

**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE CAMERON APPRAISAL DISTRICT
CAMERON COUNTY, STATE OF TEXAS**

Time & Date: 4:30 p.m. – December 13, 2021

Place: 2021 Amistad Drive - San Benito, Texas

Purpose: Regular Meeting

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman David Garza at 4:31 p.m. with a quorum present.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was followed by the Texas Pledge.
3. Members present: David Argabright, Gloria Casas, David Garza, Dr. Prisci Roca Tipton, Jesse Villarreal, Gilbert Weaver and Tony Yzaguirre, Jr.

Members absent: Frank Davalos, Jr., Jim Tipton and Ricardo Morado

CAD Staff present: Richard Molina, Loretta Salinas, Norma Jimenez, Ramiro Reza, Hector Briones, Ricardo Moreno, George Garcia and Joe Orozco

4. No one signed in for public access.
5. Liaison officer Ana Medina was not able to attend the meeting but did provide her report as follows:
 - Ms. Medina continues to make monthly visits to the Brownsville County Tax Office which are scheduled on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Her last visit was on December 1st and her next scheduled visit is December 15th.
 - Ms. Medina had the opportunity to attend an Exemptions Seminar in Austin, Texas. She indicated it was a great opportunity to converse with other counties in the state and review how they address exemption applications.
 - She continues to collect ARB member applications for the position(s) available.
6. David Argabright motioned to approve the minutes of the regular board of director's meeting held on October 18, 2021. Seconded by Jesse Villarreal.

Aye – Six (6)

Nay – None (0)

Non-Voting – None (0)

7. Board members were provided with the October and November 2021 financial reports. Norma Jimenez provided the board with a detailed explanation of the November 2021 report.

8. Dr. Prisci Roca Tipton motioned to accept the chief appraiser's re-appointment of Vicente Ramirez for the two-year term 2022–2023. Seconded by David Argabright.

Aye – Six (6)
Nay – None (0)
Non-Voting – None (0)

9. Item was asked to be put on the agenda by legal counsel for former employee that had been terminated. The CAD has already gone through the grievance process in this matter. The CAD Attorneys have submitted their opinion letters and a copy was provided to each board member. As Chief Appraiser, the Board has given all authority to the Chief Appraiser to be able to hire or fire employees. Mr. Garza commented that all processes, remedies and procedures were followed. The Board agreed that they do not have authority to hire or fire anyone except the Chief appraiser and legal counsel. The Board determined that it is not a grievable item for the Board and that they do not have any jurisdiction over the matter.

Gloria Casas motioned to accept the board's decision that they do not have any jurisdiction over this matter. Seconded by David Argabright.

Aye – Six (6)
Nay – None (0)
Non-Voting – None (0)

10. The Board received a letter from Mr. Ruben Herrera, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Texas Southmost College (TSC). TSC is requesting that they should be permitted a place of their own on the board of directors and not included with Position #8 (small school districts). The CAD Attorney provided his legal opinion and a copy was provided to each board member. The Legislature enacted Senate Bill 350 in 2013 which permitted a junior college district to participate in the election of an appraisal district's board of directors. The District nor the Board have the authority to change the process. Any changes to the process would have to be through legislation.

David Argabright motioned to accept the board's decision that they do not have any jurisdiction over this matter. Seconded by Jesse Villarreal.

Dr. Prisci Roca Tipton abstained from any discussion or motion made on this item.

Aye – Five (5)
Abstain – One (1)
Nay – None (0)
Non-Voting – None (0)

11. The Chief Appraiser's report items that were discussed were:

- A. CAD director appointments or re-appointments are pending for the following:
Position 2 – Harlingen CISD
Position 5 – Cameron County
Position 8 – Small School Districts
Position 9 – Small Cities

The deadline for submission is December 15.

- B. Directors were asked to begin thinking whom they would like to administer the Oath at the January meeting. 2022 Committees will be decided at the January meeting once all Board appointments have been completed.
- C. Directors were provided with a summary of pending lawsuits and arbitrations.
- D. The CAD Christmas Luncheon & Continuous Service Awards will be held on December 22nd. Board members were invited to attend.
- E. The CAD will be closed for the Board approved Christmas holiday on December 23rd and December 24th and the New Year's Day holiday on December 31st.
- F. The 2022 Board Meeting schedule was provided to board members in their packets. The next board meeting is scheduled for January 24th at 5:45 p.m.
- G. The Annual TAAO Region 5 Tip-O-Tex Conference will be held February 17-19 at the Beach Resort at South Padre Island. Any Board member that would like to attend should contact Loretta.

SIGN-IN REQUEST

Cameron Appraisal District
P.O. Box 1010
San Benito, Texas 78586
956-399-9322
956-541-3365
956-428-8020

I hereby request to address the Board of Directors of the Cameron Appraisal District regarding the following subjects:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

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H. The TAAD Annual Conference will be held at the Gaylord Texan Resort in Grapevine, Texas, February 6-9, 2022. Any Board member that would like to attend should contact Loretta.

12. At 4:55 p.m., Gloria Casas motioned to adjourn to executive session pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 551.074 of the Texas Open Meetings Act. Seconded by Jesse Villarreal.

Aye – Six (6)
Nay – None (0)
Non-Voting – None (0)

13. The Board came out of Executive session at 5:12 p.m. David Argabright motioned to resume the meeting in open session. Seconded by Jesse Villarreal.

Aye – Six (6)
Nay – None (0)
Non-Voting – None (0)

Gloria Casas motioned to increase Mr. Molina's salary by 5%. Seconded by Jesse Villarreal.

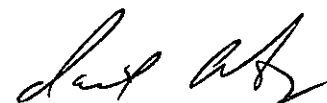
Aye – Six (6)
Nay – None (0)
Non-Voting – None (0)

The Board commented that Mr. Molina was evaluated in all areas and exceeds what is expected and received a unanimous excellent ranking. They further commented that they are all very pleased with his performance especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr. Molina expressed his gratitude to the board and commented that he will continue to work hard.

14. David Argabright motioned to adjourn at 5:15 p.m. Seconded by Jesse Villarreal.

Aye – Six (6)
Nay – None (0)
Non-Voting – None (0)

APPROVED 

ATTEST _____