for Webster County

## III. Analysis of the Preliminary, Trended Preliminary and R\&O Median Ratio

The trended preliminary ratio is an alternative method to calculate a point estimate as an indicator of the level of value. This table compares the preliminary median ratio, trended preliminary median ratio, and R\&O median ratio, presenting four years of data to reveal any trends in assessment practices. The analysis that follows compares the changes in these ratios to the assessment actions taken by the county assessor. If the county assessor's assessment practices treat all properties in the sales file and properties in the population in a similar manner, the trended preliminary ratio will correlate closely with the $\mathrm{R} \& \mathrm{O}$ median ratio. The following is the justification for the trended preliminary ratio:

## Adjusting for Selective Reappraisal

The reliability of sales ratio statistics depends on unsold parcels being appraised in the same manner as sold parcels. Selective reappraisal of sold parcels distorts sales ratio results, possibly rendering them useless. Equally important, selective reappraisal of sold parcels ("sales chasing") is a serious violation of basic appraisal uniformity and is highly unprofessional. Oversight agencies must be vigilant to detect the practice if it occurs and take necessary corrective action.
[To monitor sales chasing] A preferred approach is to use only sales that occur after appraised values are determined. However, as long as values from the most recent appraisal year are used in ratio studies, this is likely to be impractical. A second approach is to use values from the previous assessment year, so that most (or all) sales in the study follow the date values were set. In this approach, measures of central tendency must be adjusted to reflect changes in value between the previous and current year. For example, assume that the measure of central tendency is 0.924 and, after excluding parcels with changes in use or physical characteristics, that the overall change in value between the previous and current assessment years is 6.3 percent. The adjusted measure of central tendency is $0.924 \times 1.063=0.982$. This approach can be effective in determining the level of appraisal, but measures of uniformity will be unreliable if there has been any meaningful reappraisal activity for the current year.

Gloudemans, Robert J., Mass Appraisal of Real Property, International Association of Assessing Officers, (1999), p. 315.
III. Analysis of the Preliminary, Trended Preliminary and R\&O Median Ratio Continued

|  | Preliminary <br> Median | \% Change in Assessed <br> Value (excl. growth) | Trended Preliminary <br> Ratio | R\&O Median |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2007 | 92.86 | -0.6 | 92.3 | $\mathbf{9 9 . 3 6}$ |
| 2006 | 94.68 | 1.82 | 96.4 | 96.13 |
| 2005 | 93.93 | 2.09 | 95.89 | 96.13 |
| 2004 | 100.41 | -3.07 | 97.32 | 100.24 |
| 2003 | 100 | -3.78 | 96.22 | 99 |
| 2002 | 100 | 16.74 | 116.74 | 100 |
| 2001 | 61 | 17.87 | 71.9 | 100 |

COMMERCIAL: Table III indicates a difference between the trended preliminary ratio and the $\mathrm{R} \& \mathrm{O}$ ratio. Due to a disproportionate representation in the value of the sales in the sales file compared to the value of the commercial base, the difference between the trended preliminary ratio and the $\mathrm{R} \& \mathrm{O}$ median is over 6 percentage points. Both numbers are within the range however and lend support that the median for this class of property is at an acceptable level of value.

## IV. Analysis of Percentage Change in Total Assessed Value in the Sales File to Percentage Change in Assessed Value

This section analyzes the percentage change of the assessed values in the sales file, between the 2007 Preliminary Statistical Reports and the 2007 R\&O Statistical Reports, to the percentage change in the assessed value of all real property base, by class, reported in the 2007 County Abstract of Assessment for Real Property, Form 45, excluding growth valuation, compared to the 2006 Certificate of Taxes Levied (CTL) Report. For purposes of calculating the percentage change in the sales file, only the sales in the most recent year of the study period are used. If assessment practices treat sold and unsold properties consistently, the percentage change in the sale file and assessed base will be similar. The analysis of this data assists in determining if the statistical representations calculated from the sales file are an accurate measure of the population. The following is justification for such an analysis:

## Comparison of Average Value Changes

If sold and unsold properties are similarly appraised, they should experience similar changes in value over time. Accordingly, it is possible to compute the average change in value over a selected period for sold and unsold parcels and, if necessary, test to determine whether observed differences are significant. If, for example, values for vacant sold parcels in an area have increased by 45 percent since the previous reappraisal, but values for vacant unsold parcels have increased only 10 percent, sold and unsold parcels appear to have not been equally appraised. This apparent disparity between the treatment of sold and unsold properties provides an initial indication of poor assessment practices and should trigger further inquiry into the reasons for the disparity.

Gloudemans, Robert J., Mass Appraisal of Real Property, (International Association of Assessing Officers, 1999), p. 311.
IV. Analysis of Percentage Change in Total Assessed Value in the Sales File to Percentage Change in Assessed Value Continued

| \% Change in Total Assessed <br> Value in the Sales File |  | \% Change in Assessed <br> Value (excl. growth) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 130.68 | 2007 | $-\mathbf{0 . 6}$ |
| 26.89 | 2006 | 1.82 |
| 114.98 | 2005 | 2.09 |
| 0 | 2004 | -3.07 |
| -11.21 | 2003 | -3.78 |
| 75.01 | 2002 | 16.74 |
| 27.62 | 2001 | 17.87 |

COMMERCIAL: Table IV illustrates a very large disproportionate movement between the sales file and the commercial base of property. The statistics in table IV are calculated from the changed in the aggregate in last 12 months of sales. Within the past year the Webster County assessor began the process of electronic transfer of supplemental worksheets to the department. As a result, one sale during this time frame did not receive a significant personal property adjustmen that was included with the sale information filed with the 521 . The adjustment, $\$ 150,000.00$, was equal to approximately twenty-fiive percent of the total adjusted saless price for the class. The missing adjustment was discovered after the preliminary statistics were run and then corrected for the final satatistics. The large disparity between the two statistics may be attributed to this adjustment, as well as the complete repricing done on all commercial property in Webster County.

## V. Analysis of the R\&O Median, Wgt. Mean, and Mean Ratios

There are three measures of central tendency calculated by the Department: median ratio, weighted mean ratio, and mean ratio. Because each measure of central tendency has its own strengths and weaknesses, the use of any statistic for equalization should be reconciled with the other two, as in an appraisal, based on the appropriateness in the use of the statistic for a defined purpose, the quantity of the information from which it was drawn, and the reliability of the data that was used in its calculation. An examination of the three measures can serve to illustrate important trends in the data if the measures do not closely correlate to each other.

The IAAO considers the median ratio the most appropriate statistical measure for use in determining level of value for "direct" equalization; the process of adjusting the values of classes or subclasses of property in response to the determination of level of value at a point above or below a particular range. Because the median ratio is considered neutral in relationship to either assessed value or selling price, its use in adjusting the class or subclass of properties will not change the relationships between assessed value and level of value already present within the class or subclass of properties, thus rendering an adjustment neutral in its impact on relative tax burden to an individual property. Additionally, the median ratio is less influenced by the presence of extreme ratios, commonly called outliers. One outlier in a small sample size of sales can have controlling influence over the other measures of central tendency. The median ratio limits the distortion potential of an outlier.

The weighted mean ratio is viewed by the IAAO as the most appropriate statistical measure for "indirect" equalization; to ensure proper funding distribution of aid to political subdivisions, particularly when the distribution in part is based on the assessable value in that political subdivision, Standard on Ratio Studies, International Association of Assessing Officers, (1999). The weighted mean, because it is a value weighted ratio, best reflects a comparison of the assessed and market value of property in the political subdivision. If the distribution of aid to political subdivisions must relate to the market value available for assessment in the political subdivision, the measurement of central tendency used to analyze level of value should reflect the dollars of value available to be assessed. The weighted mean ratio does that more than either of the other measures of central tendency.

If the weighted mean ratio, because of its dollar-weighting feature, is significantly different from the median ratio, it may be an indication of other problems with assessment proportionality. When this occurs, an evaluation of the county's assessment practices and procedures is appropriate to discover remedies to the situation.

