

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

All citizens' communication to the board shall be addressed to the board as a whole and forwarded to the board's office or to the chairman or secretary. The agenda for the order of business for all regular meetings shall include an item to allow for citizens' input. Citizens will not be permitted to enter into a discussion or debate as other agenda items are being considered by the board.

The BOD may refuse to hear any person who attempts to speak on a subject unrelated to the policies and procedures of the appraisal district or to any other issue not under the board's jurisdiction.

PUBLIC ACCESS FOR MEETINGS

The following are policies adopted to provide public access to the BOD for the purpose of testimony at public meetings concerning the district or ARB:

- 1) Any non-English speaking person, deaf person, or person who has any physical, mental or developmental disability desiring to appear before the BOD must file a written request with the Chief Appraiser, who will schedule the person to present testimony at the next regularly scheduled board meeting. The request should indicate any special assistance or arrangement required to make the presentation to the board possible.
- 2) The Chief Appraiser shall appoint at least one bilingual person in the county to serve as an interpreter when needed. An interpreter shall attend any meeting of the BOD in which non-English speaking person is scheduled to testify and shall be paid per diem equal to that paid to member of the ARB.
- 3) The Chief Appraiser shall coordinate with area service council of the Texas Commission for the Deaf in obtaining service and shall appoint an interpreter to attend any meeting of the BOD in which a deaf person is scheduled to testify when needed. Per diem shall be equal to that paid to member of the ARB.
- 4) The Chief Appraiser shall coordinate with the Texas Rehabilitation Commission, the United Way, and other public and private agencies with regional offices to provide proper arrangements for public forums, to include the correct placement of microphones, sufficient area for wheelchairs and other mobility aids, and any other matter which would assist in improved access to the board of directors in a public hearing.
- 5) Meetings of the BOD for which written notice has been given from persons requesting barrier free access shall be conducted in public buildings complying with the standards and specification adopted by the State Purchasing and General Services Commission, pursuant to the Elimination of Architectural Barrier Act, Article 7 of Article 601b V.T.C.S., where available in the district, the Chief Appraiser shall make arrangements for a temporary wheelchair ramp to be available, as well as other physical aides for persons with disabilities.