

RESOLUTION NO. 0486-22-RES

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LEWISVILLE, A HOME
RULE MUNICIPALITY AND QUALIFIED TAXING ENTITY
OF DENTON COUNTY, TEXAS, CASTING A VOTE OF
DISAPPROVAL OF THE DENTON COUNTY APPRAISAL
DISTRICT (“DCAD”) 2023 BUDGET AS APPROVED BY THE
DCAD BOARD OF DIRECTORS; PROVIDING FOR THE
INCORPORATION OF PREMISES; AND PROVIDING AN
EFFECTIVE DATE.**

WHEREAS, in January 2022, the Denton County Commissioners Court called on the Denton County Appraisal District Board of Directors (“DCAD Board”) to review the operations of the Denton County Appraisal District (“DCAD”), and in response, an outside consultant, Western Valuation and Consulting (“Consultant”) was retained to review DCAD operations and provide a report; and

WHEREAS, at the June 23, 2022 meeting of the DCAD Board, Consultant provided a presentation to allow the DCAD Board to review the challenges and opportunities that DCAD has faced and will face in the upcoming years, including operations, facilities, and personnel needs, and the proposed 2023 budget to fund DCAD; and

WHEREAS, the DCAD Board took action on July 28, 2022 to adopt its 2023 budget; and

WHEREAS, as a representative of the public and as a Denton County taxing entity, it is an obligation of the Lewisville City Council to ensure that DCAD, as an entity entrusted with tax dollars, operates at optimum levels with efficiency, that the DCAD budget reflects funding necessary to fairly meet its operational needs, and that the DCAD budget allows DCAD to provide the level of service necessary to provide good service for Denton County taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, the Lewisville City Council has determined it appropriate to disapprove the 2023 DCAD Budget because the City Council lacks confidence in the DCAD leadership’s ability to address the issues identified by the Consultant to meet the needs of the Denton County taxing entities that it serves.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LEWISVILLE, TEXAS:

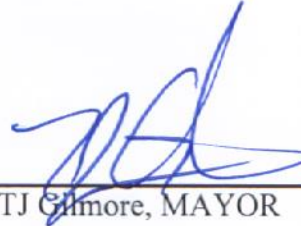
SECTION 1. The foregoing recitals are the findings of the Lewisville City Council and are incorporated into the body of this Resolution as if fully set forth herein.

SECTION 2. The City Council hereby adopts this Resolution casting its vote of disapproval of the 2023 DCAD budget as adopted by the DCAD Board on July 28, 2022.

SECTION 3. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage and approval.

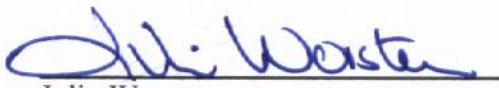
DULY PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF LEWISVILLE,
TEXAS, ON THIS THE 15th DAY OF AUGUST, 2022.

APPROVED:



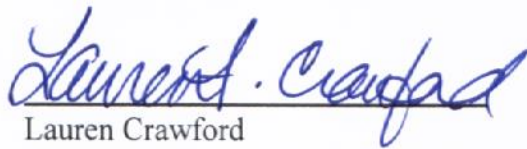
TJ Gilmore, MAYOR

ATTEST:



Julie Worster
CITY SECRETARY

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Lauren Crawford
ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY

August 15, 2022



Board of Directors
Denton Central Appraisal District
3911 Morse Street
Denton, TX 76208

RE: Notice of Lack of Confidence in the Chief Appraiser

Denton Central Appraisal District Board of Directors:

Over the last two years, we have consistently expressed our concerns with the communications and leadership at the Denton Central Appraisal District (DCAD or District). Having received notice that the District will once again fail to timely provide a certified tax roll to the City of Lewisville and the other taxing entities in the county, we are disapproving DCAD's FY 2022-2023 proposed budget. We do so because we do not have confidence that the Chief Appraiser can implement the changes necessary to ensure that the District carries out its responsibilities, including the timely dissemination of the certified tax rolls.