The mean ratio is used as a basis for other statistical calculations, such as the price related differential and coefficient of variation. However, the mean ratio has limited application in the analysis of level of value because it assumes a normal distribution of the data set around the mean ratio with each ratio having the same impact on the calculation regardless of the assessed value or the selling price.
V. Analysis of the R\&O Median, Wgt. Mean, and Mean Ratios Continued

|  | Median | Wgt. Mean | Mean |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| R\&O Statistics | $\mathbf{9 9 . 3 6}$ | $\mathbf{9 5 . 8 1}$ | $\mathbf{9 7 . 9 3}$ |

COMMERCIAL: The measures of central tendency shown in table 5 reflect that the median, weighted mean and mean for the qualified commercial sales file are all within the acceptable level of value. This is an indication that the median is a reliable measure of the level of assessment in this class of property.

## 2007 Correlation Section <br> for Webster County

## VI. Analysis of R\&O COD and PRD

In analyzing the statistical data of assessment quality, there are two measures primarily relied upon by assessment officials. The Coefficient of Dispersion, COD, is produced to measure assessment uniformity. A low COD tends to indicate good assessment uniformity as there is a smaller "spread" or dispersion of the ratios in the sales file. Mass Appraisal of Real Property, International Association of Assessing Officers, (1999), pp. 235-237 indicates that a COD of less than 15 suggests that there is good assessment uniformity. The IAAO has issued performance standards for major property groups:

Single-family residences: a COD of 15 percent or less.
For newer and fairly homogeneous areas: a COD of 10 or less.
Income-producing property: a COD of 20 or less, or in larger urban jurisdictions, 15 or less. Vacant land and other unimproved property, such as agricultural land: a COD of 20 or less. Rural residential and seasonal properties: a COD of 20 or less.

Mass Appraisal of Real Property, International Association of Assessing Officers, (1999), p. 246.
The Price Related Differential, PRD, is produced to measure assessment vertical uniformity (progressivity or regressivity). For example, assessments are considered regressive if high value properties are under-assessed relative to low value properties. Mass Appraisal of Real Property, International Association of Assessing Officers, (1999), pp. 239-240 indicates that a PRD of greater than 100 suggests that high value properties are relatively under-assessed. A PRD of less than 100 indicates that high value properties are relatively over-assessed. As a general rule, except for small samples, a PRD should range between 98 and 103. This range is centered slightly above 100 to allow for a slightly upward measurement bias inherent in the PRD. Mass Appraisal of Real Property, International Association of Assessing Officers, (1999), p. 247.

The analysis in this section indicates whether the COD and PRD meet the performance standards described above.

|  | COD | PRD |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| R\&O Statistics | 6.94 | 102.21 |
| Difference | 0 | 0 |

COMMERCIAL: Table VI illustrates that both the coefficient of dispersion and the pricerelated differential are within the range. These qualitative measures strongly support each other to indicate that Webster County has achieved a general level of good assessment uniformity for the commercial property class as a whole.

## VII. Analysis of Change in Statistics Due to Assessor Actions

This section compares the statistical indicators from the Preliminary Statistical Reports to the same statistical indicators from the R\&O Statistical Reports. The analysis that follows explains the changes in the statistical indicators in consideration of the assessment actions taken by the county assessor.

|  | Preliminary Statistics | R\&O Statistics | Change |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Number of Sales | 18 | 18 | 0 |
| Median | 92.86 | 99.36 | 6.5 |
| Wgt. Mean | 73.61 | 95.81 | 22.2 |
| Mean | 115.06 | 97.93 | -17.13 |
| COD | 55.80 | 6.94 | -48.86 |
| PRD | 156.30 | 102.21 | -54.09 |
| Min Sales Ratio | 14.21 | 78.77 | 64.56 |
| Max Sales Ratio | 669.00 | 134.00 | -535 |

COMMERCIAL: The preliminary statistics and the final R \& O statistics show no changes in the number of sales. There are changes in the remaining statistics which are supported by the reported assessment actions discussing the complete repricing of the commercial class of property in Webster County. The statistical measurements appear to be a realistic reflection of these assessment actions taken in Webster County.

## 2007 County Abstract of Assessment for Real Property, Form 45 Compared with the 2006 Certificate of Taxes Levied (CTL)

|  | 2006 CTL <br> County Total | 2007 Form 45 County Total | Value Difference <br> (2007 Form 45-2006 CTL) | Percent Change | 2007 Growth <br> (New Construction Value) | \% Change excl. Growth |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1. Residential | 42,008,950 | 56,083,415 | 14,074,465 | 33.5 | 887,649 | 31.39 |
| 2. Recreational | 0 | 83,715 | 83,715 |  | 0 |  |
| 3. Ag-Homesite Land, Ag-Res Dwellings | 32,019,205 | 26,038,305 | -5,980,900 | -18.68 | *--------- | -18.68 |
| 4. Total Residential (sum lines 1-3) | 74,028,155 | 82,205,435 | 8,177,280 | 11.05 | 887,649 | 9.85 |
| 5. Commercial | 17,906,950 | 18,571,765 | 664,815 | 3.71 | 772,595 | -0.6 |
| 6. Industrial | 0 | 0 | 0 |  | 0 |  |
| 7. Ag-Farmsite Land, Outbuildings | 6,644,245 | 7,296,860 | 652,615 | 9.82 | 557,187 | 1.44 |
| 8. Minerals | 0 | 0 | 0 |  | 0 |  |
| 9. Total Commercial (sum lines 5-8) | 24,551,195 | 25,868,625 | 1,317,430 | 5.37 | 772,595 | 2.22 |
| 10. Total Non-Agland Real Property | 98,579,350 | 108,074,130 | 9,494,780 | 9.63 | 2,217,431 | 7.38 |
| 11. Irrigated | 70,249,795 | 71,226,825 | 977,030 | 1.39 |  |  |
| 12. Dryland | 71,105,150 | 71,236,325 | 131,175 | 0.18 |  |  |
| 13. Grassland | 53,676,465 | 76,015,785 | 22,339,320 | 41.62 |  |  |
| 14. Wasteland | 474955 | 483,190 | 8,235 | 1.73 |  |  |
| 15. Other Agland | 6,710 | 315 | -6,395 | -95.31 |  |  |
| 16. Total Agricultural Land | 195,513,075 | 218,962,440 | 23,449,365 | 11.99 |  |  |
| 17. Total Value of All Real Property | 294,092,425 | 327,036,570 | 32,944,145 | 11.2 | 2,217,431 | 10.45 |
| (Locally Assessed) |  |  |  |  |  |  |

 outbuildings is shown in line 7.

NUMBER of Sales: TOTAL Sales Price: TOTAL Adj.Sales Price: TOTAL Assessed Value: AVG. Adj. Sales Price: AVG. Assessed Value:


99
COV: 30.93
STD: $\quad 30.72$
AVG.ABS.DEV: 17.70
WGT. MEAN:
5,954,632 MEAN:
5,618,190
36,088
34,049

95\% Median C.I.: 98.21 to 100.02
(!: Derived)

95\% Wgt. Mean C.I.: 90.70 to 98.00
95\% Mean C.I.: 94.64 to 104.02


Date Range: 07/01/2004 to 06/30/2006 Posted Before: 01/19/2007


# Type: Qualified <br> Date Range: 07/01/2004 to 06/30/2006 Posted Before: 01/19/2007 

State Stat Run


# Type: Qualified <br> Date Range: 07/01/2004 to 06/30/2006 Posted Before: 01/19/2007 



## PA\&T 2007 R\&O Statistics

Type: Qualified

Date Range: 07/01/2004 to 06/30/2006 Posted Before: 01/19/2007


## PA\&T 2007 R\&O Statistics

# Type: Qualified <br> Date Range: 07/01/2003 to 06/30/2006 Posted Before: 01/19/2007 

State Stat Run

NUMBER of Sales TOTAL Sales Price: TOTAL Adj.Sales Price: TOTAL Assessed Value: AVG. Adj. Sales Price: AVG. Assessed Value:

