

**Minutes of Conference Call on January 18, 2008**  
**County Revenue Officers Association of Alabama**  
**(CROAA)**

**Meeting:** Conference Call Meeting  
**Date:** January 18, 2008  
**Subject:** Business License Reform/Streamline Sales Tax/Honorary Member

The conference call began at 9:30 a.m. with each person and county being identified.

President, Kirk Keith introduced us to our first topic of discussion which was Streamline Sales Tax. We received an update from Sonny Brasfield concerning the shift of attitude on the part of the governing body with Streamline Sales tax. The leadership is willing to compromise or make concessions that are needed and this is a change from the thought process in the past. According to Sonny, there is nothing for this group to do at present except to stay abreast of what is going on but we will need to review what is going on this summer to see if any action is needed by CROAA.

Sonny Brasfield and Mary Pons both discussed with us the topic concerning Business License Reform. Mary is currently working on a draft and hopes to mail it out to us within the next couple of weeks for us to review. She asks that we email back to her questions and concerns once we have had the opportunity to review it. Some specific issues mentioned and discussed were that most licenses currently under \$40.00 would be bumped up to \$40.00, chain stores would have to get a license in each city/county that they are located in, fees and citations would be increased and some licenses that are now separate would be merged into one. It was also brought to our attention that the political climate is such that businesses are skittish concerning license reform due to municipality changes that have generated increased license fees.

An ongoing concern for the business community is central registration. It is very important for businesses particularly those out of state. The funding for this central electronic registration would come from issuance fees. Betty Peterson poised the question concerning access to the information and that will have to be outlined in the future.

The final topic discussed in the conference call was issuing an honorary membership to John Paradise from the Alabama Department of Revenue. Betty Peterson mentioned that one person is awarded that each year and they are chosen by a committee. The next person in line for that honor is Janice Stewart. The group agreed that she would be next and it was suggested that John Paradise be made an associate member. It was agreed that this would be presented to him and he could pay yearly dues of \$10.00.

The final reminder at the conference call was made by Mary Pons concerning the draft for Business License Reform that will be sent out for review. The call ended at approximately 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted January 23, 2008

Patricia A. Ross  
Secretary/Treasurer