

# Tyler County Appraisal District 2019 Annual Report

## Introduction

The Tyler County Appraisal District is a political subdivision of the state. The Constitution of the State of Texas, the Texas Property Tax Code, and the Rules of the Texas Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division govern the operations of the appraisal district.

## Mission

The mission of Tyler County Appraisal District is to discover, list and appraise property as accurately, ethically and impartially as possible in order to estimate the market value of all property within the boundaries of the district for ad valorem tax purposes. The effective date of each appraisal is January 1<sup>st</sup>, unless the property owner has elected to have their business personal property appraised as of September 1<sup>st</sup>. The district must make sure that each taxpayer is given the same consideration, information and assistance as the next. This will be done by administering the laws under the property tax system and operating under the standards of:

- The Property Tax Assistance Division of the Texas State Comptroller's Office (PTAD),
- The International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO), and
- The Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP).

## Governance

The appraisal district is governed by a Board of Directors whose primary responsibilities are to:

- Establish the district's office,
- Adopt its operating budget,
- Contract for necessary services,
- Hire the Chief Appraiser,
- Appoint the Appraisal Review Board (ARB)
- Provide advice and consent to the Chief Appraiser concerning the appointment of an Agricultural Advisory Board,
- Approve contracts with appraisal firms selected by the chief appraiser to perform appraisal services for the district,
- Make general policies on the appraisal district's operations, and
- Biennially develop a written plan for the periodic reappraisal of all property within the district's boundaries.

To be eligible to serve on the board of directors, a person must have resided within the boundaries of the county for at least two years prior to their appointment. Their terms are staggered. There are no legal limits to the number of terms a board member can serve. The Chief Appraiser is the chief administrator of the appraisal district and is appointed by the board of directors. The chief appraiser must be licensed (or actively working toward licensing) as a Registered Professional Appraiser (RPA) through the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation. A newly appointed Chief Appraiser must attend and complete the Chief Appraiser Institute.

Members to the Appraisal Review Board are appointed by the Board of Directors. ARB members serve two-year staggered terms. They are limited by law to serving no more than three consecutive 2-year terms. They must be certified by the Texas Comptroller as having attended required training. Their responsibility is to settle value disputes between the taxpayer and the chief appraiser. Their decisions regarding value are binding to the chief appraiser for the tax years protested. There are seven members, each representing a geographical area of the District.

The Agricultural Appraisal Advisory Board is appointed by the Chief Appraiser with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors. The Advisory Board assists the Chief Appraiser in determining typical practices and standards for agricultural and timberland activities in the district.

## **Taxing Jurisdictions**

The Tyler County Appraisal District is responsible for appraising all properties for each of the nineteen taxing jurisdictions that have territory located within the 937 square miles of Tyler County. The following taxing jurisdictions with territory in TCAD are:

- Tyler County
- Chester ISD
- Colmesneil ISD
- Spurger ISD
- Warren ISD
- Woodville ISD
- City of Ivanhoe
- City of Woodville
- Tyler County Hospital District
- Tyler County ESD #1 (Ivanhoe)
- Tyler County ESD #2 (Spurger)
- Tyler County ESD #3 (White Tail Ridge)
- Tyler County ESD #4 (Warren)
- Tyler County ESD #5 (Dam B)
- Tyler County ESD #6 (Fred)
- Tyler County ESD #7 (Colmesneil)
- Tyler County ESD #8 (Village Mills)

- Lake Amanda Water Control and Improvement District
- Frog Pond Lake Water Control & Improvement

### Property Types Appraised

TCAD staff is responsible for appraising residential, commercial, land, and business personal property. TCAD contracts with Capitol Appraisal Group, LLC to appraise oil and gas properties, utilities, pipelines, industrial property, and industrial personal property in the district.

The total market value in Tyler County is \$2,840,381,214 and totaling 41,420 items or accounts. The following represents a summary of property types and their certified values for 2019 for Tyler County:

Code	Property Type	Parcel Count	Market Value
A	Single Family Homes	8,787	570,486,199
B	Multi Family Homes	13	3,103,794
C	Vacant Lot	7,003	25,373,084
D	Land Acreage	5,902	1,098,843,435
E	Farm & Ranch Improvements	3,690	277,672,475
F1	Commercial Real Property	513	56,193,624
F2	Industrial Real Property	72	75,193,386
G	Oil & Gas	10,617	195,313,017
J	Utilities	238	83,749,541
L1	Commercial Personal Property	650	23,147,206
L2	Industrial Personal Property	217	28,330,102
M1	Tangible Personal Mobile Home	747	15,054,026
O	Residential Inventory	182	390,056
S	Special Inventory	8	1,182,499
X	Total Exempt Property	5,846	386,348,770

### Property Value Study Ratios

A review of the State Comptroller's Property Value Study of the local school districts show a lower than expected ratio of TCAD's appraisals compared to the State's appraisals or sales. Actually, in the most recent Study (2018), the local appraisals are significantly closer to the State's "appraisals", but significantly lower when compared to just sales.

For example, when reviewing appraisals & sales combined in Woodville ISD, the ratio is 73% for residential properties; and was 91% in 2017; and 88% in 2015. The ratios for the other TCAD school districts for 2018, 2017, and 2015 respectively are: Chester ISD 82%, 89%, and 88%; Colmesneil 85%, 84%, and 93%; Warren 77%, 87%, and 95%; and Spurger not tested in 2018, 95% for 2017, and 94% for 2015.

The ratios actually improve when the 2019 preliminary results are released early 2020. In theory, the standard would be to achieve a perfect 100% ratio. The acceptable range would be 90 to 100%.

## **Reappraisal Plan**

A copy of the current Reappraisal Plan is available on the TCAD Website. The current reappraisal plan called for the reappraisal of Woodville ISD including all of the City of Ivanhoe to be reappraised in 2016; Spurger & Warren in 2017; and Chester & Colmesneil in 2019 and 2020 respectively. These areas are regularly adjusted to meet the capabilities of appraisal personnel.

A new plan will be drafted, a public hearing conducted, and finally adopted before September 15, 2020.

The residential schedules were updated significantly in 2019 to better reflect the current market. These revisions were implemented District-wide for 2019.

## **Property Discovery**

The district aggressively seeks to discover all newly constructed or added property each year through examination of:

- City building permits
- Field discovery
- Filed Material/Mechanic's Liens
- Mobile home installation reports
- Electric connection reports
- Advertisements
- Railroad Commission Reports (oil/gas)
- Realtor and Appraisers
- Deed records



For school tax purposes, the over 65, disability, surviving spouse, and 100% disabled veteran residential homestead exemptions create a tax ceiling prohibiting increased taxes on the homestead on existing buildings. (Any new areas or buildings added to the home-site will cause the ceiling to be readjusted and set in the subsequent tax year.) Tyler County is the only other taxing entities that offers a ceiling.

All homeowners who qualify for the residential homestead exemption are subject to the placement of a homestead cap on their qualifying property which prohibits the increase of taxable value on the homestead property to ten percent per year. However, the market value may still be reflective of the local real estate market.

### **Disabled Veterans**

In addition to the residential homestead exemption allowable to disabled veterans with a 100% service-connected disability (as described above), disabled veterans are allowed a general exemption on any property they own based upon the percentage rating as determined by the Department of Veterans Affairs. Current exemption amounts, based upon these ratings, are:

<b>Disability Percentage</b>	<b>Exemption Amount</b>
10-29%	\$5,000
30-49%	\$7,500
50-69%	\$10,000
70-100%	\$12,000