95\% Median C.I.: 95.48 to 100.41


# Type: Qualified <br> Date Range: 07/01/2003 to 06/30/2006 Posted Before: 01/19/2007 



# Type: Qualified <br> Date Range: 07/01/2003 to 06/30/2006 Posted Before: 01/19/2007 




NUMBER of Sales: TOTAL Sales Price: TOTAL Adj. Sales Price: TOTAL Assessed Value: AVG. Adj. Sales Price:

AVG. Assessed Value:

95\% Median C.I.: 90.81 to 99.48


Date Range: 07/01/2004 to 06/30/2006 Posted Before: 01/19/2007


Date Range: 07/01/2004 to 06/30/2006 Posted Before: 01/19/2007


NUMBER of Sales: TOTAL Sales Price: TOTAL Adj.Sales Price: TOTAL Assessed Value: AVG. Adj. Sales Price:

AVG. Assessed Value:


Date Range: 07/01/2004 to 06/30/2006 Posted Before: 01/19/2007


# Type: Qualified <br> Date Range: 07/01/2003 to 06/30/2006 Posted Before: 01/19/2007 

State Stat Run


Date Range: 07/01/2003 to 06/30/2006 Posted Before: 01/19/2007


# Type: Qualified <br> Date Range: 07/01/2003 to 06/30/2006 Posted Before: 01/19/2007 



Date Range: 07/01/2003 to 06/30/2006 Posted Before: 01/19/2007


# 2007 Assessment Survey for Webster County <br> 02/01/2007 

## I. General Information

A. Staffing and Funding Information

1. Deputy(ies) on staff:

1
2. Appraiser(s) on staff:

0
3. Other full-time employees:

1
4. Other part-time employees:

1
5. Number of shared employees:

1
6. Assessor's requested budget for current fiscal year:
\$86,172.54
7. Part of the budget that is dedicated to the computer system
\$5,310.60
8. Adopted budget, or granted budget if different from above:
$\$ 88,040.00$ (They told us not to include raises in our requested budget but then gave them after a lot of arguing)
9. Amount of total budget set aside for appraisal work:

0
10. Amount of the total budget set aside for education/workshops:
\$1,410.00
11. Appraisal/Reappraisal budget, if not part of the total budget:
\$6,150.00
12. Other miscellaneous funds:

0
13. Total budget: $\quad \$ 94,190.00$
a. Was any of last year's budget not used?
\$395.32
B. Residential Appraisal Information
(Includes Urban, Suburban and Rural Residential)

1. Data collection done by:

Assessor/Office Staff/Appraiser
2. Valuation done by:

Assessor
3. Pickup work done by:

Assessor/Office Staff/about 6 parcels by Appraiser

| Property Type | \# of Permits | \# of Info. <br> Statements | Other | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Residential | 16 |  | 80 | 96 |

4. What is the date of the Replacement Cost New data (Marshall-Swift) that are used to value this property class?

6/06
5. What was the last year the depreciation schedule for this property class was developed using market-derived information?

2007
6. What was the last year that the Market or Sales Comparison Approach was used to estimate the market value of the properties in this class?

2007
7. Number of market areas/neighborhoods for this property class:

7
8. How are these defined?

By town/geographic location
9. Is "Assessor Location" a usable valuation identity?

Yes
10. Does the assessor location "suburban" mean something other than rural residential?

Yes, we have Red Cloud Suburban and Blue Hill Suburban - these use the land valuation of rural Residential and the depreciation from the Town that they are within 1 mile of.
11. Are the county's ag residential and rural residential improvements classified and valued in the same manner?

Yes
C. Commercial/Industrial Appraisal Information

1. Data collection done by:

Appraiser
2. Valuation done by:

Appraiser/Assessor
3. Pickup work done by whom:

Appraiser/Assessor

| Property Type | \# of Permits | \# of Info. <br> Statements | Other | Total |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Commercial | 1 |  | 20 | 20 |

4. What is the date of the Replacement Cost New data (Marshall-Swift) that are used to value this property class?

06/06
5. When was the last time the depreciation schedule for this property class or any subclass was developed using market-derived information?

2007
6. When was the last time that the Income Approach was used to estimate or establish the market value of the properties in this class?

2007
7. When was the last time that the Market or Sales Comparison Approach was used to estimate the market value of the properties in this class?

Never
8. Number of market areas/neighborhoods for this property class?

8
9. How are these defined?

Each town and the rural
10. Is "Assessor Location" a usable valuation identity?

Yes
11. Does the assessor location "suburban" mean something other than rural commercial?

No
D. Agricultural Appraisal Information

1. Data collection done by:

Assessor/office staff/appraiser
2. Valuation done by:

Assessor/office staff
3. Pickup work done by whom:

Assessor/office staff/appraiser

| Property Type | \# of Permits | \# of Info. <br> Statements | Other | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Agricultural | 0 | 5 | 71 | 76 |
|  |  |  |  |  |

4. Does the county have a written policy or written standards to specifically define agricultural land versus rural residential acreages?

In the process of writing it for 2007
How is your agricultural land defined?
By soil type and usage
5. When was the last date that the Income Approach was used to estimate or establish the market value of the properties in this class?

The current assessor is not aware of any time that the Income Approach has been used to value agricultural property in Webster County.
6. What is the date of the soil survey currently used?

May 1974
7. What date was the last countywide land use study completed? 2005
a. By what method? (Physical inspection, FSA maps, etc.)

Physical inspection by the Assessor and staff, they drove every parcel in the county in conjunction with implementation of the 911 system
b. By whom?

Assessor and office staff
c. What proportion is complete / implemented at this time?

100\% complete
8. Number of market areas/neighborhoods for this property class:

1
9. How are these defined?
10. Has the county implemented (or is in the process of implementing) special valuation for agricultural land within the county?

Yes, through the Conservation Easement Act
E. Computer, Automation Information and GIS

1. Administrative software:

Terra Scan
2. CAMA software:

Terra Scan
3. Cadastral maps: Are they currently being used?

Yes
a. Who maintains the Cadastral Maps?

Deputy Assessor
4. Does the county have GIS software?

Yes - currently only used for 911 addressing
a. Who maintains the GIS software and maps?

Deputy Assessor
4. Personal Property software:

Terra Scan
F. Zoning Information

1. Does the county have zoning?

Yes
a. If so, is the zoning countywide?

No
b. What municipalities in the county are zoned?

All but the Village of Bladen
c. When was zoning implemented?

July, 2001

## G. Contracted Services

1. Appraisal Services: (are these contracted, or conducted "in-house?")

Both contracted and in-house, for 2007 Bob Worman is reviewing all commercial property within the city limits of Red Cloud, Assessor and office staff are doing all other appraisal work.
2. Other Services:
H. Additional comments or further explanations on any item from A through $G$ :

## II. Assessment Actions

## 2007 Assessment Actions taken to address the following property classes/subclasses:

## 1. Residential-

Land study/revaluation of lots done in each town. After the study, values changed in Bladen, Blue Hill, Cowles, Guide Rock and Red Cloud. No change was indicated or made in Rosemont, Amboy or Inavale. Sales ratio study done, new pricing from Marshall and Swift downloaded, new depreciation sheets done for each market area. Rural Residential identified and letters/protests sent, informal hearings held.

For 2007 the assessor determined that on any parcel 40 acres and less the primary use is not agricultural, each parcel was sent a letter and protest application. They were given until February $2^{\text {nd }}$ to file the protest and the hearings were held be on March 6, 2007. At the March 6 hearings the county board determined that any parcel 10 acres of less would be considered residential or commercial unless the property owner could prove the primary use was agricultural.

## 2. Commercial-

After a land study, the land values in Red Cloud and "Rural Commercial" changed, the other assessor locations did not indicate a need for a valuation change. Bob Worman has reviewed most of Red Cloud City commercial properties, with the intent to finish these for the 2007 assessment year. Sales ratio study will be completed, new pricing from Marshall and Swift downloaded, new depreciation sheets will be done for each market area.

