

LAMAR COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2020
4:00 P.M.

Members present: Terry Christian, David Dunmon, Kelly Jeffery and Keith Mitchell. Lyle Edwards was absent.

LCAD Staff present: Stephanie Lee, Jerry Patton and Margie McKee

LCAD Staff absent: Pat Loven and Leah Robertson

1. Meeting called to order and a quorum declared at 4:00 p.m. by Board Chairman, Terry Christian.
2. Public Comments - Congratulations to new Chief Appraiser Stephanie Lee by Haskell Maroney Lamar County Tax Assessor Collector.
3. Approval of the minutes from October 7, 2020.

Motion: David Dunmon Second: Kelly Jeffery Vote: Unanimous

4. The District's financial report was given by Stephanie Lee. There was discussion on ARB expenses, being in excess of budget, due to large amount of property protests. Recommendation was to take excess amount out of General Fund at the end of the year. The Board authorized Stephanie Lee to notify entities that we will hold 2019/2020 Budget Surplus, until after ARB meetings in 2021, and if there are excess funds, we will dispense them after that time.

Motion: David Dunmon Second: Keith Mitchell Vote: Unanimous

5. The Director of Appraisal report was given by Stephanie Lee in absence of Leah Robertson. She reported that the appraisers have moved back into the home office after spending several months at the civic center. She stated the appraisal department received a large amount of income information during the informal protest. They will be working to get all data calculated and entered to prepare for protests scheduled for the first week of December. She stated they have started the field work for the 2021 year and are working on permits and known new structures and will progress to then working Prairiland ISD as a whole. In November they will be mailing Agricultural Use questionnaires to obtain lease information. This information will be used to calculate the agricultural values for 2021. It was also stated that there are interviews scheduled for the first week of November to fill positions in the appraisal department. Discussion was held on how solar equipment and land are appraised.

Motion: Keith Mitchell Second: David Dunmon Vote: Unanimous

6. The Director of Collections report was given by Stephanie Lee in the absence of Pat Loven. She reported that all collections for the month of September are delinquent years collected. The total of taxes collected in September was \$154,543.59. For the same period last year the total collected was \$119,841.15. The 2020 tax statements will be mailed at the end of the week or the first of November.

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She also reported that Tracy Pounders, the Attorney for the City of Paris and Paris Junior College will have a tax sale on December 1, with seventy-three properties being auctioned. Linebarger Goggan Blair and Sampson, LLP, the delinquent attorneys for all other entities, will also have a sale on the same day, but we have not received a listing of those properties.

Motion: Kelly Jeffery Second: Keith Mitchell Vote: Unanimous

7. Stephanie Lee thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve as Lamar County Appraisal District Chief Appraiser and said that she will be dedicated to serving the community and listening to the taxpayer with all issues. She stated that she had moved into the new office on Monday, October 19th. She has addressed the status of job openings and has placed an ad for two appraisers and a technology and personal property appraiser. She asked to discuss the letter from Texas State Comptroller that states we need to have an open meeting regarding the status of property value study. It was decided to hold an open meeting on November 18, 2020. She stated the tax statements will be generated the end of this week or beginning of next week. She said she has been in contact with Jim Evans of Low Swinney & Evans and discussed the Lawsuit and arbitration process and he was very informative. She informed the Board that she will be attending the Chief Appraiser Academy and Institute when it is available. She said the MAPS Reviewer for the state has contacted our office and that Jerry Patton is training her on items that need to be addressed before he retires. She also informed the Board that ARB members, Gerald Whiteside and Tim Bullock, will be leaving the board and we will be needing replacements. She told the board that she would like for Margie McKee (Administrative Assistant) to begin taking Board minutes in January, but had her attend today's meeting to get familiar with procedures. She also said she has met with delinquent attorneys from Linebarger and has emailed Pounders Law Firm that she is Jerry Patton's replacement as Chief Appraiser.

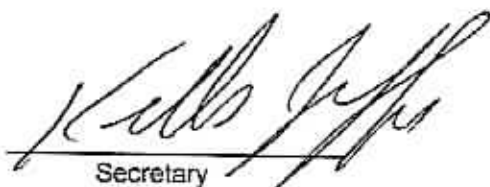
Motion: David Dunmon Second: Keith Mitchell Vote: Unanimous

8. The Board went into closed session at 4:39 p.m. Motion by Keith Mitchell, Second by David Dunmon. Vote was unanimous. Keith Mitchell wanted to discuss procedures of closed session at last board meeting. The Board returned to open session at 4:57 p.m.

Motion: Keith Mitchell Second: Kelly Jeffery Vote: Unanimous

9. Action during closed session was to strike Item 9, from October 7th, 2020 meeting and put in Executive notes and seal.

10. Adjourn Motion: Kelly Jeffery Second: David Dunmon Vote: Unanimous


Secretary


Chairman