



Bee County Appraisal District

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2020 Annual Report

Introduction

The Bee 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 Bee 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 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)
- The Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP)

Governance

The Appraisal District is governed by a **Board of Directors** whose primary responsibilities are to:

- Appoint the Chief Appraiser
- Contract with appraisal offices, taxing units or private firms to perform appraisal functions;
- Adopt annual budgets for the operation of the Appraisal District
- Determining method of financing the annual budget based on cost allocation among taxing units;
- Purchase or lease real property, as well as constructing improvements to establish the appraisal district office
- Ensure preparation of annual audits by certified public accountants;
- Select a financial institution to deposit funds through bid solicitations;
- Enter into contracts for appraisal functions, expenditures, comply with competitive bidding requirements established by law;
- Become a necessary party to lawsuits brought by property owners concerning appraisals;
- Appoint members of the Agricultural Advisory Board
- Appoint members of the Appraisal Review Board and increase the size of said board's membership when necessary;
- Approve a biennial written reappraisal plan for the District's appraisal activities
- Administering the District office in any other manner required by law.

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 of 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 determine 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 aid him/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 Bee County Appraisal District is responsible for appraising all properties for each of the taxing jurisdictions that have territory located within Bee County. Following are those tax jurisdictions with territory located in the district:

- Bee County
- Bee County Farm Road
- Bee Groundwater Conservation District
- Beeville ISD
- Beeville Water District
- Central Emergency Service District #1
- City of Beeville
- Coastal Bend College
- Mathis ISD
- North Bee County Emergency Service District #2
- Pawnee Emergency Service District #3
- Pawnee ISD
- Pettus ISD
- Pettus Municipal Utility District
- Refugio ISD
- Skidmore-Tynan ISD
- South Bee County Emergency Service District #4
- Three Rivers ISD

Legislative Changes

For legislative changes to the Property Tax Code during 2019 that affected the Appraisal District's operations for 2020, please visit the Texas State Comptroller website at <http://www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/proptax/> for all the legislative changes and updates. Laws passed during the 2019 legislative session will have an effect on the 2020 appraisal records.

Property Types Appraised

The District is comprised of some 32,037 parcels. The following represents a summary of property types appraised by the District for 2020:

PTAD Classification	Property Type	Parcel Count	Market Value
A	Single Family Homes	7119	631,855,870
B	Multi Family Homes	87	37,484,769
C	Vacant Land	2,700	24,638,000
D1	Qualified Open Space "Ag" Land	5,490	44,135,730
D2	Non-Qualified "Ag" Land	905	25,242,600
E	Farm/Ranch Improvements	2,254	253,341,880
F1	Commercial Real Property	705	123,752,942
F2	Industrial Real Property	23	419,155,340
G	Oil/Gas/Minerals	5,758	39,101,080
J	Utilities	502	323,650,000
L1	Commercial Personal Property	763	47,342,610
L2	Industrial Personal Property	260	69,708,760
M1	Mobile Homes	865	11,936,210
S	Dealer's Special Inventory	12	7,311,440
X	Exempt Property	2,763	210,780,500

Ratio Study Analysis

Once every two years the Texas State Comptroller conducts a study to determine the uniformity of and the median level of appraisals by the District within each major category of property. To view the CAD Summary Worksheet and School District Summary Reports from the 2020 study, please visit and click on <https://comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/property-tax/pvs/2020f> and click on Bee.

Property Discovery

The District aggressively seeks to discover all newly constructed or added property each year through examination of:

- City/County building permits
- Filed Material/Mechanic's Liens
- Mobile home installation reports
- Septic tank permits
- Electric connection reports
- Advertisements
- Railroad Commission Reports (oil/gas)
- Field discovery
- Public "word of mouth"

Utilizing these discovery tools, a total market value of \$10,573,420 was added to the appraisal roll for 2020.

Exemption Data

Property owners may qualify for a variety of exemptions as provided by the Texas Constitution. Some of the most commonly occurring exemptions are described below. Other less commonly occurring exemptions are available and described in the Texas Property Tax Code, Chapter 11.