## 3. Agricultural-

Sales ratio study done, new pricing from Marshall and Swift downloaded for farm buildings, new depreciation sheets done for each market area. Home site and building site values changed, conducted a survey-sent email to all county assessors requesting how they priced these out. We then updated our prices and how we applied these sites.

Webster County did a market study on grass and dry. The market for these two types of agricultural land appears to be narrowing. Webster County made substantial increases to grass and also increased the lower classes of dry while decreasing the upper LCGs of dry as indicated by the market.

## County 91 - Webster



Exhibit 91 - Page 55


Exhibit 91 - Page 56

## County 91 - Webster

| Schedule II:Tax Increment Financing (TIF) |  | Urban |  | SubUrban |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Records | Value Base | Value Excess | Records | Value Base | Value Excess |
| 18. Residential | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 19. Commercial | 3 | 695,255 | 413,605 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 20. Industrial | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 21. Other | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Records | Rural <br> Value Base | Value Excess | Records | Total Value Base | Value Excess |
| 18. Residential | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 19. Commercial | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 695,255 | 413,605 |
| 20. Industrial | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 21. Other | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 22. Total Sch II |  |  |  | 3 | 695,255 | 413,605 |


| Schedule III: Mineral Interest Records |
| :--- |
| Records |
|  |
| 23. Mineral Interest-Producing |


|  | Total |  | Growth |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 23. Mineral Interest-Producing | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 24. Mineral Interest-Non-Producing | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 25. Mineral Interest Total | 0 | 0 | 0 |


|  | Urban Records | SubUrban Records | Rural Records | Total Records |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 26. Exempt | 114 | 3 | 123 | 240 |



## County 91 - Webster

| Schedule VI: Agricultural Records: Non-Agricultural Detail | Urban |  |  | SubUrban |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Records | Acres | Value | Records | Acres | Value |
| 31. HomeSite UnImp Land | 0 | 0.000 | 0 | 0 | 0.000 | 0 |
| 32. HomeSite Improv Land | 0 | 0.000 | 0 | 4 | 4.000 | 40,000 |
| 33. HomeSite Improvements | 6 |  | 43,685 | 4 |  | 159,090 |
| 34. HomeSite Total |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 35. FarmSite UnImp Land | 0 | 0.000 | 0 | 0 | 0.000 | 0 |
| 36. FarmSite Impr Land | 9 | 7.800 | 24,300 | 4 | 3.600 | 10,800 |
| 37. FarmSite Improv | 3 |  | 41,045 | 4 |  | 21,600 |

38. FarmSite Total

| 39. Road \& Ditches | 2.020 |  |  | 0.480 |  |  | Growth |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 40. Other-Non Ag Use |  | 0.000 | 0 |  | 0.000 | 0 |  |
|  | Records | Rural ${ }_{\text {Acres }}$ | Value | Records | Total ${ }_{\text {Acres }}$ | Value |  |
| 31. HomeSite UnImp Land | 5 | 5.000 | 50,000 | 5 | 5.000 | 50,000 |  |
| 32. HomeSite Improv Land | 412 | 426.950 | 4,182,500 | 416 | 430.950 | 4,222,500 |  |
| 33. HomeSite Improvements | 436 |  | 21,563,030 | 446 |  | 21,765,805 | 557,187 |
| 34. HomeSite Total |  |  |  | 451 | 435.950 | 26,038,305 |  |
| 35. FarmSite UnImp Land | 26 | 56.500 | 97,980 | 26 | 56.500 | 97,980 |  |
| 36. FarmSite Impr Land | 494 | 563.870 | 1,392,550 | 507 | 575.270 | 1,427,650 |  |
| 37. FarmSite Improv | 493 |  | 5,708,585 | 500 |  | 5,771,230 | 0 |
| 38. FarmSite Total |  |  |  | 526 | 631.770 | 7,296,860 |  |
| 39. Road \& Ditches |  | 8,956.680 |  |  | 8,959.180 |  |  |
| 40. Other-Non Ag Use |  | 444.060 | 70 |  | 444.060 | 70 |  |
| 41. Total Section VI |  |  |  | 977 | 10,470.960 | 33,335,235 | 557,187 |


| Schedule VII: Agricultural Records: Ag Land Detail-Game \& Parks | Urban |  |  | SubUrban |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Records | Acres | Value | Records | Acres | Value |
| 42. Game \& Parks | 0 | 0.000 | 0 | 0 | 0.000 | 0 |
|  | Records | Rural Acres | Value | Records | ${ }_{\text {al }}$ Acres | Value |
| 42. Game \& Parks | 3 | 448.780 | 158,450 | 3 | 448.780 | 158,450 |
| Schedule VIII: Agricultural Records: Special Value | Records | Urban Acres | Value | Records | ban Acres | Value |
| 43. Special Value | 89 | 524.610 | 280,295 | 0 | 0.000 | 0 |
| 44. Recapture Val |  |  | 487,180 |  |  | 0 |
|  | Records | ${ }^{\text {Rural }}$ Acres | Value | Records | Acres | Value |
| 43. Special Value | 2 | 2.010 | 920 | 91 | 526.620 | 281,215 |
| 44. Recapture Val |  |  | 5,075 |  |  | 492,255 |

## County 91 - Webster <br> 2007 County Abstract of Assessment for Real Property, Form 45

Schedule IX: Agricultural Records: AgLand Market Area Detail
Market Area:

| Irrigated: | Urban |  | SubUrban |  | Rural |  | Total |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Acres | Value | Acres | Value | Acres | Value | Acres | Value |
| 45. 1A1 | 0.000 | 0 | 5.000 | 6,375 | 4,012.420 | 5,115,855 | 4,017.420 | 5,122,230 |
| 46. 1A | 0.000 | 0 | 0.000 | 0 | 22,272.120 | 28,397,090 | 22,272.120 | 28,397,090 |
| 47. 2A1 | 0.000 | 0 | 0.000 | 0 | 4,329.400 | 4,697,420 | 4,329.400 | 4,697,420 |
| 48. 2A | 0.000 | 0 | 0.000 | 0 | 2,823.510 | 3,063,515 | 2,823.510 | 3,063,515 |
| 49. 3A1 | 0.000 | 0 | 0.000 | 0 | 2,115.050 | 2,294,840 | 2,115.050 | 2,294,840 |
| 50. 3A | 0.000 | 0 | 0.000 | 0 | 8,333.010 | 8,374,705 | 8,333.010 | 8,374,705 |
| 51. 4A1 | 0.000 | 0 | 0.000 | 0 | 5,506.430 | 5,533,985 | 5,506.430 | 5,533,985 |
| 52. 4A | 0.000 | 0 | 0.000 | 0 | 13,674.600 | 13,743,040 | 13,674.600 | 13,743,040 |
| 53. Total | 0.000 | 0 | 5.000 | 6,375 | 63,066.540 | 71,220,450 | 63,071.540 | 71,226,825 |

Dryland:

| 54. 1D1 | 18.000 | 13,320 | 0.000 | 0 | $2,420.820$ | $1,791,410$ |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 55. 1D | 100.970 | 74,720 | 0.000 | 0 | $55,228.160$ | $40,868,840$ | $5,438.820$ |
| 56. 2D1 | 42.410 | 31,385 | 0.000 | 0 | $5,040.020$ | $3,729,610$ |  |
| 57. 2D | 6.180 | 3,030 | 0.000 | $5,082.130$ | $40,943,560$ |  |  |
| 58. 3D1 | 4.280 | 2,095 | 0.000 | 0 | $2,060.880$ | $1,009,830$ |  |
| 59. 3D | 28.230 | 13,835 | 0.000 | $0,760,995$ |  |  |  |
| 60. 4D1 | 26.000 | 12,740 | 0.000 | 0 | $7,262.760$ | $3,558,760$ | $7,067.060$ |
| 61. 4D | 32.670 | 16,010 | 0.000 | 0 | $18,554.190$ | $9,091,570$ |  |
| 62. Total | 258.740 | 167,135 | 0.000 | 0 | $9,374.700$ | $4,593,625$ | 9,860 |

