

Lynn County Appraisal District

2021 Annual Report

Introduction

The Lynn 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 Lynn 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 1st, unless the property owner has elected to have their business personal property appraised as of September 1st. 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 not 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.

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 three consecutive 2 year terms. They must be certified by the Texas Comptroller. 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.

The Ag Advisory Board is appointed by the Board of Directors at the recommendation of the chief appraiser to aide her in determining typical practices and standards for agricultural activities in the district. They serve at the will of the Board of Directors.

Taxing Jurisdictions

The Lynn County Appraisal District is responsible for appraising all properties for each of the taxing jurisdictions that have territory located within the 893 square miles of Lynn County. Following are those taxing jurisdictions with territory located in the district:

- Lynn County
- City of Tahoka
- Tahoka ISD
- City of O'Donnell
- O'Donnell ISD
- City of Wilson
- Wilson ISD
- City of New Home
- New Home ISD
- Slaton ISD*
- Southland ISD*
- Dawson ISD*
- Post ISD*
- Lynn County Hospital District
- High Plains Water District

**School Districts that overlap into Lynn County*

Property Types Appraised

LCAD staff is responsible for appraising residential, commercial, land, and business personal property. LCAD contracts with Pritchard and Abbott, Inc. (P & A) to appraise oil and gas properties, utilities, pipelines, industrial property, and industrial personal property in the district.

The following represents a summary of property types and their certified values for 2021:

| Code | Property Type | Parcel Count | Market Value |
|-------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| A | Single Family Homes | 1922 | 173,832,370 |
| B | Multi Family Homes | 3 | 354,330 |
| C | Vacant Lot | 500 | 5,683,190 |
| D1 | Qualified Ag Land | 3395 | 520,436,030 |
| D2 | Farm & Ranch Imp. On Ag Land | 482 | 17,031,610 |
| E | Real Property-Non Ag-Residents | 862 | 104,460,210 |
| F1 | Commercial Real Property | 389 | 36,474,010 |
| F2 | Industrial Real Property | 8 | 592,077,530 |
| G | Oil & Gas | 469 | 11,713,490 |
| J | Utilities | 185 | 55,991,530 |
| L1 | Commercial Personal Property | 165 | 5,463,420 |
| L2 | Industrial Personal Property | 17 | 4,812,524 |
| M1 | Tangible Personal Mobile Home | 103 | 4,828,820 |
| O | Real Property: Res Inventory | 37 | 1,209,310 |
| S | Special Inventory | 2 | 154,451 |
| X | Total Exempt Property | 920 | 54,722,180 |

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 added to the homesite will cause the ceiling to be readjusted and set in the subsequent tax year.)

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 exemptions amounts, based upon these ratings, are:

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