

MINUTES

GALVESTON CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors January 13th, 2021

The regular meeting of the Galveston Central Appraisal District Board of Directors was held Wednesday, January 13th, 2021 at 9850 Emmett F. Lowry Expressway, Suite A, Texas City, Texas.

Members present: Donald Gartman
Bruce Clawson
Chad Tressler
Scott Brast
Cheryl Johnson; Ex Officio Member

Members absent: Tom Farmer

Others present: Chief Appraiser Tommy Watson, Director of Finance & Administration Bertha Curry, Executive Assistant Lauren Frame, Taxpayer Liaison Officer Norman Franzke and Appraisal Review Board Chairman Leroy Ellis.

1. OPEN SESSION

With a quorum present, Chairman, Donald Gartman called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM. He stated that the meeting had been duly called and the public meeting notice was properly posted in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code; Chapter 551. He asked the attendees to join in the Pledge to the Flag of the United States, followed by the Pledge to the Texas Flag.

2. Welcome Guests and Comments from the Public.

There were no comments at this time.

3. Review and Consider Approval of Chief Appraiser's Appointment to the Agricultural Advisory Board for the 2021-2022 Term.

Mr. Watson stated Jerry Robinson is up for re-appointment for the two-year term and that Mr. Robinson is on the board of the Brazoria-Galveston USDA Corporation and is a big farmer and rancher who helps the CAD a lot.

Mr. Clawson **MOVED** to accept and approve the appointment of Jerry Robinson to the Agricultural Advisory Board. Mr. Brast **SECONDED** the motion. The Motion **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**.

4. CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 4:02 PM, Chairman Gartman announced the board's adjournment into closed executive session called in accordance with Chapter 551.074 of the Texas Government Code.

Section 551.074

- ◆ Deliberate Re-Appointment of Taxpayer Liaison Officer for the year 2021.

5. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

Consideration and Action on any Item discussed in the Closed Executive Session

At 4:04 PM, the members of the board reconvened in open session.

6. Consider and Approve Re-Appointment of Norman B. Franzke as the Taxpayer Liaison Officer for the year 2021.

The chairman stated that Mr. Franzke has done a heck of a job and that he appreciates it. Mr. Watson applauded Mr. Franzke and the rest of the board members joined in.

Mr. Clawson **MOVED** to accept and approve the appointment of Norman B. Franzke as the Taxpayer Liaison for the year 2021. Mr. Tressler **SECONDED** the motion. The Motion **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**.

7. Review and Consider Approval of the District's Investment Policy.

Ms. Curry stated there were no changes made to the policy.

Mr. Tressler **MOVED** to accept and approve the Districts Investment Policy. Mr. Clawson **SECONDED** the motion. The Motion **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**.

8. Review and Consider Approval of the Minutes from the November 18th, 2020 meeting.

The chairman stated he had a few questions on sentences that he did not understand. The first question was on section 8, in the last sentence it states that "we have shipped the cases to the outside firms." Mr. Watson explained that the cases were sent to our outside law firms; Greer, Herz and Adams, LLP and Mcleod, Alexander, Powell & Apffel. The second question was on section 14; the last sentence states "The Chairman has heard a few complaints regarding our employees during phone calls, ARB meetings or even in person and we need to be sure that our employees are treating our customers with the utmost respect." The chairman stated that a comma or and inserted between ARB meetings and even in person would help make it clear. Mr. Brast stated that though he is a fan of the oxford comma it is not mandatory. The chairman stated the minutes would remain as is.

Mr. Brast **MOVED** to accept and approve the minutes from the November 18th, 2020 board meeting. Mr. Tressler **SECONDED** the motion. The Motion **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**.

9. Review and Consider Approval of the Financial Reports for the periods ending November 30th, 2020 and December 31st, 2020.

The chairman stated he noticed the money market investment letter mixed in with the financial reports and he doesn't know if it needed to be approved separately. Ms. Curry stated that is the quarterly letter that is given to the board every quarter and does not need to be approved separately. There were no further comments at this time.

Mr. Clawson **MOVED** to accept and approve the financial reports for the periods ending November 30th, 2020 and December 31st, 2020. Mr. Tressler **SECONDED** the motion. The Motion **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**.

10. Review and Consider Report of the Taxpayer Liaison Officer for the months of November and December 2020.

Mr. Franzke asked the board if they wanted him to go over each individual email or just discuss the report as a whole. The chairman stated Mr. Franzke did a real good job of explaining everything in his report. Mrs. Johnson asked how the concern with the Dickinson little league workout, Mr. Watson stated he handled the issue. Mr. Clawson asked if the personnel issues that were embedded in the reports have been handled and Mr. Watson stated he has spoken with the personnel that had the issues and it has been addressed.

11. Review and Consider Report of the Appraisal Review Board for the months of November and December 2020.

Mr. Ellis stated during the month of November the review board met and approved a supplement roll, denied 2 postponements and heard a total of 274 formal protests and during the month of December

the review board approved another supplemental roll, heard 158 formal protests and thanked Mrs. Burnett for her years of service to the review board as her term ended December 31st, 2020.

12. Chief Appraisers Report.

Mr. Watson stated the Property Value Study will be released January 31, 2021 at midnight. On January 5, 2021 Judge Ellisor interviewed the Appraisal Review Board applicants and letters were mailed out to the selected members. Mr. Watson stated he discussed a few complaints with Mr. Franzke regarding a few complaints that were made on a current ARB member, 2021 would be his last term as a member but I am removing him from the board because of these issues. Mrs. Johnson asked if there is a process to follow in this removal or does the judge notify him. Mr. Watson stated we came up with a removal letter and sent it to the Judge for approval before mailing it, Judge Ellisor approved the letter and it was mailed out this afternoon. Mr. Watson stated that Ms. Frame sent an email to the board pertaining to Mr. Pierels departure from the CAD and that the board knew Mr. Willey was gone. Mr. Watson stated that he interviewed an attorney on Tuesday, and he is certain that he will be accepting the job as the in-house attorney, as he was asking for the later start date of February 16, 2021 during the interview.

13. Comments from the Board of Directors

Mr. Brast and Mr. Tressler stated they had no further comments. Mr. Clawson thanked Mr. Franzke again and stated that the board never heard any reports or had anything to look at, so it is great to have now. Mrs. Johnson stated she has 15 bill drafts; 3 were filed, Representative Middleton is filing a bill for the property value study, to take the pressure off of every year and move it to every other year and we are hoping that will pass. Mr. Watson asked if there is anything as far as rules go that will change the date range on the sales that are being used, the state uses sales after the January 01 appraisal date. Mrs. Johnson stated she has no problem putting the pressure out there to make this change with the Comptroller.

14. Correspondence

Mr. Franzke stated he received a public information request that is asking for the direct individual emails for the Chief Appraiser, the taxpayer liaison, all board members and elected officials. Mr. Watson asked that Mr. Franzke give the request to him so he can take a look at it. The chairman stated that Mr. Franzke get with Mr. Watson after the meeting.

15. Set Date of Next Regular Meeting.

Wednesday: February 10th, 2021 at 4:00PM.

16. Adjournment

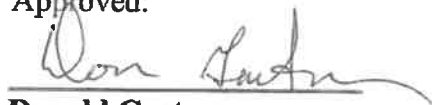
The regular business meeting of the Galveston Central Appraisal District Board of Directors was adjourned Wednesday, January 13th, 2021 at 4:36 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Bruce Clawson
Secretary

Approved:



Donald Gartman
Chairman