Grass

| 63.1G1 | 0.000 | 0 | 2.000 | 920 | 498.800 | 229,445 | 500.800 | 230,365 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 64.1G | 86.840 | 39,945 | 3.650 | 1,680 | 12,853.820 | 5,912,755 | 12,944.310 | 5,954,380 |
| 65. 2G1 | 57.670 | 26,520 | 7.270 | 3,345 | 8,847.030 | 4,069,620 | 8,911.970 | 4,099,485 |
| 66. 2G | 20.510 | 9,430 | 3.000 | 1,380 | 10,384.680 | 4,776,955 | 10,408.190 | 4,787,765 |
| 67.3G1 | 3.580 | 1,645 | 3.220 | 1,480 | 3,492.040 | 1,606,335 | 3,498.840 | 1,609,460 |
| 68.3G | 22.840 | 10,515 | 3.000 | 1,380 | 24,524.160 | 11,281,115 | 24,550.000 | 11,293,010 |
| 69.4G1 | 12.250 | 5,635 | 0.000 | 0 | 22,466.300 | 10,334,485 | 22,478.550 | 10,340,120 |
| 70.4G | 40.000 | 18,405 | 16.980 | 7,810 | 81,902.220 | 37,674,985 | 81,959.200 | 37,701,200 |
| 71. Total | 243.690 | 112,095 | 39.120 | 17,995 | 164,969.050 | 75,885,695 | 165,251.860 | 76,015,785 |
| 72. Waste | 20.510 | 1,225 | 0.000 | 0 | 7,903.390 | 481,965 | 7,923.900 | 483,190 |
| 73. Other | 0.680 | 315 | 0.000 | 0 | 87.000 | 0 | 87.680 | 315 |
| 74. Exempt | 0.000 |  | 0.000 |  | 0.000 |  | 0.000 |  |
| 75. Total | 523.620 | 280,770 | 44.120 | 24,370 | 349,080.860 | 218,657,300 | 349,648.600 | 218,962,440 |

## County 91 - Webster

## 2007 County Abstract of Assessment for Real Property, Form 45

Schedule X: Agricultural Records: AgLand Market Area Totals

|  | Urban |  | U | Rural |  |  | Total |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| AgLand | Acres | Value | Acres | Value | Acres | Value | Acres | Value |
| 76.Irrigated | 0.000 | 0 | 5.000 | 6,375 | 63,066.540 | 71,220,450 | 63,071.540 | 71,226,825 |
| 77.Dry Land | 258.740 | 167,135 | 0.000 | 0 | 113,054.880 | 71,069,190 | 113,313.620 | 71,236,325 |
| 78.Grass | 243.690 | 112,095 | 39.120 | 17,995 | 164,969.050 | 75,885,695 | 165,251.860 | 76,015,785 |
| 79.Waste | 20.510 | 1,225 | 0.000 | 0 | 7,903.390 | 481,965 | 7,923.900 | 483,190 |
| 80.Other | 0.680 | 315 | 0.000 | 0 | 87.000 | 0 | 87.680 | 315 |
| 81.Exempt | 0.000 | 0 | 0.000 | 0 | 0.000 | 0 | 0.000 | 0 |
| 82.Total | 523.620 | 280,770 | 44.120 | 24,370 | 349,080.860 | 218,657,300 | 349,648.600 | 218,962,440 |

2007 Agricultural Land Detail

## County 91 - Webster

Market Area:

| Value | \% of Value* | Average Assessed Value |
| ---: | ---: | ---: |
| $5,122,230$ | $7.19 \%$ | $1,275.004$ |
| $28,397,090$ | $39.87 \%$ | $1,275.006$ |
| $4,697,420$ | $6.60 \%$ | $1,085.004$ |
| $3,063,515$ | $4.30 \%$ | $1,085.002$ |
| $2,294,840$ | $3.22 \%$ | $1,085.005$ |
| $8,374,705$ | $11.76 \%$ | $1,005.003$ |
| $5,533,985$ | $7.77 \%$ | $1,005.004$ |
| $13,743,040$ | $19.29 \%$ | $1,005.004$ |
| $71,226,825$ | $100.00 \%$ | $1,129.302$ |

Dry:

| 1D1 | $2,438.820$ | $2.15 \%$ | $1,804,730$ | $2.53 \%$ | 740.001 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 1D | $55,329.130$ | $48.83 \%$ | $40,943,560$ | $57.48 \%$ | 740.000 |
| 2D1 | $5,082.430$ | $4.49 \%$ | $3,760,995$ | $5.28 \%$ | 739.999 |
| 2D | $2,067.060$ | $1.82 \%$ | $1,012,860$ | $1.42 \%$ | 490.000 |
| 3D1 | $7,267.040$ | $6.41 \%$ | $3,560,855$ | $5.00 \%$ | 490.000 |
| 3D | $18,582.420$ | $16.40 \%$ | $9,105,405$ | $12.78 \%$ | 490.001 |
| 4D1 | $9,400.700$ | $8.30 \%$ | $4,606,365$ | $6.47 \%$ | 490.002 |
| 4D | $13,146.020$ | $11.60 \%$ | $6,441,555$ | $9.04 \%$ | 490.000 |
| Dry Total | $113,313.620$ | $100.00 \%$ | $71,236,325$ | $100.00 \%$ | 628.665 |

Grass:

| 1G1 | 500.800 | $0.30 \%$ | 230,365 | $0.30 \%$ | 459.994 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 1G | $12,944.310$ | $7.83 \%$ | $5,954,380$ | $7.83 \%$ | 459.999 |
| 2G1 | $8,911.970$ | $5.39 \%$ | $4,099,485$ | $5.39 \%$ | 459.997 |
| 2G | $10,408.190$ | $6.30 \%$ | $4,787,765$ | $6.30 \%$ | 459.999 |
| 3G1 | $3,498.840$ | $2.12 \%$ | $1,609,460$ | $2.12 \%$ | 459.998 |
| 3G | $24,550.000$ | $14.86 \%$ | $11,293,010$ | $14.86 \%$ | 460.000 |
| 4G1 | $22,478.550$ | $13.60 \%$ | $10,340,120$ | $13.60 \%$ | 459.999 |
| 4G | $81,959.200$ | $49.60 \%$ | $37,701,200$ | $49.60 \%$ | 459.999 |
| Grass Total | $165,251.860$ | $100.00 \%$ | $76,015,785$ | $100.00 \%$ | 459.999 |
| Irrigated Total | $63,071.540$ | $18.04 \%$ | $71,226,825$ | $32.53 \%$ | $1,129.302$ |
| Dry Total | $113,313.620$ | $32.41 \%$ | $71,236,325$ | $32.53 \%$ | 628.665 |
| Grass Total | $165,251.860$ | $47.26 \%$ | $76,015,785$ | $34.72 \%$ | 459.999 |
| Waste | $7,923.900$ | $2.27 \%$ | 483,190 | $0.22 \%$ | 60.978 |
| Other | 87.680 | $0.03 \%$ |  | 315 | $0.00 \%$ |
| Exempt | 0.000 | $0.00 \%$ |  |  | 3.592 |
| Market Area Total | $349,648.600$ | $100.00 \%$ | $218,962,440$ | $100.00 \%$ | 6 |

## As Related to the County as a Whole

| Irrigated Total | $63,071.540$ | $100.00 \%$ | $71,226,825$ | $100.00 \%$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Dry Total | $113,313.620$ | $100.00 \%$ | $71,236,325$ | $100.00 \%$ |
| Grass Total | $165,251.860$ | $100.00 \%$ | $76,015,785$ | $100.00 \%$ |
| Waste | $7,923.900$ | $100.00 \%$ | 483,190 | $100.00 \%$ |
| Other | 87.680 | $100.00 \%$ | 315 | $100.00 \%$ |
| Exempt | 0.000 | $0.00 \%$ |  |  |
| Market Area Total | $349,648.600$ | $100.00 \%$ | $218,962,440$ | $100.00 \%$ |

