

*referred to in the certificate for the twenty years next preceding the date of filing of the application. Such proof shall be taken by the applicant by deposition, including the deposition of at least one person other than the applicant or a person related to him, and shall be conducted in the manner prescribed for the taking of depositions in the Rules of Procedure adopted by the Court of Appeals. The examination of each deponent shall include his knowledge of the land described in the certificate and the general area surrounding such land, and the apparent accuracy, based upon such knowledge, of the plat prepared by the surveyor.*

*(b) Proof at hearing.—In cases where a hearing is to be held, the Commissioner may, upon motion of the applicant made prior to the time referred to in subsection (e), direct that the proof required by subsection (a) be taken at such hearing and not by way of deposition.*

*(c) Deposition on request of surveyor.—Upon request of the surveyor, the applicant may take the deposition of any person in order to assist the surveyor in ascertaining the boundaries upon which his survey depends or otherwise to assist him in the execution of the warrant.*

*(d) Notice of deposition.—Notice of the taking of any deposition shall be given to all parties to the proceeding; and any such party may be present at the deposition and examine any deponent.*

*(e) Filing depositions.—All depositions shall be filed with the Commissioner within forty-five days from the date of filing the certificate of the surveyor. Depositions, when filed, shall be accompanied by all exhibits introduced during the course of such depositions and an affidavit of the person at whose instance such deposition was taken that notice was given to all parties to the proceeding.*

**13-109. Filing of certificates and plats; correction and amendment thereof; valuation of vacant land.**

*(a) Filing of certificate; correction and amendment.—The Commissioner shall examine the certificates and plats returned by the surveyor and, if they appear to comply with the requirements of § 13-107, shall file them in the proceeding. If any certificate or plat is found to be incorrect or incomplete, it shall be returned to the surveyor for completion or appropriate amendment.*

*(b) Valuation of vacant land.—When a certificate containing any alleged vacant land has been filed, the duplicate copy thereof returned by the surveyor shall be forwarded to the supervisor of assessments for the county in which such land lies. The supervisor shall make such investigation or inspection of the land as he deems appropriate; shall endorse on the duplicate certificate his affidavit of the actual fair market value of the alleged vacant land and the improvements thereon and a statement of the reasons for such valuation; and shall return the duplicate certificate so endorsed to the Commissioner. Such valuation shall thereafter be deemed to be prima facie evidence of the actual fair market value of the vacant land and improvements referred to in the certificate; but upon written exception by the applicant or objection by any person, the Commissioner shall conduct a hearing on the issue so presented.*