



TOIRMA Update

By Rod Beck

TOIRMA Executive Director

How do we measure success?

ON MAY 31, 2011, TOIRMA completed the 25th year of providing coverages to townships in Illinois. Those 25 years since inception have had a significant impact on townships and township government. There has been literally millions of dollars worth of savings by our members who made the decision to join TOIRMA. This past year's savings alone is estimated at nearly \$6,000,000 and those are funds that remain in the townships and road districts providing services to the local electors or reducing the amount of the levy necessary to provide the coverage if it were purchased elsewhere.

While looking at the renewal figures, I found the following information interesting and thought it was something worth sharing. TOIRMA has 1367 current members which represents 91% of all possible townships and road districts in the state. In the past 13 years, we have had one member who chose not to renew. That township has indicated a desire to return to TOIRMA when their current obligation is fulfilled. During that same span of time, we have attracted 229 new members.

TOIRMA also provides coverage to 312 Multi-Township Assessing Districts, which is 94% of the current MTADs in the state. The number of MTADs continues to change due to some voluntary consolidation taking place.

Those statistics would seem to indicate another successful year in the history of TOIRMA and we are grateful to those who have made it possible. We appreciate the loyalty of our members and pledge to continue earning that loyalty into the future.

Now for the other side of the business, TOIRMA has received 1,063 claims this year. Some of them were relatively simple to conclude and some were very extensive. I have tried to explain this issue before but when I am attending meetings, I continue to receive comments about "I don't want to leave a voice mail". Sorry folks, but sometimes that is necessary. You will get a follow-up call if you will leave a phone number where you can be reached. The numbers are published regularly in the quarterly newsletter, as well as numerous other places. It is not our desire to make it difficult for the members. It is simply a fact of life that it is not always possible to reach someone on the first attempt. Once you have made the attempt and left a reachable number, then the process will be activated and follow-up will occur in a timely manner. As a side note, the more thorough the information you are able to provide, the more efficiently we are able to work toward a resolution of that claim and resolution is the desire for every claim. Some are just more easily resolved than others.

As I write this article, I do not have the final figure for claims paid during this past year. One thing I can tell you for sure though is the claims are becoming more expensive as time goes by. Anything our members can do to assist us in reducing both the number and severity of claims will be appreciated. After all, it is contributions paid from member townships that ultimately pay those claims.

Please practice safety and work safely.

As always, please call if I can be of assistance.

— Rod



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