

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Minutes for 2023 Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, August 9, 2023 immediately following Budget Public Hearing

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

Called meeting to order at 5:06 p.m.

Public Comments: There were none.

Review and approve minutes. Nancy Brannon made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Jim Collins seconded the motion. Motion passed. 4-0.

Review of consent items:

- A. **Review payment of bills** Payment of bill were reviewed, discussed and approved.
- B. **Review financial statements.** Financial statements were reviewed and discussed.

Action Items:

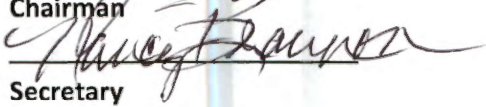
- A. **Discussion and possible action regarding the 2022 Audit.** Dan Tonn, of Hankins, Eastup, Deaton, Tonn & Seay, gave an overview of the audit. It went very well. The District received an unmodified report which means there were "no findings, no compliance issues. The District continues to be in excellent financial condition in terms of assets and net position. Motion made by Jerry Fleitman to approve the audit as presented. Joe Knight seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.
- B. **Discussion and possible action regarding the 2024 Budget.** The 2024 budget was discussed in the public hearing. Jerry Fleitman made the motion to adopt the 2024 budget as presented. Jim Collins seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.
- C. **Discussion and possible action regarding investments.** Investments were reviewed and discussed. No action taken.
- D. **Discussion and possible action regarding 25.25b. Corrections to the roll.** No action taken.
- E. **Discussion and possible action regarding Collection Contract.** The contract for Clear Sky Municipal Utility District was reviewed and signed. Nancy Brannon made the motion to accept the contract as presented. Jerry Fleitman seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Discussion items:

- A. Chief Appraiser report.** Doug reported to the board on the changes to state laws which will affect how property taxes are derived and levied. The change shifts the tax burden to others. The District's budget is based on the levy amount. The school districts are being funded less and less and state (is) picking up more (funding costs). The board also discussed a potential move by lawmakers to abolish the maintenance and operating tax. The District will make changes to investment to increase the return. Doug also reported on the certified taxable values for 2023. The data was based on a \$100,000 homestead exemption. It was discussed about subdivisions and their possible effects on taxes and local infrastructure, schools and other facilities.



Chairman



Secretary