



**ELLIS APPRAISAL DISTRICT**  
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**Board of Directors**  
John G. Tabor, Chairman  
Ken Marks, Vice Chairman  
John D. Knight, Secretary  
T. Walter Erwin, Member  
Diana B. Muckleroy, Member  
Richard Rozier, Non-voting Member

Kathy Rodrigue, Chief Appraiser

August 25, 2021

Voting Taxing Units of the Ellis Appraisal District:

It is election time and the **2022-2023 Board of Directors Taxing Unit Voting Entitlements** are enclosed.

**The FIRST step for you in this process is NOMINATIONS.** Each taxing unit may **nominate by resolution** adopted by its governing body (sample enclosed) one candidate for each position to be filled on the board of directors. The presiding officer of the governing body of the unit shall submit the name(s) of the unit's nominee(s) to the chief appraiser before October 15<sup>th</sup>.

Before October 30<sup>th</sup>, the chief appraiser will prepare a ballot, listing the candidates and shall deliver a copy of the ballot to the presiding officer of your unit. **The SECOND step for you in this process is to VOTE.** The governing body shall determine its **vote by resolution** (sample enclosed) and submit it to the chief appraiser before December 15<sup>th</sup>. Your voting entitlement may be cast for one candidate or distributed as the governing body chooses. It takes **834 votes** to secure a position on the board. The chief appraiser will count the votes, declare the five candidates who received the largest cumulative vote totals elected, and submit the results before December 31<sup>st</sup> to each governing body. **Please see the NEW LEGISLATION\* on separate page affecting larger taxing units.**

Please mark these dates for the governance of the Ellis Appraisal District:

Before October 15	Your governing body submits candidate(s) name(s) (with bio) to the chief appraiser
Before October 30	I will prepare and deliver a ballot to the presiding officer of your unit
Before December 15*	Your governing body will vote by resolution and submit to the chief appraiser
Before December 31	I will send the results of the election to each governing body

**Please make plans on your scheduled meetings to consider and act on these matters. Your vote is very important to the continued dedicated leadership of this board.**

I have asked the current board members about their interest in serving another term. Walter Erwin, John Knight, Ken Marks, Dani Muckleroy and John Tabor are willing to serve another term. I am enclosing the history of the current board members.

So that all taxing units in the election are familiar with new candidates, **please submit a short bio and contact information** (email and cell phone) **for any newly nominated candidate.** Please contact me if you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Rodrigue, RPA



## NEW LEGISLATION effective for the 2022-2023 Board of Directors Election

HB 988 Shine

SECTION 3. Section 6.03, Tax Code, is amended by amending Subsection (k) and adding Subsection (k-1) to read as follows:

(k) Except as provided by Subsection (k-1), the [The] governing body of each taxing unit entitled to vote shall determine its vote by resolution and submit it to the chief appraiser before December 15. The chief appraiser shall count the votes, declare the five candidates who receive the largest cumulative vote totals elected, and submit the results before December 31 to the governing body of each taxing unit in the district and to the candidates. For purposes of determining the number of votes received by the candidates, the candidate receiving the most votes of the conservation and reclamation districts is considered to have received all of the votes cast by conservation and reclamation districts and the other candidates are considered not to have received any votes of the conservation and reclamation districts. The chief appraiser shall resolve a tie vote by any method of chance.

(k-1) This subsection applies only to an appraisal district established in a **county with a population of 120,000 or more**. The governing body of each taxing unit entitled to cast at least five percent of the total votes must determine its vote by resolution adopted **at the first or second open meeting of the governing body that is held after the date the chief appraiser delivers (before October 15<sup>th</sup>) the ballot to the presiding officer of the governing body**. The governing body must submit its vote to the chief appraiser not later than the third day following the date the resolution is adopted.

This **new law applies** to the following taxing units that make up 86.07% of the total votes:

Ellis County	16.73%	with 837 votes
Ennis ISD	9.33%	with 467 votes
Midlothian ISD	19.91%	with 995 votes
Red Oak ISD	7.86%	with 393 votes
Waxahachie ISD	17.57%	with 879 votes
City of Midlothian	7.94%	with 397 votes
City of Waxahachie	6.73%	with 336 votes

## 2022-2023 Ellis Appraisal District Board of Directors' Candidate Information

*Please find information for the nominated candidates: Logan Brady, Walter Erwin, Richard Keeler, Brett Kemp, John Knight, Ken Marks, Dani Muckleroy and Ryan Pitts*

**Logan Brady** - Born in California, Mr. Brady grew up in Waxahachie, graduating in 2006. He earned a Bachelors Degree in Computer Science from the University of Alabama, an MBA from Quinnipiac University and a Lean Six Sigma Blank Belt certification from Villanova University. He has worked in aerospace manufacturing, healthcare, banking and owned a dance studio with his wife. Through his work, he has enjoyed traveling and has spent time in Germany, China, India and the Middle East. Mr. Brady is the Branch President for Pinnacle Bank's forthcoming Waxahachie Branch and is involved locally in the Waxahachie Chamber of Commerce, Waxahachie Young Professionals and the Miracle League of Ellis County. He and his family returned to Waxahachie after 15 years following his high school graduation.

