# Tarrant Appraisal District Board of Directors Meeting Minutes January 14, 2022

This meeting was conducted "in person" and in compliance with the Open Meetings Act as written in statute. Temporary suspensions of some parts of the Act previously allowed TAD to conduct Board meetings in which Directors and the public could participate remotely via teleconference. While "the COVID-19 pandemic continues [and] Texans are strongly encouraged as a matter of personal responsibility to consistently follow good hygiene, social-distancing, and other mitigation practices", GA-38 (Jul. 29, 2021) (cited in GA-40 [Oct. 11, 2021] as remaining in effect), the temporary suspensions of parts of the Act were no longer in effect.

A quorum of members of the Board attended in person at TAD offices.

These minutes are a summary of only the subjects the Board addressed and the actions it took. For details, see the Agenda and Audio Recording that are posted on TAD's website at this URL:

https://www.tad.org/about/board-of-directors/

### **Members present:**

Ms. Kathryn Wilemon, Chairman

Mr. Rich DeOtte, Secretary

Ms. Wendy Burgess (joined meeting at 9:30 a.m.)

Mr. Jungus Jordan

Mr. J.R. Martinez

Mr. Tony Pompa

## Also participating:

Mr. Jeff Law, Chief Appraiser

Ms. Wilemon called the meeting to orders. Mr. Law verified the presence of a quorum of carry-over members of the 2020-2021 term and the timely posting of notice of the meeting. After signing anti-bribery statements and taking oaths of office, all voting members of the 2022-2023 term were seated as was Ms. Burgess. Mr. DeOtte moved to nominate Ms. Wilemon as Chairman; Mr. Martinez seconded the motion; and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Martinez moved to nominate Mr. DeOtte as Secretary; Mr. Pompa seconded the motion; and the motion passed unanimously. Ms. Wilemon led the pledges of allegiance. Pastor Michael Burr delivered the invocation. The Board then took up the following Agenda items.

# 7. Recognize Visitors; Hear Public Comments

The Board recognized and heard comments from members of the public.

#### 8. Action Items

- a. Consent Agenda items
  - (1) Action regarding Approval of Board of Directors Meeting Minutes December 17, 2021
  - (2) Action regarding payment of Annual Maintenance and Support services provided by Manatron, Inc. and payment of annual Escrow Fee
  - (3) Action regarding engaging Ardent Creative to provide continued TAD.org Maintenance, Support, and Development for 2022
  - (4) Action regarding authorization of renewal of annual maintenance agreements for all Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) software products in support of TAD's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) appraisal mapping system
  - (5) Action regarding consent to Agricultural Advisory Board member appointments
  - (6) Action regarding approval of the continued periodic replacement of Desktop Personal Computers (PCs)
    - Mr. Jordan asked to remove Item 8(a)(1) from Consent Agenda and it was removed. Mr. Pompa moved to approve the remainder of the consent agenda (Consent Agenda Items 8(a)(2)-(6)); Mr. DeOtte seconded the motion; and the motion passed unanimously.
    - Mr. Pompa moved to approve the Meeting Minutes for December 17, 2021; Mr. DeOtte seconded the motion; Mr. Jordan abstained from voting; and the motion passed.
- b. Deliberate and act on adding Juneteenth National Independence Day as an observed holiday beginning in 2022
  - Mr. Pompa moved to approve the proposed action, Mr. Martinez seconded the motion; and the motion passed unanimously.
- c. Deliberate and act on authorizing contract for professional services with BIS Consulting, Inc. to provide quality assurance, assistance with Computer

Assisted Mass Appraisal (CAMA) Users Group and other consulting services

Mr. Pompa moved to approve proposed action; Mr. Martinez seconded the motion; and the motion passed unanimously.

d. Deliberate and act on authorizing Enhanced Retiree Health Insurance Incentive for Qualified Retirees

Mr. Pompa moved to table this item until the budget workshop; Mr. DeOtte seconded the motion; and the motion passed unanimously.

e. Deliberate and act regarding Engagement of Legal Counsel for Tarrant Appraisal District Focusing on Governmental Law

Mr. DeOtte moved to invite each of the four attorneys being considered to attend the February meeting in person to make prepared remarks and to answer questions from Board members, with 15 minutes allotted to each candidate and with prepared remarks to include responses to questions that Board members may provide to Mr. Law within the coming week and Mr. Law to send to each candidate. Mr. Pompa seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

f. Deliberate and act on Evaluation of the Executive Director/Chief Appraiser

At 10:46 a.m. the Board recessed into executive session as provided in Item 11 of the Agenda. At 11:55 a.m. the Board returned to Open Session as provided in Item 12 of the Agenda. At that time Mr. DeOtte moved to increase the Chief Appraiser's current base salary by 3%, to award deferred compensation at \$11,000 which is unchanged from before, and to increase car allowance to \$13,800. Mr. Martinez seconded the motion; Mr. Jordan abstained from voting; and the motion passed with all votes in favor.

#### 9. Discussion Items

Mr. Law responded to previous comments from a member of the public concerning alleged nepotism.

#### 10. Information Items

- a. Report by Taxpayer Liaison Officer
- b. Report by ARB Chairman
- c. Report by Chief Appraiser

# 11. Recess to executive Session Pursuant to the following part(s) of the Texas Open Meetings Act Government Code Ch. 551, for the following purposes:

a. Section 551.074 – To deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee or to hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee – evaluation of the Executive Director/Chief Appraiser See 8(f) above.

# 12. Return to Open Session

b. Vote on any matters considered in executive session
 See 8(f) above.

# 13. Propose Future Agenda Items; Set Next Meeting Date; Adjourn

After noting the next meeting is scheduled for February 11, 2022, the meeting adjourned at 12:08 p.m.

Kathryn Wilemon, Chairman

Rìch DeOtte, Secretăry