

**AUSTIN COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT
BELLVILLE, TEXAS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF MARCH 20, 2025**

The Board of Directors of the Austin County Appraisal District met on Thursday, March 20, 2025, at the Austin County Appraisal District office, 906 E Amelia St., Bellville, Texas. The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Mr. Frank Monk, followed by certification of public notice and of a quorum. Mr. Monk led the Pledge of Allegiance and Mr. Curtis Brenner gave an invocation.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Frank Monk, Mr. Curtis Brenner, Mr. Arlie Kendrick, Mr. Leroy Cerny, Ms. Cecilia Allice, Mr. Ryan Reichardt

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. Justin Richardson, Mrs. Dee Anne Lerma

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. Greg Cook, Mr. Jason Ames, Mrs. Lois FitzSimon, Ms. Barbie Lunsford, Mrs. Amanda Wass, Mrs. Tina Swonke, Mrs. Michelle Mitchell, Mr. Bruce White, Mrs. Shelley Brian, Mr. Lester Bernard

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Kendrick made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 27, 2025, regular board meeting. Ms. Allice seconded the motion, and it carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF CURRENT BUDGET DISBURSEMENTS

Mr. Cook highlighted several large expenditures for February. Mr. Kendrick made the motion to accept the reports. Mr. Cerny seconded the motion, and it carried.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:

AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

Mr. Cook presented the names of the 2025 Agricultural Advisory Committee members: Chip Reed, Myles Marek, Milton Beckendorff, Dixon Ashorn and Tommy Monk. Mr. Reichardt made a motion to approve the members for 2025. Mr. Brenner seconded the motion, and it carried.

PRESENTATION OF 2026 SALARY BUDGETARY RECOMMENDATIONS

A first presentation of the 2026 salary budget was given by Mr. Cook. He noted that though individual positions would receive a 2 to 2 ½ % increase, the overall salary budget would be less than the 2025 salary budget. There was no action taken.

UPDATE ON NEEDS ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

Mr. Brenner gave a report on the recent Needs Assessment Committee meeting, where they discussed: staffing, budget, building needs, keeping the Sealy satellite office in the budget, the need to upgrade to a new CAMA system, etc. Regarding the current CAMA system, Mr. Brenner stated it will no longer fit the needs of the appraisal district considering the current parcel count of more than

50,000. The committee will meet with a new CAMA provider at their next meeting. A new system will be considered for the 2026 / 2027 budget. Mr. Cook said construction on the carport for the CAD vehicles has begun.

UPDATE FOR REMOTE CAPTURE

Mr. Cook reminded the board that they had approved a new account for Vehicle Inventory Tax remote capture. Typically, these are low-value deposits. No action was needed.

ARB MEMBER UPDATE

Mr. Cook informed the board that the local District Judge has appointed two new appraisal review board members and an alternate. No action was needed.

AUSTIN COUNTY ANALYSIS

Mr. Cook presented a preliminary look at the 2025 property values. No action was needed.

CHIEF APPRAISER'S REPORT

ORGANIZATIONAL REPORT

Mr. Cook informed the board of a recent reporting error. Inaccurate information was reported to the Comptroller's office in October, due to the timing of updated form instructions being published. After discussions with Perdue Brandon, the corrections are being worked internally and there will not be an audit. Numbers should be adjusted by September.

Mr. Cook continued his report with the following: GIS update; MAP reviewer was in-house March 3-5; Operations Survey to be submitted by March 27; appraisal work being completed along with applications, updating schedules preparing for notices of appraised value. Mr. Cook gave a timeline for the upcoming notice process; Truth in Taxation training will be held April 8 and 9.

LAWSUITS / MEDIATION

Mr. Cook reported on the current number of pending lawsuits and arbitrations.

COLLECTION REPORT

Mrs. Swonke reported on the following: For February the district is at 91% collected; In April Perdue Brandon will be working 2024 delinquent personal property accounts; delinquent statements will go out before the end of the month; most entities are 90% to 95% collected. She explained the mobile home tax lien process. Currently, 13 people have signed up for the Truth in Taxation workshop to be held April 8 and 9. This workshop is open to all entity staff and board / council members.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Tri-Region training was viewed by the appraisal staff via Zoom on March 6; the recent BIS webinar on the Taxpayer Portal; unclaimed funds webinar; manager meeting was held March 12; the CAD office will close March 26 for staff training 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM; collections staff to Courses 101 & 102.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The board did not adjourn into executive session.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

NEXT MEETING

The proposed date for the next Board of Director's meeting is April 17, 2025, at 8:30 a.m. at the appraisal district office.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Mr. Reichardt made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Kendrick seconded the motion, it carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:07 a.m.



Frank Monk, Chairman



Curtis Brenner, Secretary