



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Action Item for the City Council Meeting October 22, 2024

DATE: October 1, 2024
TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Rebecca Huerta, City Secretary
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Resolution casting votes for candidates for the Nueces County Appraisal District Board of Directors

CAPTION:

Resolution casting votes for candidates for the Nueces County Appraisal District Board of Directors.

SUMMARY:

Historically, the Nueces County Appraisal District (the District) Board of Directors (the Board) consisted of eight (8) members with two-year terms. Multiple taxing entities within the District directly appointed members to the Board to specific seats ("Places") as follows: Places 1 & 2 – CCISD, Places 3 & 4—City of Corpus Christi, Place 5—Nueces County, Place 6—Urban, Place 7—Rural, and Place 8—Del Mar College.

Senate Bill 2, passed during the 88th Texas Legislature, 2nd session, changed Chapter 6 of the Texas Property Tax Code. The amendment increased the number of seats on the Nueces County Appraisal District Board to nine and altered the board's composition. Three members are now elected by majority vote in a general election (held in May 2024). Five members are appointed by participating taxing units in the District. The Tax Assessor-Collector, who previously served as an ex-officio non-voting member, will now serve as an ex-officio voting member.

Entities can no longer appoint directors to specific places. The new selection process for the five appointed positions involves two steps: 1) making nominations by resolution and 2) allocating the City's voting entitlement (number of votes) among the candidates on the ballot.

On September 17, the City Council nominated the following four candidates: Deven Bhakta, Gerardo "Jerry" Garcia, Janie Gifford, and Susie Sullivan.

NCAD delivered the final ballot on October 7. Today, the Council will determine how to allocate the City's 1,100-vote entitlement among the candidates. The Council may vote for one or more candidates on the ballot. The top five vote-getters will be the appointed directors.

Candidate	Nominating Jurisdiction(s)
Deven S. Bhakta	City of Corpus Christi
Caitlin Chupe	CCISD
Luis A. Elizondo	Bishop Con ISD
Gerardo “Jerry” M. Garcia	City of Corpus Christi
Janie Gifford	City of Corpus Christi
Leo Gonzalez	TMISD
DeeAnna Heavilin	Del Mar College District
Gabriele Hilpold	Nueces County
Shirley Madej	Nueces County
Susie Sullivan	City of Corpus Christi, CCISD, Nueces County, FBISD, City of Port Aransas

The top 5 entities in terms of vote entitlement are, in order:

Entity	Entitlement	Percent of Total
Corpus Christi ISD	1,305	26.1%
City of Corpus Christi	1,100	22%
Nueces County	700	14%
Del Mar College	595	11.9%
Port Aransas ISD	280	5.6%

Each entity with a voting entitlement of 5% or more of the total votes of all eligible entities must determine its vote by resolution adopted no later than the second open meeting of the governing body held after the date the Chief Appraiser delivers the ballot to its presiding officer.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

The five appointed positions will each serve a four-year staggered term, starting on January 1 of every other even-numbered year. In the first appointment period, two members will serve one-year terms, and three will serve three-year terms to achieve the staggered terms. The District will randomly determine which seats receive the different terms by drawing lots, but the specific process for this has not yet been determined.

Name	Category	Position	Term
Kevin Kieschnick	Tax Assessor-Collector	Ex-officio, Voting	Term of office
James Magill	Place 1	Elected	7/01/2024 – 12/31/2026
John M. Cudd	Place 2	Elected	7/01/2024 – 12/31/2026
Ed Bennett	Place 3	Elected	7/01/2024 – 12/31/2026
Seat 1		Appointed	Staggered one- or three-year terms
Seat 2		Appointed	Staggered one- or three-year terms
Seat 3		Appointed	Staggered one- or three-year terms
Seat 4		Appointed	Staggered one- or three-year terms
Seat 5		Appointed	Staggered one- or three-year terms

FISCAL IMPACT: None

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Resolution with ballot

Memo from NCAD on Board Appointment Process