## 2007 Agricultural Land Detail

County 91 - Webster

| AgLand | Urban |  | SubUrban | Rural |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Irrigated | 0.000 | 0 | 5.000 | 6,375 | 63,066.540 | 71,220,450 |
| Dry | 258.740 | 167,135 | 0.000 | $0 \quad 11$ | 113,054.880 | 71,069,190 |
| Grass | 243.690 | 112,095 | 39.120 | 17,995 16 | 164,969.050 | 75,885,695 |
| Waste | 20.510 | 1,225 | 0.000 | 0 | 7,903.390 | 481,965 |
| Other | 0.680 | 315 | 0.000 | 0 | 87.000 | 0 |
| Exempt | 0.000 | 0 | 0.000 | 0 | 0.000 | 0 |
| Total | 523.620 | 280,770 | 44.120 | 24,370 349 | 349,080.860 | 218,657,300 |
| AgLand | Total <br> Acres | Value | Acres \% of Acres* | Value | \% of Value* | Average Assessed Value* |
| Irrigated | 63,071.540 | 71,226,825 | 63,071.540 18.04\% | 71,226,825 | 5 32.53\% | 1,129.302 |
| Dry | 113,313.620 | 71,236,325 | 113,313.620 32.41\% | 71,236,325 | 5 32.53\% | 628.665 |
| Grass | 165,251.860 | 76,015,785 | 165,251.860 47.26\% | 76,015,785 | 5 34.72\% | 459.999 |
| Waste | 7,923.900 | 483,190 | 7,923.900 2.27\% | 483,190 | 0 0.22\% | 60.978 |
| Other | 87.680 | 315 | 87.680 0.03\% | 315 | 5 0.00\% | 3.592 |
| Exempt | 0.000 | 0 | 0.000 0.00\% | 0 | 0 0.00\% | 0.000 |


| Total | $349,648.600$ | $218,962,440$ | $349,648.600$ | $100.00 \%$ | $218,962,440$ | $100.00 \%$ | 626.235 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

* Department of Property Assessment \& Taxation Calculates


## 2007 Plan of Assessment for Webster County Assessment Years 2006, 2007, and 2008 June 15, 2006

## Plan of Assessment Requirements:

Pursuant to Neb. Laws 2005, LB 263, Section 9, on or before June 15 each year, the assessor shall prepare a plan of assessment, which describes the assessment actions planned for the next assessment year and two years thereafter. The plan shall indicate the classes or subclasses of real property that the county assessor plans to examine during the years contained in the plan of assessment. The plan shall describe all the assessment actions necessary to achieve the levels of value and quality of assessment practices required by law, and the resources necessary to complete those actions. On or before July 31 each year, the assessor shall present the plan to the county board of equalization and the assessor may amend the plan if necessary, after the budget is approved by the county board. A copy of the plan and any amendments thereto shall be mailed to the Department of Property Assessment and Taxation on or before October 31 each year.

## Real Property Assessment Requirements:

All property in the State of Nebraska is subject to property tax unless expressly exempt by Nebraska Constitution, Article VIII, or is permitted by the constitution and enabling legislation adopted by the legislature. The uniform standard for the assessed value of real property for tax purposes is actual value, which is defined by law as "the market value of real property in the ordinary course of trade." Neb. Rev. State. §77-112 (Reissue 2003)

Assessment levels required for real property are as follows:

1) $100 \%$ of actual value for all classes of real property excluding agricultural and horticultural land;
2) $80 \%$ of actual value for agricultural land and horticultural land; for the 2006 value year and will change for the 2007 assessment year and
3) $80 \%$ of special value for agricultural and horticultural land which meets the qualifications
4) for special valuation under §77-1344 and $80 \%$ of its recapture value as defined in §77-1343 when the land is disqualified for special valuation under §77-1347; and will change for the 2007 assessment year.

Reference, Neb. Rev. Stat. §77-201 (R.S. Supp 2004)

## General Description of Real Property in Webster County:

|  | Parcels | $\%$ of Total Parcels | \% of Taxable Value Base |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Residential | 1436 | $30 \%$ | $.1486 \%$ |
| Commercial | 235 | $5 \%$ | $.0632 \%$ |
| Industrial | 0 | $0 \%$ | $0 \%$ |
| Recreational | 0 | $0 \%$ | $0 \%$ |
| Agricultural | 2723 | $57 \%$ | $.7873 \%$ |
| Special Valuation | 99 | $2 \%$ | $.0009 \%$ |
| Exempt | 262 | $6 \%$ | $0 \%$ |

Agricultural land is our most predominant property. They make up nearly 79\% of our tax base. Of the agricultural land $47 \%$ is grassland followed by $33 \%$ dryland.

## Current Resources:

## A. Staff / Budget / Training

## Elected Assessor:

Continuing Education requirements are to obtain 60 hours of approved continuing education within the four-year period.

## Deputy Assessor:

Continuing Education requirements are to obtain 60 hours of approved continuing education within the four-year period.

Nature of Responsibility:
Number of employees supervised by this position: All clerks
Nature and extent of instructions given this position regarding work: Take over all responsibilities when the Assessor is not present. As with every position within this office you will be expected to handle any issue that arises or do any work that is needed.

Some degree of initiative will be necessary to accomplish goals. You will be expected to go out into the field and do reviews of property.

The general public: Extensive contact with the general public in the field while working maintenance, building permits, and homestead exemption applications, etc. Also contact with the general public during business hours and via the telephone.

To what extent is a high degree of precision demanded in this position: Accuracy in cadastral mapping, calculation, data entry, transferring figures and listing of property in accordance with prescribed guides is always expected and demanded.

You will be expected to understand and perform all aspects of the work done within the Assessor's office.

## Clerk:

There are no Continuing Education requirements for this position.
Nature of Responsibility:
Number of employees supervised by this position: None
Nature and extent of instructions given this position regarding work: As with every position within this office you will be expected to handle any issue that arises or do any work that is needed. Some degree of initiative will be necessary to accomplish goals. You will be expected to go out into the field and do reviews of property.

The general public: Extensive contact with the general public in the field while working maintenance, building permits, and homestead exemption applications, etc. Also contact with the general public during business hours and via the telephone.

To what extent is a high degree of precision demanded in this position: Accuracy in calculation, data entry, transferring figures and listing of property in accordance with prescribed guides is always expected and demanded.

You will be expected to understand and perform all aspects of the work done within the Assessor's office.

## Clerk, part-time:

There are no Continuing Education requirements for this position.
Number of employees supervised by this position: None
Nature and extent of instructions given this position regarding work: As with every position within this office you will be expected to handle any issue that arises or do any work that is needed. Some degree of initiative will be necessary to accomplish goals. You will be expected to go out into the field and do reviews of property.

The general public: Extensive contact with the general public in the field while working maintenance, building permits, and homestead exemption applications, etc. Also contact with the general public during business hours and via the telephone.

To what extent is a high degree of precision demanded in this position: Accuracy in calculation, data entry, transferring figures and listing of property in accordance with prescribed guides is always expected and demanded.

You will be expected to understand and perform all aspects of the work done within the Assessor's office.

## Appraiser (Contracted):

Job description is to do whatever pick-up work we have not completed in office. Also watch for changes in the agricultural land year round. Continuing Education requirements for this position is to obtain 28 hours of approved continuing education every two years.

## Budget

County Assessor office budget was $\$ 85,204.68$ for the $2005 / 2006$ budget year. I am requesting a budget of $\$ 88,040.00$ for the 2006/2007 budget year. The County Appraiser office budget was $\$ 6,150$ for the 2005/2006 budget year. We are requesting the same amount of $\$ 6,150$ for the 2006/2007 budge year.

The 911 GIS mapping is done and paid off. At this time the County budgeted for road signs in 2005/2006. They covered all roads leading off the highways and blacktops, also all intersections on River RD. All funding for road signs has been suspended. Due to budgeting problems within the county GIS mapping within the Assessors Office has also been suspended.

