

**Tarrant Appraisal District  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
August 11, 2023**

This meeting was conducted “in person” and in compliance with the Open Meetings Act as written in statute. A quorum of the members of the Board attended in person at TAD offices.

These minutes are a summary of the only subjects the board addressed and the actions it took. For details, see the Agenda and Video posted on TAD’s website at this URL:

<https://www.tad.org/about/board-of-directors>

and Video Recording posted at:

<https://www.facebook.com/TarrantAD>

**Members Present:**

Ms. Wendy Burgess, Tax Assessor Collector (9:01 arrival)  
Mr. Tony Pompa, Chairman  
Mr. Rich DeOtte, Secretary  
Mr. Jungus Jordan  
Mr. J.R. Martinez  
Mr. Vince Puente

**Also Participating:**

Mr. Jeff Law, Chief Appraiser  
Mr. Matthew Tepper, TAD Attorney

Mr. Pompa called the meeting to order at 9:00am and verified a quorum was present. After the pledges and invocation, the board took up the following agenda items:

**5. Recognize Visitors; Hear Public Comments**

Six members of the public spoke.

**6. Public Hearing on FY 2024 Tarrant Appraisal District Annual Budget**

Three members of the public spoke.

**7. Action Items**

a. Consent Agenda Items:

- (1) Action regarding approval of Board of Directors meeting minutes – June 9, 2023.
- (2) Action regarding Award of Contract for Retiree Group Medical Supplemental Insurance for 2024
- (3) Authorize Chief Appraiser to Execute Interlocal Agreement Renewal Between Tarrant County and the Tarrant Appraisal; District for Sheriff’s Department Security Services

Mr. Puente moved to remove 7a(2) from the consent agenda and it was removed. Mr. DeOtte moved to approve the remaining items, 7a(1) and 7a(3) and Mr. Martinez seconded. This motion was passed unanimously, 5-0.

Mr. Puente moved to discontinue the Group Retiree Medical Supplemental Insurance program in fiscal 2024 with an annual ramp down of the base (negotiated) amount of the benefit of the percentage paid by TAD each year over 4-5 years. 2025 \$90, 2026 \$60, 2027 \$30, and 2028 \$0. Mr. Jordan seconded. TAD Attorney Matthew Tepper advised the board that when this program was discontinued at another CAD, they were sued and lost the lawsuit. Mr. DeOtte offered a friendly amendment to maintain the benefit for current retirees and not include a ramp down and Mr. Puente accepted this friendly amendment. Mr. Jordan withdrew his second. Mr. Puente withdrew his original motion and moved to continue the program with existing retirees but eliminating the amount paid by TAD effective for employees who retire on or after January 1<sup>st</sup> of 2024. Mr. DeOtte seconded the motion. Jeff Craig, the Director of Administration, reminded the Board that this will also require a policy change by the Board. This motion passed 4-1 with Mr. Martinez against.

Mr. DeOtte moved to approve the Contract in 7a(2) for Retiree Group Medical Supplemental Insurance for 2024. Mr. Jordan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously 5-0.

#### 7b. Consider adoption of FY 2024 Tarrant Annual Budget

Mr. Jordan asked for the effect of Senate Bill 2 on this budget. Jeff Law explained that if the November 2023, Texas Constitutional Amendment required by Senate Bill 2 passes, it will require that the appraisal district will have to pay for the May 2024 election for a shortened term of three new at large TAD board members through the County Election office at an unknown cost. TAD expects an estimate from the County Election office next week and after receipt, the budget could be amended. This could change in a subsequent special session. Jeff Craig gave estimates for other CADs election costs.

Mr. Jordan moved to adopt the FY 2024 Tarrant Appraisal District Annual Budget and Mr. Martinez seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

## 8. Discussion Item

Report on Senate Bill 2 passage, and potential modifications to the 2024 budget allocations for taxing units.

TAD Attorney Matthew Tepper provided a report on Senate Bill 2 that included:

1. School districts rates will be compressed and this means rates may be reduced for 2023.
2. The homestead exemption has increased from \$40,000 to \$100,000 but only for school district taxes. Senate Bill 2 also requires a Constitutional Amendment passing in November. Some local entities passed other optional exemptions.
3. The appraisal cap on non-residential homestead properties is a 20% limit increase. Taxpayers will not see this lowering until 2025. This is only for properties under \$5 million.
4. Starting January 1<sup>st</sup> there will be staggered 4-year terms for BOD members. In even numbered years, 5 members will be appointed by elected representatives of the County and in odd years, 3 members will be elected at large through the County election office. The Tax-Assessor Collector, as an ex-officio board member, begins voting July 1, 2024.

Vacancies will be filled by the board no matter how appointed or elected. The Board will return to appointing ARB members starting in 2025. Two elected at large members will have to approve each appointment.

## 9. Information Items

- a. Report by Taxpayer Liaison Officer
- b. Report by Chief Appraiser

Jeff Law gave a report on protests and the certification of the 2023 appraisal roll.

## 10. Recess to executive session pursuant to the following part(s) of the Texas Open Meetings Act Government Code Ch. 551, for the following purposes:

- a. Section 551.074 – Deliberation on the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee related to the “letter of repair” delivered to the Chief Appraiser on April 10, 2023.
- b. Hear complaints or charges made by a former employee against officers and employees of the Tarrant Appraisal District pursuant to Texas Government Code, 551.074

The Board recessed at 11:37am for a 5-minute break before going into executive session. The Board reassembled to open session at 2pm.

## 10. Return to Open Session

- a. Vote on any matters considered in executive session

Mr. DeOtte moved for a ‘vote of confidence’ regarding the Chief Appraiser and Mr. Puente seconded. Mr. Jordan, Mr. Pompa, and Mr. Martinez voted yes and Mr. DeOtte and Mr. Puente voted no. The majority of the board voted that they have confidence in the Chief Appraiser, 3-2.

## 11. Propose Future Agenda Items; Set Next Meeting Date; Adjourn

No items were proposed except the proposed revision resulting in the policy change regarding 7a(2). The next regular meeting was announced as November 10<sup>th</sup>. The meeting was adjourned at 2:17pm.



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Tony Pompa, Chairman