



**FINAL ADMINISTRATIVE DECISION
ILLINOIS PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD**

APPELLANT: North Creek Investments & RE Holdings, Inc.
DOCKET NO.: 24-03150.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 07-2-09869-000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are North Creek Investments & RE Holdings, Inc., the appellant, by attorney Lee Waite, of Dilsaver, Nelson & Waite in Mattoon; and the Coles County Board of Review.

Based on the facts and exhibits presented in this matter, the Property Tax Appeal Board hereby finds **A Reduction** in the assessment of the property as established by the **Coles** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

LAND: \$4,641
IMPR.: \$4,791
TOTAL: \$9,432

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

Statement of Jurisdiction

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the Coles County Board of Review pursuant to section 16-160 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/16-160) challenging the assessment for the 2024 tax year. The Property Tax Appeal Board finds that it has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter of the appeal.

Findings of Fact

The subject property consists of a one-story bungalow-style dwelling of frame exterior construction with 1,096 square feet of living area. The dwelling is approximately 84 years old, has a reported effective age of 25 years, and features a partial basement and central air conditioning. The property has a 7,000 square foot site and is located in Mattoon, Mattoon Township, Coles County.

The appellant contends overvaluation as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted an appraisal estimating the subject property had a market value of \$28,300 as of January 1, 2024. The appraisal was prepared by Brian Finley, a certified general real estate appraiser. The purpose of the appraisal was to determine the market value of the subject property for "a private purpose." The appraiser reported that he performed an exterior inspection of the subject on January 28, 2025 and conducted a phone interview with the owner as to the

condition of the interior. The appraiser stated that the opinion of the condition of the subject was based on the exterior inspection and an extraordinary assumption that the interior condition was similar to the exterior.

In estimating the market value of the subject property, the appraiser developed the sales comparison and income approaches to value. Under the sales comparison approach, the appraiser examined three comparable sales located within .43 of a mile of the subject. The comparables are improved with traditional or bungalow-style dwellings of frame exterior construction ranging in size from 928 to 1,458 square feet of living area. The dwellings range from 89 to 121 years old. Two comparables have central air conditioning, one comparable has a basement, and two comparables each have a one-car or two-car garage. The parcels contain either 7,000 or 9,543 square feet of land area. The sales occurred from July 2021 to June 2023 for prices ranging from \$25,000 to \$42,000 or from \$26.19 to \$28.81 per square foot of living area, including land. Adjustments were applied for differences between the comparables and the subject property for dwelling size, bathroom count, foundation, central air conditioning, and garage to arrive at adjusted prices ranging from \$28,000 to \$30,700. Based on this data, the appraiser arrived at a market value of \$28,300 or \$25.82 per square foot of living area, including land, as of January 1, 2024.

Under the income approach, the appraiser examined 11 rent comparables. The monthly rents range from \$385 to \$700. From this data, the appraiser estimated a monthly market rent of \$650 which was then multiplied by a gross rent multiplier of 50.00 to arrive at an opinion of value of \$32,500 under the income approach.

In reconciliation, the appraiser placed most weight on the sales comparison approach in arriving at the final opinion of \$28,300.

Based on this evidence, the appellant requested the subject's assessment be reduced to reflect the appraised value.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$18,469. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$55,412 or \$50.56 per square foot of living area, land included, when using the statutory level of assessment of 33.33%.¹

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on four comparable sales located from .2 of a mile to 1 mile from the subject. The comparables consist of one-story dwellings of wood or vinyl siding exterior construction ranging in size from 936 to 1,399 square feet of living area. The dwellings range in age from 84 to 118 years old. Each dwelling has central air conditioning and a basement. The parcels range in size from 3,063 to 7,500 square feet of land area. The comparables sold from October 2021 to June 2025 for prices ranging from \$88,000 to \$125,000 or from \$85.78 to \$122.55 per square foot of living

¹ Procedural rule Sec. 1910.50(c)(1) provides that in all counties other than Cook, the three-year county wide assessment level as certified by the Department of Revenue will be considered. 86 Ill. Admin. Code §1910.50(c)(1). Prior to the drafting of this decision, the Department of Revenue has yet to publish figures for tax year 2024.

area, including land. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's assessment.

Conclusion of Law

The appellant contends the market value of the subject property is not accurately reflected in its assessed valuation. When market value is the basis of the appeal the value of the property must be proved by a preponderance of the evidence. 86 Ill. Admin. Code §1910.63(e). Proof of market value may consist of an appraisal of the subject property, a recent sale, comparable sales, or construction costs. 86 Ill. Admin. Code §1910.65(c). The Board finds the appellant met this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is warranted.

The appellant submitted an appraisal and the board of review submitted four comparable sales for the Board's consideration. The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be the appraisal submitted by the appellant estimating the subject property had a market value of \$28,300 or \$25.82 per square foot of living area, including land, as of January 1, 2024. The appraisal was completed using comparable properties similar to the subject, and contained appropriate adjustments to the comparable properties, which further advances the credibility of the report. The subject's assessment reflects a market value above the appraised value. The Board gave less weight to the unadjusted comparables presented by the board of review, which do not overcome the weight given to the appraisal. Based on this evidence and after considering adjustments to the best comparables for differences from the subject, the Board finds a reduction in the subject's assessment is justified.

This is a final administrative decision of the Property Tax Appeal Board which is subject to review in the Circuit Court or Appellate Court under the provisions of the Administrative Review Law (735 ILCS 5/3-101 et seq.) and section 16-195 of the Property Tax Code. Pursuant to Section 1910.50(d) of the rules of the Property Tax Appeal Board (86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.50(d)) the proceeding before the Property Tax Appeal Board is terminated when the decision is rendered. The Property Tax Appeal Board does not require any motion or request for reconsideration.



Chairman



Member



Member



Member

DISSENTING: _____

CERTIFICATION

As Clerk of the Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board and the keeper of the Records thereof, I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true, full and complete Final Administrative Decision of the Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board issued this date in the above entitled appeal, now of record in this said office.

Date: February 17, 2026



Clerk of the Property Tax Appeal Board

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Section 16-185 of the Property Tax Code provides in part:

"If the Property Tax Appeal Board renders a decision lowering the assessment of a particular parcel after the deadline for filing complaints with the Board of Review or after adjournment of the session of the Board of Review at which assessments for the subsequent year or years of the same general assessment period, as provided in Sections 9-125 through 9-225, are being considered, the taxpayer may, within 30 days after the date of written notice of the Property Tax Appeal Board's decision, appeal the assessment for such subsequent year or years directly to the Property Tax Appeal Board."

In order to comply with the above provision, YOU MUST FILE A PETITION AND EVIDENCE WITH THE PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE DATE OF THE ENCLOSED DECISION IN ORDER TO APPEAL THE ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPERTY FOR THE SUBSEQUENT YEAR OR YEARS. A separate petition and evidence must be filed for each of the remaining years of the general assessment period.

Based upon the issuance of a lowered assessment by the Property Tax Appeal Board, the refund of paid property taxes is the responsibility of your County Treasurer. Please contact that office with any questions you may have regarding the refund of paid property taxes.

PARTIES OF RECORD

AGENCY

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APPELLANT

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COUNTY

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