## Training

We continue to train the clerks on statutory dates and pertinent information that may not be understood or has not been performed. Any new information obtained at schooling or meetings is brought back to the office and the remaining staff is updated.

## B. Cadastral Maps

The Cadastral maps for the towns have been completely proofed and we feel, except for a few problems, are in good condition. In the rural area only one precinct (4-9) has been proofed and is in good condition. As deeds come in we update ownership and make any splits that need to be done.

## C. Property Record Cards

These records are maintained and updated by office staff. They are in good condition. We have successfully moved all data from old property cards onto new property cards in the Residential fines. We are continuing as time allows to finish moving the information on the Commercial and Agricultural property cards. Within the Residential files we are in the process of removing all the old cards and pricing sheets to the historical files. Once the information has been moved within the Commercial and Agricultural files we also purge the old information from the files to the historical files. Information on all files includes the following:

Filing ID number, Parcel ID number (computer ID number), Cadastral number, Glide number (the cadastral pages hang from glides), Ownership, Legal description, Deed information, Utilities, Offsite improvements, Zoning, Neighborhood analysis, Land size computations, School district, Situs address, Map number, Class code, House data, Building data, Picture of house, Sketch of house, Ground plan sketch (on some - work in progress), Annual valuations, Remarks sheet, Deed sheet, and Valuation worksheets

## D. Software

We use Terra-Scan for our property pricing. I use Microsoft Excel to run my sales ration studies.

## E. Web based

Tricia Allen (Deputy Assessor) and I have taken schooling to set up a Web page. We have applied for a grant but have not yet heard if we will receive it.

## Current Assessment Procedures for Real Property:

## A. Discover, List \& Inventory all Property

Real estate transfers are brought over to the Assessors office from the Register of Deeds office. Within a few days, the Deputy Assessor processes the deed. This consists of pulling the property record cards confirming information on deed matches property record information. If anything does not match, we do a deed research then contact the person that prepared the deed. They then file a corrective deed. If everything on the deed matches our property record card we change Terra-Scan, update the record card with new owner, and update the Deed card within the property record card. The cadastral book is then changed; the sale is entered into Excel for the sales ratio study, and also put in the "Sales Book" for appraisers. We do the supplemental sheet through the mail to the PA\&T Department. Then we mail a "Sales Review" sheet to the buyer and the seller. The information off of the sales review is used to determine "arms-length" sales.

Sales reviews are done on each and every sale as they come through the office. A sales verification letter is sent out to both the buyer and the seller of each transaction. We get back about $60 \%$ of the letters. If we do not receive the sales verification back within two weeks, we will attempt to contact the person(s) to verify the sale. The individual, who processes the sale, also updates the sales book for the appraiser's use and maintains data entry for both Terra-Scan and the Excel program used for the Sales Ratio Study.

Building permits are filed in the Clerks office, during the month of November, we make copies of all building permits. We contact Bladen, Blue Hill, and Red Cloud for their building permits during this month also.

## B. Data Collection

From November until the March 20 cut-off date, we inspect every property with a building permit. We are currently reviewing all rural properties so if we are out on a permit, we do a full review of the property. Sales information is updated in Excel every time we process a Real Estate Transfer and when we receive the Sales Review back.

## C. Review assessment sales ratio studies before assessment action

Internally a sales ratio study is done annually for each class of property: residential, commercial and agricultural. Residential is then broke down by each market area. It is then broke down within each sub-class in that market area that is deemed necessary. Commercial is broke down by each market area. Agricultural is broke down by use, area of the county where it is located, and by school districts. We try to keep our Field Liaison updated on what we are doing usually just over the phone.

## D. Approaches to Value

We are using Marshall and Swift 06/99 pricing. Each year when we do the sales ratio studies if needed we update the depreciation worksheets. The most recent depreciation study being used was done in 2005/2006 for the 2006 valuation year. Sales ratio studies are also run on agricultural land as a whole. Then it is broke out and studied by predominant use, school district, and location within the county.

## E. Reconciliation of Final Value and documentation

The final values are checked against the sales ratio studies. Any corrections are made and then the rest of the property within the county is changed.

## F. Review assessment sales ratio studies after assessment actions

If needed the sales ratio studies are reviewed again to determine where we need to make additional changes.

## G. Notices and Public Relations

Notice of Valuation change is sent along with a letter of explanation on or before June 1.

## Level of Value, Quality, and Uniformity for assessment year 2006:

| Property Class | $\underline{\text { Median }}$ |  | COD* |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Residential | $99 \%$ | $16 \%$ | $\underline{\text { PRD* }}$ |
| Commercial | $96 \%$ | $14 \%$ | $96 \%$ |
| Agricultural Land | $75 \%$ | $27 \%$ | $102 \%$ |
| Special Value Agland | $75 \%$ | $27 \%$ | $102 \%$ |

*COD means coefficient of dispersion and PRD means price related differential. For more information regarding statistical measures see 2006 Reports \& Opinions.

Assessment Actions Planned for Assessment Year 2006:
For 2006
Agricultural: Our goal is for Bob Worman, contracted appraiser, to review all of Elm Creek, Cowles/Pleasant Hill, Garfield, Glenwood, Batin and part of Red Cloud precincts. This is a total of 232 rural parcels. In this count also includes the rural residential houses. This will include all buildings and residents located within these precincts. Finish transferring information from the old agricultural cards to the new agricultural cards. Proof the new agricultural cards against the old agricultural cards to make sure all data has been transferred accurately.

Residential: Finish transferring information from the old residential cards to the new residential cards. Proof the new residential cards against the old residential cards to make sure all data has been transferred accurately.

Commercial: Our goal is for Bob Worman, contracted appraiser, to review commercial properties in Elm Creek, Cowles/Pleasant Hill, Garfield, Glenwood, Batin and part of Red Cloud precincts. This is a total of 7 rural commercial parcels. Finish transferring information from the old commercial cards to the new commercial cards. Proof the new commercial cards against the old commercial cards to make sure all data has been transferred accurately.

Special Value - Agland: Assessor and/or deputy will review each special value parcel.

## For 2007

Agricultural: Bob Worman, contracted appraiser, was able to finish the reviews on all rural parcels for the 2006 value year. All buildings and residents located within rural Webster County have now been looked at. The Assessor and/or deputy will drive the county to check for any land use changes.

Residential: Assessor and/or deputy will review the Village of Guide Rock with 168 improved parcels and Village of Bladen with 124 improved parcels. This will include all buildings and residents located within this city.

Commercial: Our goal is for Bob Worman, contracted appraiser, has reviewed all commercial properties in the county. As money allows Bob is doing the commercial properties in Red Cloud from scratch. Due to the cost of each parcel I am hoping to just get Red Cloud done in 2007.

Special Value - Agland: Assessor and/or deputy will review each special value parcel
For 2008
Agricultural: Rural properties have all been looked at now, so we will concentrate on the town reviews.

Residential: Contracted appaiser, Bob Worman, the assessor and/or deputy will review the City of Blue Hill with 326 improved parcels and the City of Red Cloud with 539 improved parcels. This will include all buildings and residents located within this city.

Commercial: Contracted appaiser, Bob Worman, will start from scratch on the City of Blue Hill with 45 improved parcels.

Special Value - Agland: Assessor and/or deputy will review each special value parcel.

## Plan of Review

When we review a property, we compare the property record card to the physical site. If anything appears to be wrong, we contact the owner to obtain entrance and do an interior inspection and re-measurement. If not allowed inside, we attempt to review the information with the owner and do a review of the outside. Digital photos are taken of all homes and some outbuildings. The rural ground plan sketches are drawn at this time also. Aerial photographs are unrealistic due to budget constraints.

