

WICHITA APPRAISAL DISTRICT

P.O. Box 5172 600 Scott Street Wichita Falls, Texas 76307
940-322-2435 940-322-8190 Fax

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

June 9, 2021

Pursuant to notice, a meeting of the Board of Directors ("Board") of the Wichita Appraisal District ("the District") was held in the offices of the District this date at 11:00 a.m. The quorum included Board members Steve Cookingham, Jeff Watts, Max Schlegel, Jeff Taylor, Austin Cooper and Jeff Kindt. Also, present were Lisa Stephens-Musick, Chief Appraiser, Denise Skinner, Administrative Assistant, Paul Bata, GIS/IT Manager and Monty Toliver, Director of Residential Appraisal. Board members, Glenn Barham, Kerry Maroney and Tommy Smyth were absent. Board member, Steve Fairchild arrived during the Chief Appraiser's report.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 11:10 a.m. and it was established that a quorum was present. Mr. Watts offered the invocation.

Adoption of Minutes

Mr. Watts offered a motion to approve the minutes of the May board meeting as presented. Mr. Kindt seconded the motion, which passed 6-0. Mr. Watts offered a motion to approve the minutes of the May and June budget committee meetings as presented. Mr. Cooper seconded the motion, which passed 6-0.

Chief Appraiser's Report

- A. Eagleview Demonstration and Discussion – Paul Bata discussed with the board how the district provides Eagleview resources to the taxing jurisdictions and explained how he creates parcel layers to accommodate their specific needs. Some jurisdictions use Eagleview to assist with code enforcement, some school districts utilize it for attendance zones, and the new 911 software integrates the imagery into their system. Monty Toliver demonstrated with computer visuals how the district's appraisers can view properties from several angles which is especially helpful in rural areas, measure properties, add or delete structures that are not visible to appraisers when driving, and see development within neighborhoods.
- B. Legislation – Ms. Stephens-Musick provided information to the board regarding bills passed during the 2021 regular session; at this time most of the bills have been sent to the Governor for his signature. While several bills affect appraisal district operations, the discussion focused HB 988 and SB 63 and changes affecting the board of directors, appraisal review board procedures.
- C. 2021 Protest Activity – Ms. Stephens-Musick gave an overview of protest activity this year as compared with prior years. She reported a 25% increase in protests over the previous year; there is a 59% increase in protests from 2017 through 2021 with a 252% increase in residential protests during the five-year period. Two extra days have been added to the ARB hearing schedule to compensate for the increase in protests. Hearings began on June 7, 2021 and will continue through mid-July.

Closed Meeting - Executive Session – Personnel Issues

Mr. Cookingham closed the meeting at 12:12 p.m. and the board entered into an executive session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.074 regarding personnel matters to discuss the chief appraiser's annual evaluation, contract and compensation.

Return to Open Session

Mr. Cookingham reopened the meeting at 12:25 p.m.

Discussion & Appropriate Action- Chief Appraiser's Annual Evaluation, Contract and Compensation

Mr. Watts offered a motion to approve a contract with Lisa Stephens-Musick to run January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023. Mr. Schlegel seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

Discussion & Appropriate Action- 2022 Budget Proposal

The board reviewed the budget committee's 2022 budget proposal of \$1,953,947.00 which represents an increase of 6.98% over the 2021 budget of \$1,826,517.00. Mr. Fairchild offered a motion to approve the budget proposal. Mr. Schlegel seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

Financial Reports

Mr. Watts offered a motion to approve the financial report from April and May. Mr. Fairchild seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

Taxpayer Liaison Report

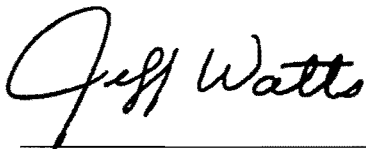
The taxpayer liaison officer had nothing to report.

Public Comment


There were no comments from the public.

Adjournment

Mr. Cookingham announced that the next Board meeting will be Wednesday, August 11, 2021. He adjourned the meeting at 12:49 p.m.



Jeff Watts, Secretary



Steve Cookingham, Chairman