

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 DECEMBER 9, 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 December 9, 2014 at 6:00pm 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 6:03pm. Board members present were Richard Lavine, Chair; Kristoffer Lands, Vice-Chair; Tom Buckle; Bruce Elfant; Shellda Grant; Denny Hamill; Eleanor Powell and Blanca Zamora-Garcia. Ed Keller, Secretary and Rico Reyes were absent from the meeting. Also present were Marya Crigler, Chief Appraiser; Sharon Baxter, Legal Counsel; and Leana Mann, Finance & Facilities Officer.

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

Item No. 4 – Approval of the minutes of the November 24, 2014 meeting: **MS. ELEANOR POWELL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FOR THE NOVEMBER 24TH MEETING AS PRESENTED AND MS. SHELLDA GRANT SECONDED THE MOTION AND THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Item No. 5 – Taxpayer Liaison’s Report: Mr. Henry Johnson informed the Board he has been speaking to various taxpayers and answering their questions concerning homestead exemptions, tax bills and hearings they feel they should have had. He is doing his best to establish a pattern of contacting every taxpayer and speaking to them. He has also spoken to the District Judge’s assistant and they were scheduled to have interviews on Friday December 5, but he has not received any feedback at this time.

Item No. 6 – Appraisal Review Board Chairperson’s report: there being no ARB Chairperson’s report the Board moved onto item #7.

Item No. 7 – Chief Appraiser report to include: Potential 2015 taxing unit challenge and review of accounting statements: Marya updated the Board regarding the taxing unit challenge; Travis County voted 3-2 not to cost share with the City of Austin in hiring the expert in the potential challenge for 2015. The City of Austin has moved on and hired an expert. She also spoke about the TAAD conference and included a copy of the agenda. Leana Mann went over the accounting statements.

Item No. 8 – Discussion and action on IT SAN expansion and server purchase: The IT department is requesting to purchase SAN equipment at a one-time cost. **DR. DENNY HAMILL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE PURCHASE OF THE SAN EQUIPMENT AS PRESENTED. MR. TOM BUCKLE SECONDED AND THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Item No. 9 – Discussion and action on budget amendment: Ms. Mann presented the budget amendments to the Board and she included the letter mailed to the jurisdictions. **MR. TOM BUCKLE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FISCAL YEAR 2014 BUDGET AMENDMENT AS PRESENTED. MS. ELEANOR POWELL SECONDED AND THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Item No. 10 – Discussion and action on contract for BOD General Counsel: Marya presented the Board with a letter of engagement from Trish Carls with Carls, McDonald & Dalrymple LLP. **MS. BLANCA ZAMORA-GARCIA MADE A MOTION TO EXTEND THE BOD GENERAL COUNSEL'S CONTRACT THRU 2015 AS PRESENTED. MS. SHELLDA GRANT SECONDED AND THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

At 6:20pm the Board moved to executive session for Items No. 11 & 12 **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.

At 6:38 the Board returned to public session and returned to Item No. 11.


Item No. 11 – Discussion and action on engagement of Perdue Brandon Fielder Collins & Mott, LLP as Co-counsel in Henry v. TCAD, et al: **MR. TOM BUCKLE MOVED TO APPROVE THE ENGAGEMENT OF PERDUE BRANDON FIELDER COLLINS & MOTT, LLP AS CO-COUNSEL IN HENRY V. TCAD, et al AS PRESENTED. DR. DENNY HAMILL SECONDED AND THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Item No. 12– Discussion and action on appeals report and litigation: there being no action to be taken the Board moved onto Item #13.

Item No. 13 – Discussion and actions on future agenda items: The next meeting will be scheduled January 13 at 6:00pm and the following items will be discussed: Discussion & action on ARB compensation; Appointment of ARB Chair & Secretary; and Chief Appraiser survey.

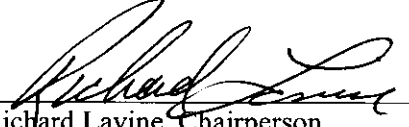
Item No. 14 – Adjournment. **MR. KRISTOFFER LANDS MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. MS. SHELLDA GRANT SECONDED AND THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Respectfully submitted,



Ed Keller, Secretary/Treasurer

APPROVED:



Richard Lavine, Chairperson