

Cooke County Appraisal District
201 N. Dixon
Gainesville, TX 76240
940-665-7651

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Minutes for BOD Meeting
Wednesday, December 9, 2020

Present: Joe Knight, Jerry Fleitman, and Nancy Brannon. Nathan Dempsey and Jim Collins were absent. Also, present was Chief Appraiser Doug Smithson and The Weekly News.

Public Comments: There were none.

Review and approve the minutes: Motion was made by Jerry Fleitman to approve the minutes as presented. Nancy Brannon seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

Review payment of bills: The bills were reviewed and discussed.

Review financial statements: Financial statements were reviewed and discussed.

Action Items:

- A. **Discussion and possible action regarding the bank depository bid.** The District received 2 bank depository bids. One from Muenster State Bank and one from Simmons Bank. Jerry Fleitman made the motion to accept Muenster State Bank bid for the years 2021-2022. Nancy Brannon seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.
- B. **Discussion and possible action regarding the 25.25b Corrections to the roll.** There were none.
- C. **Discussion and possible action regarding the 2021 holiday schedule.** The District follows the same dates as the County Courthouse schedule. Motion was made by Nancy Brannon to approve the holiday schedule as presented. Jerry Fleitman seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.
- D. **Discussion and possible action regarding investments.** The District has CDs at the Muenster State Bank. Jerry Fleitman made the motion to accept and make no changes to the investments at this time. Nancy Brannon seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.
- E. **Discussion and possible action regarding the 2020 reserves.** Doug Smithson made the recommendation to apply a credit to the 4th quarter invoice on any reserves from 2020. Jerry Fleitman made the motion to give taxing entities a credit on their 4th quarter invoice. Nancy Brannon seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.
- F. **Discussion and possible action regarding Ag advisory board members.** The board reappointed Scott Schumacher, Lanny Lewter and Robert Knauf for the 2021-2022 year. Nancy Brannon made the motion to approve as appointed. Jerry Fleitman seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.
- G. **Discussion and possible action regarding Chief Appraiser Evaluation.** The board presented the Chief Appraiser with the 2020 evaluation. No action was taken.

Discussion item:

A. Chief Appraiser report.

Doug Smithson, Chief Appraiser, stated the tax bill were mailed in mid October. He also noted the number of lawsuits and arbitrations have increased this year.

Smithson also said district had 4 individuals who tested positive for Covis-19. The staff was reduced to a minimal number with some working from home. The office was closed the first week of November for a deep cleaning. Inhouse cleaning and the use of masks is mandatory. Appraiser Gerald Holland retired, Krystal Huchton was promoted from collections to appraiser and new hires are Amy Trammell, collection clerk and Aleisha Looper, data entry.

Meeting Adjourned.

Chairman

Secretary