A consistent and repetitive refrain has come from the Chief Appraiser that both fails to take responsibility for inaction and fails to propose changes in a meaningful way. Statements attributed to the Chief Appraiser in multiple published news reports, corroborated in full by numerous emails she has sent to city officials in cities throughout Denton County (copies of which can be provided), show a pattern of inability to address serious concerns exacerbated by a stubborn unwillingness to accept responsibility. We firmly believe that this evidence points to an alarming lack of competent leadership from the Chief Appraiser that is crippling the operations and destroying the reputation of the District. There must be a prompt change in leadership in order to preserve the integrity of DCAD as an agency.

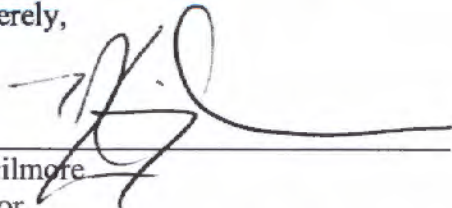
Many of these critical issues were described in great detail in the recent assessment and report by respected professional consultant Richard Petree, who concluded that leadership issues have contributed to a "toxic work environment" that is negatively impacting employee morale and retention. We do not have direct knowledge about the nature of the work environment at DCAD, but we also have no reason to doubt an expert opinion given by someone who has decades of experience leading and advising appraisal districts. Petree's report, coupled with our own interactions with the Chief Appraiser, caused us tremendous concern. When asked at the June DCAD board meeting if there was a strategic plan, the Chief Appraiser said she needed to write it down and then presented a "five year plan" at the next DCAD board meeting. Her actions do not give any confidence that she either understood the value of a strategic plan or how to create one, including the amount of time it takes and the importance of input from stakeholders and


Lewisville City Council
151 W. Church Street
Lewisville, Texas 75057
972.219.3404

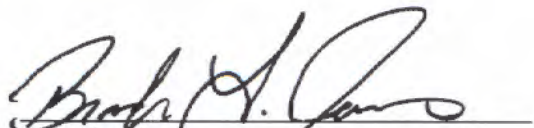
staff. This lengthy process should have been started as soon as she assumed leadership and needed to involve district employees as well as the taxing entities served by the district.

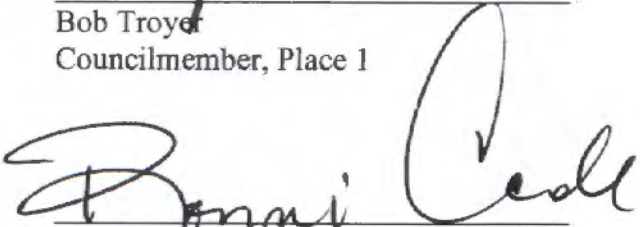
The Chief Appraiser has developed a pattern of casting blame, failing to accept responsibility as a leader, and missing deadlines that were communicated to the taxing entities. Her communication has been inconsistent and provided at the last minute. Sadly, the Chief Appraiser has not risen to the challenges presented to the agency but instead damaged the District's relationship with the City of Lewisville and many other taxing entities. This lack of professionalism and leadership cannot be addressed simply with the hope of new technology or the addition of new employees but instead requires a new leader.

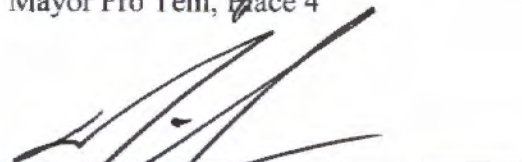
Sincerely,

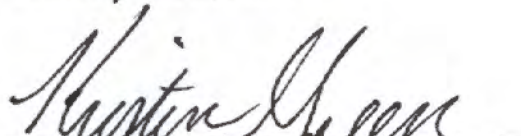


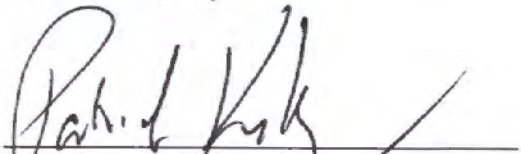
TJ Gilmore
Mayor

Bob Troyer
Councilmember, Place 1

Brandon Jones
Mayor Pro Tem, Place 4

Ronni Cade
Councilmember, Place 3

William Meredith
Deputy Mayor Pro Tem, Place 2

Kristin Green
Councilmember, Place 5

Patrick Kelly
Councilmember, Place 6