

RUSK COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT

Board of Directors Meeting

December 10, 2024

Board of Directors present were Mr. Drew Butler, Mr. Dennis Eby, Mrs. Nesha Partin, Mr. Pat McCrory, and Mr. Clifford Harkless. Chief Appraiser, Weldon R. Cook was also in attendance.

With a quorum present, Mr. Butler opened the meeting.

There was no public comment.

Mr. Eby motioned that the minutes of the October 31, 2024 meeting be approved as presented seconded by Mr. McCrory. Motion passed.

W. Cook presented an update to the RCAD Operations Manual – Contract Appraisal Oversight Procedures. After discussion Mr. Harkless motioned to adopt these procedures and Mr. Eby seconded the motion. Motion passed.

W. Cook presented to the BOD a possible change to the Texas County and District Retirement Rate Plan. It would create a COLA Plan option for retirees of the Rusk County Appraisal District that have been retired for at least one calendar year as of January 1, 2025. After review and discussion Mr. Harkless motioned to approve a 3% COLA adjustment to the retirement plan and that the BOD authorizes W. Cook to pay for this change with available contingency funds. Mrs. Partin seconded the motion. Motion passed.

W. Cook presented the BOD the 2024 engagement letter for Morgan LaGrone, CPA, PLLC for the 2024 RCAD audit. Mr. McCrory motioned and Mr. Harkless seconded, for the approval of the letter of engagement with Morgan LaGrone for the 2024 RCAD audit.

W. Cook presented the RCAD Investment Policy to the BOD for review and possible adoption by resolution. After review Mr. Eby motioned to approve by resolution to adopt the RCAD Investment Policy as presented and Mrs. Partin seconded the update. Motion passed.

The board went over the 2024 annual evaluation of Chief Appraiser – Weldon Cook. The board stated that they had given Mr. Cook a rating of Good. They expressed their appreciation of the job that he and his staff was doing. As well as how professional this office is to the general public.

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The board reviewed for their consideration an Agreement of Employment extension between Weldon R. Cook, Chief Appraiser and the Rusk County Appraisal District for the period from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2026. Mr. Harkless offered the following resolution, "RESOLVED, the District enters into an Agreement of Employment extension between Weldon R. Cook as Chief Appraiser and the Rusk County Appraisal District for the period from January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2026, with an annual salary review". Mr. Eby seconded and resolution passed. Cook's compensation was set at \$105,678 for 2025. The board will review his salary for 2026 during their annual evaluation of the Chief Appraiser.

In the Chief Appraiser's comments:

W. Cook expressed to the BOD his appreciation of their support for him and the Rusk CAD staff during 2024. He expressed that they are winding down to the end of the 2024 year and are already working toward completing appraisals and data analysis for the 2025 appraisal year.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned until their next meeting.


Chairperson


Secretary