

TRAVIS CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT

BOARD OFFICERS
RICHARD LAVINE
CHAIRPERSON
KRISTOFFER S. LANDS
VICE CHAIRPERSON
ED KELLER
SECRETARY/TREASURER



MARYA CRIGLER
CHIEF APPRAISER

BOARD MEMBERS
TOM BUCKLE
BRUCE ELFANT
SHELLDA D. GRANT
DENNY HAMILL
ELEANOR POWELL
RICO REYES
BLANCA ZAMORA-GARCIA

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 23, 2014 MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TRAVIS CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT

The Board of Directors of the Travis Central Appraisal District held a public meeting on June 23, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room, 200A on the second floor of the Travis Central Appraisal District, located at 8314 Cross Park Drive, Austin, Texas.

Mr. Lavine recognized a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 3:03 pm. Board members present were: Richard Lavine, Chair; Kristoffer Lands, Vice-Chair; Ed Keller, Secretary/Treasurer, Tom Buckle, Bruce Elfant, Eleanor Powell, Rico Reyes and Blanca Zamora-Garcia. Denny Hamill and Shellda Grant were absent from the meeting. Also present were Marya Crigler, Chief Appraiser and Sharon Baxter, Legal Counsel.

Item No. 3 – Citizen’s Communication: there being no citizen’s communication the Board moved onto item #4.

Item No. 4 – Taxpayer Liaison’s Report: Mr. Don Rives provided a written report with no complaints to report.

Item No. 5 – Chief Appraiser report to include: review of tax code deadlines for appraisal districts, ARB matters potentially affecting compliance with statutory deadlines, and recommendations for possible changes to the process: Marya provided the Board with a certification calendar. We received notification that Travis County and the City of Austin were considering filing a challenge on all commercial property in Travis County. They decided not to file the challenge but they have both indicated that they may pursue this in 2015. This delayed setting up commercial informal hearings, but we’ve since started to schedule commercial properties starting June 18. The Board approved to change the certification date from July 20th to no later than August 30th at the previous board meeting, due to the possible challenge. Ms. Crigler notified the Board we have to reach 95% to certify at the later date. We are currently at 58.91%, projections for future dates are July 20th - 84.7% and for August 15th - 95.43%. We will have to make an adjustment to the projections for August 15th since the ARB is scheduled to be on vacation the last week of July, and we will not have all panels available. Marya let the Board know that she has been contacted by various jurisdictions and they are concerned about meeting their deadlines that they have beginning September 1st. TCAD staff has been directed to stay until the dockets are clear daily, and we will be working some mandatory Saturdays to get as much protests resolved before August 15th. The BOD would like to approach Judge Livingston to appoint auxiliary members to replace the ARB members that will not be available for panels the last week of July. Ms. Crigler asked if it is possible to get a quorum together every two weeks to keep the Board updated on certification.

At 3:20pm the Board moved to executive session for Item No. 6 **TO DELIBERATE ANY MATTER AUTHORIZED BY TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE SEC. 551.001 et sec [THE TEXAS OPEN MEETING ACT] INCLUDING:**

SEC. 551.071; Consultation with attorney regarding pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offers, and matters on which the attorney has a duty to advise the Board under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas.

SEC. 551.074; Personnel matters; 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 – Chief Appraiser

The Board reopened the regular meeting at 4:44pm and returned to Item Nos. 6-9.

Item No. 6 – Discussion and action or direction to staff on matters addressed in the Chief Appraiser’s report: The Board would like the ARB to adopt an Attendance Policy under Section 6.41 of the tax code there is provision that reads as follows:

*SUBCHAPTER C - APPRAISAL REVIEW BOARD - Sec. 6.41. Appraisal Review Board.
(f) [2 Versions: Effective Until January 1, 2014] A member of the board may be removed from the board by a majority vote of the appraisal district board of directors, or by the local administrative district judge or the judge’s designee, as applicable, that appointed the member. Grounds for removal are: (1) a violation of Section 6.412, 6.413, 41.66(f), or 41.69; or (2) good cause relating to the attendance of members at called meetings of the board as established by written policy adopted by a majority of the appraisal district board of directors.*

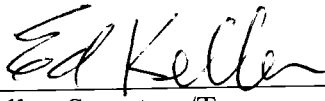
The Board provided some suggestions for the policy and asked staff to create an actual policy for the next BOD meeting. Mr. Lavine’s direction to staff to complete the attendance policy that is authorized under Section 6.41, place this on the agenda for the next meeting, and allow the public or ARB to comment on it, no action is needed.

Item No. 7 – Discussion and action on appeals report and litigation update to include appeals by Chief appraiser Pursuant to section 42.02:

Item No. 8 – Discussion and actions on future agenda items: The next meeting is scheduled July 8th at 6pm and the following items will be discussed: Recommendation for any changes to the budget for 2015 regarding a 2015 possible challenge, legal fees and expanding staff. It will also include ARB update and an update on certification.

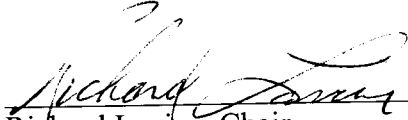
Item No. 9 – Adjournment. **MR. KRISTOFFER LANDS MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. MS. ELEANOR POWELL SECONDED AND THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Respectfully submitted,



Ed Keller, Secretary/Treasurer

APPROVED:



Richard Lavine, Chair