

Freestone Central Appraisal District
Directors Meeting

Minutes of August 9, 2023

Regular Meeting #528

The Freestone Central Appraisal District Board of Directors met at the appraisal office located at 218 North Mount, Fairfield, Texas. Board members present were Craig Dunlap, Stanton Brown, Jerry Don Sanders, and Sid Fryer. Representing the appraisal district was Don Awalt, Chief Appraiser; Carol Clark, Administrative Assistant.

Mr. Dunlap called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Mr. Dunlap established proof of the posting of public notice of the meeting in accordance with the Texas Open Meeting Act from the affidavit attached to the foot of the posted agenda.

Mr. Dunlap then declared a quorum of members present.

Consideration and action were taken on the minutes of the meeting held on July 12, 2023. Mr. Brown made a motion to approve the minutes of July 12, 2023. Mr. Sanders seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The board then considered the district's monthly financial report for July 2023. Mr. Awalt reviewed the Bill List on the front page of the report pointing out the payments made to the ARB members for June and July. Mr. Awalt explained that a payment was also made to Brookshire Brothers for the board's refreshments. Continuing the review of the bill list Mr. Awalt pointed out the payments made to Xerox for the equipment lease, for copies of the taxpayer evidence and board packets for ARB hearings. A payment of \$710.00 was made to Wortham Air Conditioning for the replacement of the motor in the north side air conditioning unit. Mr. Sanders made a motion to approve the financial report for July 2023, with a second by Mr. Brown. Motion carried.

The board then considered the 2023 – 2024 Renewal and Benefit Confirmation with Texas Association of Counties Health & Employee Benefits Pool. Mr. Awalt reminded the board that they approved the premium annually. Reviewing the plan Mr. Awalt stated the eight percent increase; nine percent was approved in the operating budget for 2024. The medical plan has increased from \$993.78 to \$1,073.28 for the employees only. The dental plan has decreased by three percent making the employees rate lower from \$24.58 to \$23.84. The vision value plan, which is voluntary to the employees has also decreased from \$6.20 to \$4.58. The remaining products included in the plan had no changes.

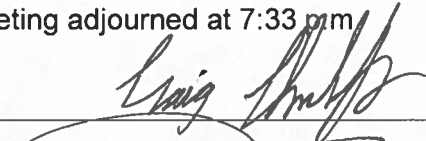
Mr. Awalt then reviewed the 2023 - 2024 Alternate Plan Proposal with the board showing the difference in price compared to the district's current and renewal rates. Both Option 1 and 2 were lower monthly payments than the district's rates. The deductibles for in and out of network were higher; option 1 was 340/680 and option 2 was 500/750. Both options were \$25 compared to \$20 for the district's office visits, and for the emergency room hospital was \$100 compared to the districts \$90. Mr. Awalt explained to the board that although the district had a good insurance plan the premium was expensive. He added that he would get more information, if the board would like to consider one of the alternate plans. At this time Mr. Awalt asked the board to accept the proposed premium for 2023 – 2024. After brief discussion, Mr. Sanders made a motion to approve the Renewal and Benefit Confirmation for 2023 – 2024. Mr. Fryer seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Awalt addressed Item VIII stating that the board would not go into Executive Session as there was nothing to discuss at this time. After a discussion with the district's attorney his advice was for the board to wait to see the direction of the lawsuit before making any decisions.

The Taxpayer Liaison Officer had nothing to report at this time.

Mr. Awalt also had nothing to report but used this time to ask the board if they were willing to serve another term on the board. He explained that he would be sending out letters to the entities to vote for members to serve on the board of directors for the 2024 – 2025 term.

There being no further business, Mr. Dunlap declared the meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.



Chairman

Secretary