## Other functions performed by the assessor's office, but not limited to:

1. Record Maintenance, mapping updates, \& ownership changes were discussed in previous sections.
2. Annually prepare and file Assessor Administrative Reports required by law/regulation:
a. Abstracts
b. Assessor Survey
c. Sales information to PA\&T rosters \& annual Assessed Value Update w/Abstract
d. Certification of Value to Political Subdivisions
e. School District Taxable Value Report
f. Homestead Exemption Tax Loss Report (in conjunction with Treasurer)
g. Certificate of Taxes Levied Report
h. Report of current values for properties owned by Board of Education Land \& Funds
i. Report of all Exempt Property and Taxable Government Owned Property
j. Annual Plan of Assessment Report
k. Certify Trusts owning Agland to Secretary of State
3. Personal Property: administer annual filings of approximately 628 schedules, prepare subsequent notices for incomplete filings or failure to file, and penalties applied, as required.
4. Permissive Exemptions: administer annual filings of applications for new or continued exempt use, review and make recommendations to county board.
5. Taxable Government Owned Property: annual review of government owned property not used for public purpose, send notices of intent to tax and follow through this process with any protests and a review of those properties.
6. Homestead Exemptions: administer approximately 264 annual filings of applications, approval/denial process, taxpayer notifications, taxpayer assistance, and sending applications onto the state department.
7. Centrally Assessed: review of valuations as certified by PA\&T for railroads and public service entities, establish assessment records and tax billing for tax list.
8. Tax Increment Financing: management of record/valuation information for properties in community redevelopment projects for proper reporting on administrative reports and allocation of ad valorem tax.
9. Tax Districts and Tax Rates: management of school district and other tax entity boundary changes necessary for correct assessment and tax information, input/review of tax rates used for tax billing process.
10. Tax Lists: prepare and certify tax lists to county treasurer for real property, personal property, and centrally assessed.
11. Tax List Corrections: prepare tax list correction documents for county board approval.
12. County Board of Equalization: attend county board of equalization meetings for valuation protests assemble and provide information.
13. TERC Appeals: prepare information and attend taxpayer appeal hearings before TERC, defend valuation.
14. TERC Statewide Equalization: attend hearings if applicable to county, defend values, and/or implement orders of the TERC.
15. Education: Assessor, Deputy Assessor, and/or Appraisal Education: attend meetings, workshops, and educational classes to obtain required hours of continuing education to maintain assessor certification and/or appraiser license. Always send new help to an educational workshop.

## AMENDMENTS:

Tricia Allen wrote a grant application to the State Records Board. We were approved September 26, 2006 for the amount of $\$ 3000.00$, any of these funds not used must be returned to the State Records Board. Our Web page is being done by Terra Scan and should be up and running by the end of October 2006.

We are looking into doing data transfer with the PA\&T Department. As of today we are still doing the supplemental sheet through the mail to the PA\&T Department.

We have just updated our Marshall and Swift, to 06/06. As we were doing the Sales Ratio Study in Blue Hill we discovered that our replacement cost new pricing was lower than what the properties were selling for.

Respectfully submitted:

Assessor Signature: $\qquad$ Date: $\qquad$

Copy distribution: Submit the plan to the county board of equalization on or before July 31 of each year. Mail a copy of the plan and any amendments to Dept. of Property Assessment \& Taxation on or before October 31 each year.

## 2007 Opinions of the Property Tax Administrator for Counties that have Implemented Special Value for Webster County

My opinions and recommendations are stated as a conclusion based on all of the factors known to me about the assessment practices and statistical analysis for this county. See, Neb. Rev. Stat. §77-5027 (R. S. Supp., 2005). While I rely primarily on the median assessment sales ratio from the Qualified Statistical Reports for each class of real property, my opinion of level of value for a class of real property may be determined from other evidence contained in the RO. Although my primary resource regarding quality of assessment are the performance standards issued by the IAAO, my opinion of quality of assessment for a class of real property may be influenced by the assessment practices of the countv assessor.

## Agricultural Land

It is my opinion that the level of value of the class of agricultural land in Webster County is $75 \%$ of actual value. It is my opinion that the quality of assessment for the class of agricultural land in Webster County is not in compliance with generally accepted mass appraisal practices.

## Special Valuation of Agricultural Land

It is my opinion that the level of value of the special valuation of the class of agricultural land in Webster County is $75 \%$ of actual value. It is my opinion that the quality of assessment for the special valuation of the class of agricultural land in Webster County is not in compliance with generally accepted mass appraisal practices.

## Recapture Valuation of Agricultural Land

It is my opinion that the level of value of the recapture valuation of the class of agricultural land in Webster County is $75 \%$ of actual value. It is my opinion that the quality of assessment for the recapture valuation of the class of agricultural land in Webster County is not in compliance with generally accepted mass appraisal practices.

Dated this 9th day of April, 2007.


# SPECIAL VALUE SECTION CORRELATION for Webster County 

## I. Agricultural Land Value Correlation

A review of the 2007 Unimproved Agricultural statistics indicates that an accurate measurement of the uninfluenced agricultural land in Webster County has been achieved. The measures of central tendency reflect that the median and aggregate are within the range, while the mean is above the acceptable range. The coefficient of dispersion and the price-related differential are above the range. According to the assessment actions report Webster County substantially increased the grass, increased their lower classes of dry and decreased some of their upper dry LCGs as indicated by the market. Additionally, after reviewing the Preliminary Statistical Report, as well as the 2007 Statistical Report for the Unimproved Agricultural real property, the statistical measurements appear to achieve an acceptable level of value in Webster County.



## NUMBER of Sales:

Type: Qualified
Date Range: 07/01/2003 to 06/30/2006 Posted Before: 01/19/2007

Date Range: 07/01/2003 to 06/30/2006 Posted Before: 01/19/2007


Date Range: 07/01/2003 to 06/30/2006 Posted Before: 01/19/2007




# SPECIAL VALUE SECTION CORRELATION for Webster County 

## I. Special Value Correlation

Only a small portion of Webster County is affected by special value, for purposes of valuation the special value has been established using similar uninfluenced agricultural sales that have occurred in the surrounding area and valued the same as other agricultural property in the county. For the assessment year 2007, all grass and the lower LCGs of dry received an increase. The upper LCGs of dry received a decrease. The recapture value was set, in relation to residential lots, in the areas where the land qualifying for special valuation was located. The assessor has met the criteria to achieve an acceptable level and quality of assessment for the agricultural class for the 2007 assessment year. It is the opinion that the level of value for special value in Webster County is equal to the uninfluenced agricultural level of value.

# SPECIAL VALUE SECTION CORRELATION for Webster County 

## III. Recapture Value Correlation

There is no information available to suggest that the level of value is not in compliance. Due to the lack of any sales among the parcels designated with special valuation, there is no evidence to indicate that the quality of assessment or assessment uniformity for recapture value is outside of the acceptable range.

Sonja L. Krueger, Assessor
621 N. Cedar St.
Red Cloud, NE 68970
402-746-27I7
February 1, 2007
Property Assessment \& Taxation
Attention: Cathy Lang
1033 "O" Street, Suite 600

FEB 022007
ORRASKA DPABTMERGG
MSESENET\&TAGTMT

Lincoln NE 68508

## RE: Special Valuation

Methodology for determining recapture valuation of agricultural land: We figure the recapture valuation the same as we do the rest of the residential land within each market area. If I have enough sales I do a market analysis of the area. We do a printout of this pricing and write it on the front of the property record card.

Methodology for determining special valuation of agricultural land: Once a taxpayer comes in to request special valuation we go physically look at the land to determine the use. We figure the special valuation just as we do the rest of agricultural land. If I have enough sales I do a market analysis. We then do a printout of this pricing and write it on the front of the property record card.

Terra-Scan also shows both the recapture valuation and the special valuation.
An example of what this would be:

|  | Land | Imp | Total |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2006 | 15,710 | $-0-$ | 15,710 |
| SPECIAL | VALUATION |  |  |
| 2006 | 2,005 | $-0-$ | 2,005 |



Sonja L. Krueger, Webster County Assessor

## Certification

This is to certify that the 2007 Reports and Opinions of the Property Tax Administrator have been sent to the following:
-Five copies to the Tax Equalization and Review Commission, by hand delivery.

- One copy to the Webster County County Assessor, by certified mail, return receipt requested, 70051160000112139867.

Dated this 9th day of April, 2007.