Residential Homestead

The following chart represents the total exemption amounts available to homeowners who qualify for this exemption on homesites with a maximum of 20 acres:

Jurisdiction	General	Over 65	Disability	100% Disabled Veteran
Bee County	\$5,000 or 20% (the greater)	\$25,000 + \$10,000	\$25,000 + \$10,000	100%
Bee County Farm Road	\$5,000 or 20% (the greater) + \$3,000	\$5,000 + \$10,000 (\$3,000 not allowed)	\$5,000 + \$10,000 (\$3,000 not allowed)	100%
Bee Groundwater Conservation District	\$5,000 or 20% (the greater)	\$5,000 + \$10,000		100%
Beeville ISD	\$25,000	\$25,000 + \$10,000	\$25,000 + \$10,000	100%
Beeville Water Supply		\$5,000		100%
Central Emergency		\$3,000		100%
City of Beeville		\$5,000	\$5,000	100%
Coastal Bend College		\$5,000 or 1% (the greater)	\$5,000 or 1% (the greater)	100%
Pawnee ISD	\$25,000	\$25,000 + \$10,000	\$25,000 + \$10,000	100%
Pettus ISD	\$25,000	\$25,000 + \$10,000	\$25,000 + \$10,000	100%
Skidmore-Tynan ISD	\$25,000	\$25,000 + \$10,000	\$25,000 + \$10,000	100%

For school tax purposes, the over 65, disability, 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.)

Bee County, City of Beeville and Coastal Bend College allow tax ceilings prohibiting increased taxes on the residential homesteads for over 65 and disabled homeowners. Although Texas law allows it, the other taxing jurisdictions have not adopted tax ceilings for over 65 or disabled homeowners.

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. 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 Veteran's Affairs. Current exemptions amounts, as based upon these ratings, are:

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

Other Exemptions

Other commonly occurring exemptions are:

- Cemetery Exemptions
- Religious Organizations
- Primarily Charitable Organizations
- Veteran's Organizations

Other less frequently occurring exemptions are allowable and described in Chapter 11, Property Tax Code.

Appeal Information

State law required the district to mail Notices of Appraised Value to property owners where:

- New property has been included for the first time on the appraisal roll
- There has been an ownership change
- There has been a change in taxable value of \$1,000 or more
- The property filed a rendition statement of the property
- The property has been annexed or de-annexed to a taxing jurisdiction

In compliance with these laws, the District prepared and delivered required notices for:

- 9,628 real estate parcels
- 6,967 mineral/utility/industrial parcels

From those notices, 919 parcels were protested.

Certified Valued

The Chief Appraiser certified market and taxable values to each taxing jurisdiction on July 23, 2020, summarized as follows:

Jurisdiction	Parcel Count	Market Value	Taxable Value
Bee County	31,627	3,545,378,546	1,809,049,923
Bee County Farm Road	31,627	3,545,378,546	1,800,837,523
Bee County Groundwater	18,935	2,839,085,691	1,337,710,636
Beeville ISD	20,308	1,673,482,608	834,301,937
Beeville Water District	11,688	682,908,354	493,751,194
Central Emergency District #1	8,934	1,026,941,731	449,959,645
City of Beeville	11,692	680,127,011	491,122,541
Coastal Bend College	31,627	3,546,674,906	1,914,710,263
Mathis ISD	149	20,766,560	14,549,570
Bee County Emergency District #2	3,203	716,051,140	462,273,418
Pawnee Emergency District #3	1,968	469,497,299	229,981,045
Pawnee ISD	1,872	436,086,889	207,838,875
Pettus ISD	3,202	716,051,140	452,004,748
Pettus Municipal District	732	24,133,188	22,033,098
Refugio ISD	318	34,949,324	12,287,661
Skidmore-Tynan ISD	5,682	631,909,125	263,619,701
South Bee County Emergency #4	5,831	652,675,685	297,304,866
Three Rivers ISD	96	18,441,270	1,999,090

Tax Rates

Using the taxable values as certified by the Chief Appraiser(s) and following the requirements of the Truth in Taxation Laws, the taxing jurisdictions adopted the following tax rates (information obtained from tax assessor's office):

Jurisdiction	2020 Tax Rate	2020 Tax Rate Breakdown
Bee County	.69123	.11604 I&S .06416 R&B .51103 M&O
Bee County Farm Road	.00421	.00421
City of Beeville	.66382	.22264 I&S .44118 M&O
Coastal Bend College	.16714	.04760 I&S .11954 M&O
Beeville ISD	1.19170	.13700 I&S 1.05470 M&O
Skidmore ISD	1.28180	.31880 I&S .96300 M&O
Pettus ISD	1.29387	1.00460 M&O .28927 I&S
Pawnee ISD	1.18340	.21700 I&S .96640 M&O
Beeville Water Supply District	.08236	.08236 I&S
Pettus Municipal Utility District	.20190	.20190
Bee Groundwater Con. Dist.	.00409	.00409
Central Emergency #1	.00922	.00922
North Bee County Emergency #2	.01982	.01982
Pawnee Emergency #3	.02123	.02123
South Bee County Emergency #4	.03661	.03661
Three Rivers ISD	1.0529	1.0529
Refugio ISD	1.2864	1.2864
Mathis ISD	1.367250	1.367250