

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**HOWARD COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**January 13, 2021**

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The Board of Directors of the Howard County Appraisal District (HCAD) convened for their Regular Meeting on January 13, 2021 at 5:15 p.m. Directors present were Craig Wyrick, Scott Emerson, Mark Barr, Sandy Smith, Mike Dawson and Tiffany Sayles. Richard Petree and Cara Nichols represented the HCAD.

**Opening of Meeting**

Craig Wyrick, Chairman, called the meeting to order, announced that the meeting had been duly posted and that a quorum was present. The opportunity for public comments was offered by the Chairman. No public comments were made.

Mark Barr motioned that Craig Wyrick continue as Chairman and Sandy Smith continue as Secretary. Scott Emerson seconded the motion; it was approved 5 to 0.

**Regular Business**

Scott Emerson moved to approve the Minutes of December 9, 2020. Mark Barr seconded the motion; it was approved 5 to 0.

Mark Barr moved to approve the Bills and Financial Reports for December 2020. Craig Wyrick seconded the motion; they passed 5 to 0.

**New Business – Action Items**

The Board discussed that according to the Texas Tax Code, the ARB will serve two-year staggered terms. Craig Wyrick moved to appoint the following members to serve the remaining 2020/2021 term:

- Wesley Thixton,
- Tara Renfro and
- Matt Dahmer

And the following to serve for the 2021/2022 term:

- Gaylon Knowlton and
- Michele Sanders

Mark Barr seconded the motion; it passed 5 to 0.

**New Business – Non-Action Items**

The Board discussed replacing the software that the District and Tax Office share. Richard Petree recommends that a change to Harris True Automation software would be beneficial to both the Howard CAD and the Howard County Tax Assessor/Collector's office. The software

has the capability of gathering data while in the field, it uploads to the "cloud" and subsequently downloads into the server at the HCAD office. This eliminates the need for data entry requirement of the current software. The board requested Richard Petree and Tiffany Sayles to research further and bring a report back to the board. No action was taken on this item.

**Chief Appraiser Report**

The Chief Appraiser informed the Board that settlements had been negotiated for several lawsuits against HCAD and that he was in the negotiation process with the remaining suits. He remains hopeful that they can all be settled without going to court.

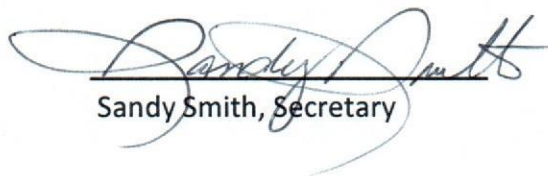
There have also been some negotiations with the agriculture accounts, assisting taxpayers file the appropriate agriculture exemption paperwork and re-valuations on the properties. Most taxpayers are satisfied with the results. In the meantime, the staff are getting all the corrections into the system and accounts updated appropriately.

The Board was informed that T. Y. Pickett's had added 562 million dollars in mineral values for 2020. He reported that new tax statements were being sent out, and citizens were confused about the new statements thinking they had already paid their 2020 tax statements. The staff has been able to assist taxpayers in understanding why the additional tax statements were added for 2020.

The Chairman adjourned the Meeting at 6:20 p.m.



Craig Wyrick, Chairman



Sandy Smith, Secretary