## Staff Report for 2023 State Board of Equalization

File No.: 2023-PEMBINA-CHRISTENSON
Prepared By: Property Tax Division
County or City: Pembina County
Appellant: Curtis and Pamela Christenson
Issue: Appeal of Agricultural Land Valuation

Summary: Mr. Curtis Christenson and Ms. Pamela Christenson are appealing the valuation of parcels 13-0460010, 13-0480010, 13-1300000, 13-1890000, 15-0680000, 15-1080000, 15-1190000, 15-1270010, 15-1270000, 15-1680000, 15-1800000, and 15-1300000 located in Pembina County.

## Analysis:

Recommendation:

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## Appellant Information - State Board of Equalization

County or City: Enter County or City Name<br>Appellant:<br>Enter Appellant Name<br>Choose One

Please complete this form in its entirety. The information provided will be taken into consideration when investigating and reaching a conclusion regarding the appeal presented. To provide ample time for investigation, all information to support the appeal (property information, pictures, income information, etc.) must be received by August 1, 2023, and is subject to open records. Please provide one questionnaire per property.

Please email or mail any supporting documentation to:
propertytax@nd.gov
or
The Office of State Tax Commissioner, Attn: Property Tax, 600 E Boulevard Ave., Bismarck, ND 58505-0599

## Information for Property Referenced in Appeal:

Address:
Township Name: Lincoln
County:
Parcel ID:
Legal Description:

## Appellant Contact Information:

Appellant Name: N.Curtis and Pamela Christenson
Address: 16060 Water St. Drayton, ND 58225
Phone Number: 701-520-3126
Email Address: Christenson_farms@hotmail.com

## Answer the questions below that apply to the appeal:

Are you the owner of the property of this appeal?
$\boxtimes$ Yes $\square$ No
(If No, please see the Consent to Release Financial Info)
Did you receive a notice of increase letter from the city/township? (choose all that apply)

| $\boxtimes$ Prior to | $\square$ After | Township/City Equalization Meeting |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\boxtimes$ Prior to | $\square$ After | County Equalization Meeting |
|  | $\square$ No Notification Received |  |

At which meeting(s) did you appeal your assessment? (choose all that apply)
$\boxtimes$ Township/City $\boxtimes$ County $\square$ N/A

## *Please note NDCC § 57-13-04.3(a)(1)(2) requires appellants to appeal to the State Board of Equalization must have applied to both local and county boards.

Has a recent appraisal been completed on the property?
$\square$ Yes (if yes, please attach) $\boxtimes$ No
What grounds is your appeal based upon? Please check all that apply and provide supporting documentation for each selection.
$\square$ Factual error, that is, a data collection or clerical error.
$\boxtimes$ Equity and uniformity claim of discriminatory level of assessment.
$\boxtimes$ Belief that the valuation is inaccurate.
$\square$ Exemption, classification, or assessment limitation.
Please attach or email (propertytax@nd.gov) the following:

1. A detailed explanation of your appeal
2. Evidence to validate the assessment appealed
3. Consent to Release Financial Information, if required

## Appeal Process:

1.) Appellant notifies the Property Tax Division of intent to appeal.
2.) Submit this form and all applicable documentation to propertytax@nd.gov by the date specified above.
3.) The State Board of Equalization meets on the second Tuesday in August to examine and compare the returns of the assessment of taxable property as submitted by North Dakota counties. This is locally assessed property. The board equalizes the property so that all assessments of similar taxable property are uniform and equal throughout the state. During this meeting, tax directors or other representatives from a county will speak, along with city representatives, and individual taxpayers.
4.) After the State Board meeting, your case will be assigned, and staff will reach out to schedule an onsite review of the property (when deemed applicable). While an interior inspection of the property is not required, interior reviews may affect the consideration of value. If denied an interior review, we will assess from the exterior only. Staff will not be allowed to enter the property without the owner or a representative present.
5.) Generally, by the first Thursday of October, the property tax division staff will present their findings to the State Board of Equalization with a recommendation. The board deliberates and votes. You can attend this meeting; however, public comments are not accepted.

## Appellant Contact Information:

N. Curtis Christenson

16060 Water St. Drayton ND 58225
701-520-3126

Please attach to following:

Detailed explanation of our appeal.

Lincoln Township Tax Equalization Meeting was held April 10, 2023. At this meeting a $30 \%$ flood modifier was voted on and approved for land that flooded along the Red River, based on 2009 flood maps based off lidar maps provided by the Pembina County Water Board. Each parcel was identified and the cards were marked by the soils committee. I am personally appealing those parcels owned by me ( N. Curtis Christenson) and those that I am representing.

The frequency of flooding along the Red River in Lincoln Township has steadily increased over the years with more drainage and diversions causing deeper floods that stay up for weeks delaying seeding into June and most of the time not at all. The value of this land is half of land with similar soil types that don't flood. This is the reason we can't afford to pay the same taxes.

## Evidence to validate the assessment appeals:

See attached sheets

Pembina County spreadsheet showing what a $30 \%$ flood modifier would do for flooding parcels.
Copy of Lincoln Township Tax Equalization Meeting Minutes.

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