**Walter Erwin** - Mr. Erwin was nominated by the City of Ennis. Mr. Erwin has served on the Ellis Appraisal District Board of Directors as a member for a part of 2021. He was in the US Army Reserve from 1964-1971 while simultaneously earning his BBA from the University of Texas. From 1973-2018, he was the President and CEO of Erwin Distributing Co, Inc. DBA Wally's Party Factory while also founding Party Club of America and was co-owner/founder of Halloween and Party Expo, selling these businesses by 2018. Mr. Erwin remains the Managing Member of Erwin Properties, LP (I & II) and remains on the Ennis State Bank Board of Directors since 1985. He volunteered as the Vice-President of the Ennis Industrial Foundation in the 1970-80's and the Trinity River Authority of Texas from 1982-1993, serving as the President of their Board of Directors from 1991-1993.

**Richard Keeler** - Mr. Keeler was nominated by Waxahachie ISD. He has been a resident of Waxahachie since 1985, serving on the Waxahachie Planning and Zoning Commission as Chairman, on the City of Waxahachie Economic Development Commission and on the Steering Committee for the Waxahachie Economic Development Plan. He attended De Soto High School, received a BBA in Finance from Sam Houston State University and attended the School of Banking of the South at Louisiana State University. Professionally, Mr. Keeler has been with Options Real Estate Investments, Inc. since 1996, from 1981-1996 worked with Community and Commercial Banking and is a member of the Congress for the New Urbanism. He volunteers with Waxahachie Youth Baseball and the Waxahachie YMCA.

**Brett Kemp** - Mr. Kemp was nominated by the City of Midlothian. A resident of Midlothian since 1977, he graduated from Midlothian High School in 1987. He graduated from Tarleton State University with a BBA in Accounting, earned a Masters Certificate in Project Management from Villanova University and obtained a Series 22 and 63 for the SEC as a broker. Professionally, Mr. Kemp ran the Kemp CPA firm from 2010-2019, worked for Intuit for 12 years and received certification as a Green and Black Belt in Six Sigma. He has served the community as VP for the Midlothian Downtown Business Association for three years, as a Member of the Board of Directors for the Midlothian Foundation and volunteered with Manna House for two years. He served for eight years in all leadership roles on the Board of Directors of the Midlothian Chamber of Commerce and founded the Chamber Wine Walk event. Mr. Kemp graduated from Leadership Midlothian in 2012 and went on to Chair and run Leadership Midlothian from 2013-2019. From 2013-2014, he served on the Board of Directors for the Hope Clinic in Waxahachie and was appointed and served as a Planning and Zoning Commissioner for the City of Midlothian from 2014-2018. Mr. Kemp currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Midlothian Cemetery Association and as the Membership Director for the Midlothian Lions Club. His roots are deep in the community and continues to seek service opportunities.

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**John Knight** - Mr. Knight was nominated by Midlothian ISD and the City of Midlothian. Mr. Knight has served on the Ellis Appraisal District Board of Directors as the Secretary for 2020-2021. He has been a resident of Ellis County for 20 years, currently his family lives in Ovilla and his children attend Midlothian ISD. Working in the financial services industry for 25+ years, he is currently the Senior Vice President for First Financial Bank in Midlothian. He has a Bachelor of Business Administration from the University of Texas at Arlington and a Masters of Business Administration from the Cox School of Business at Southern Methodist University. Mr. Knight is active in the community, serving on the board of the Midlothian Chamber of Commerce, co-chairing the Leadership Midlothian program, mentoring at The MILE, and is the president of Texas CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates).

**Ken Marks** - Mr. Marks was nominated by Midlothian ISD and the City of Midlothian. Mr. Marks has served on the Ellis Appraisal District Board of Directors since 2002 as a member, as Secretary from 2004-2005 and 2012-2013 and as Vice-Chairman from 2014-2021. He is a State Certified Residential Real Estate Appraiser working for E.T. Jones & Associates. Mr. Marks has been a resident of Ellis County for 32 years. He and his children graduated from Midlothian ISD.

**Dani Muckleroy** - Ms. Muckleroy was nominated by Midlothian ISD. Ms. Muckleroy has served on the Ellis Appraisal District Board of Directors as a member for a part of 2021. Ms. Muckleroy has been a resident of Ovilla for 28 years. She owned a retail gift shop in Duncanville for 14 years. She is a volunteer and supporter of several non-profit groups that meet the needs of marginal families with an emphasis on children. She has served on the Advisory Council of the Ellis County Salvation Army for 13 years and on the Board at Daniel's Den for one term. She presently serves, using her many years in accounting, on the Finance Committee of First United Methodist Church of Red Oak, understanding budgets and the reason for them. Ms. Muckleroy is a CASA volunteer and a mentor at Red Oak High School.

**Ryan Pitts** – Mr. Pitts was nominated by the City of Waxahachie. He, his wife Faith and their two children live in Waxahachie. Mr. Pitts, a 4<sup>th</sup> generation Waxahachie resident, graduated from Southern Methodist University and received his Doctor of Jurisprudence from the University of Texas School of Law. He is the Chief Executive Officer at Ellis County Title Company and has a heart to serve the community. Mr. Pitts is President of the Waxahachie Foundation, Secretary of the Waxahachie Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and volunteers with Waxahachie Care, the Waxahachie Family YMCA and the Waxahachie Independent School District Community Education Advisory Council on their leadership boards. He was named to the 40 Under Forty list of business professionals in Ellis County in 2017 and was a member of the Leadership Waxahachie class of XXII in 2015-2016. Mr. Pitts was recently a candidate in the 2020 Republican Primary for Texas House District 10.