

Board upholds assessor's Incline residential values

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The Nevada Board of Equalization upheld the Washoe County Assessor's values for nearly 1,400 residential properties at Incline Village for the current tax year after conducting three days of hearings in Reno.

In the unanimous decision, the state board confirmed this week that Assessor Josh Wilson followed state-approved regulations for valuing properties at the lake, said David Creekman, a county deputy district attorney.

In addition, the values set for 2008-09 were based on the first mass appraisal of lake properties since 2002. The older mass appraisal has been at the root of lawsuits filed by the Village League to Save Incline Assets every year since then.

In several decisions, the Nevada Supreme Court sided with the Village League and struck down the assessor's property values for Incline Village. The

2002 appraisal used rules to judge Lake Tahoe views, beaches and other factors that weren't approved by the state. And the court ruled that made them unconstitutional.

Rules on valuing beaches and lake views, set by the Nevada Tax Commission in 2004, were used for the new mass appraisal in the current tax year.

Maryanne Ingemanson, league president, said the state board of equalization's decision will be appealed in district court. She said the league also has a court case pending over the new state rules.

She said the state board ruling was expected.

"Hope springs eternal, but we have never won anything at the state board," she said. "It's not over. It's not even close to being over."

Creekman said he is not surprised that the league intends to appeal.

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