Cameron Appraisal District 2014 Annual Report

Introduction

The Cameron Appraisal District is a political subdivision of the State of Texas. The Texas Constitution, 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 the Cameron 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 Cameron County 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 is achieved by administering the laws of the Texas property tax system and by operating under the standards of

- The Texas Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division (PTAD;
- The International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO); and
- The Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice.

Governance

The Cameron Appraisal District is governed by a 10 member board of directors selected by the county's participating taxing jurisdictions. The Board's primary responsibilities are to:

- Establish an appraisal districts office;
- Adopt an operating budget;
- Contract for necessary services;
- Hire a chief appraiser;
- Appoint an Appraisal Review Board;
- Provide advice and consent to the chief appraiser concerning the appointment of an Agricultural Advisory Board;
- Make general policies on the appraisal district operations; and
- Biannually develop a written plan for the periodic appraisal of all property within the appraisal district's boundaries.

To be eligible to serve on the board of directors, a person must have resided within the boundaries of Cameron County for at least two years prior to being selected. Directors can serve without term limitations.

The Chief Appraiser is the chief administrator of the appraisal district and appointed by the board of directors. The chief appraiser must be licensed as a Registered Professional Appraiser (RPA) through the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR).

Members of the Appraisal Review Board (ARB) are appointed by the local administrative judge and serve two year staggered terms. The ARB Chair and ARB Secretary are appointed by the board of directors. ARB members are limited to three consecutive two year terms. The ARB settles value disputes between taxpayers and the chief appraiser. In 2014, Cameron Appraisal District mailed 64,301 notices of appraised value and the ARB heard 1,415 formal appeals.

The Agricultural Advisory Board is appointed by the board of directors at the recommendation of the chief appraiser and serves to advise the chef appraiser in determining typical practices and standards for agricultural activities in Cameron County. In 2014, the Agricultural Advisory Board held 4 meetings.

Taxing Jurisdictions

The Cameron Appraisal District is responsible for discovering and appraising all properties, real estate and personal property, for each taxing jurisdiction located in Cameron County. Cameron County comprises 1,276 square miles and consists of the following taxing entities:

CITY OF BROWNSVILLE

TOWN OF BAYVIEW

CITY OF COMBES

CITY OF HARLINGEN

TOWN OF INDIAN LAKE

CITY OF LA FERIA

CITY OF LOS FRESNOS

TOWN OF LAGUNA VISTA

CITY OF PORT ISABEL

CITY OF PRIMERA

CITY OF PALM VALLEY

CITY OF RIO HONDO

TOWN OF RANCHO VIEJO

CITY OF SAN BENITO

CITY OF SOUTH PADRE ISLAND

CITY OF SANTA ROSA

CAMERON COUNTY

BROWNSVILLE I.S.D

HARLINGEN C.I.S.D

LA FERIA I.S.D

LOS FRESNOS C.I.S.D

LYFORD C.I.S.D.

POINT ISABEL I.S.D

RIO HONDO I.S.D

SAN BENITO I.S.D

SANTA MARIA I.S.D

SANTA ROSA I.S.D

BROWNSVILLE NAVIGATION DISTRICT

LAGUNA MADRE WATER DISTRICT

DRAINAGE DISTRICT #1

DRAINAGE DISTRICT #3

DRAINAGE DISTRICT #4

DRAINAGE DISTRICT #5

EMERGENCY SERVICE DISTRICT #1

PASEO DE LA RESACA MUD #1

PASEO DE LA RESACA MUD #2

PASEO DE LA RESACA MUD #3

SOUTH TEXAS I.S.D

TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE DISTRICT

VALLEY MUD #2

Property Categories

The Cameron Appraisal Districts contains approximately 208,991 parcels consisting of residential, commercial, industrial, utilities and mineral (oil and gas) properties.

Below is a summary of the 2014 appraisals by category:

CAMERON County

Property Count: 208,991

2014 CERTIFIED TOTALS

As of Certification

GCC - CAMERON COUNTY
Grand Totals

7/17/2014 4:30:07PM

State Category Breakdown

State Code	Description	Count	Acres	New Value Market	Market Value
Α	SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCE	116,828		\$173,551,162	\$9,985,583,182
В	MULTIFAMILY RESIDENCE	4,185		\$13,573,387	\$638,734,492
C1	VACANT LOTS AND LAND TRACTS	32,482		\$0	\$746,727,634
D1	QUALIFIED OPEN-SPACE LAND	10,414	302,013.9690	\$0	\$897,866,995
D2	IMPROVEMENTS ON QUALIFIED OPEN SP	4,451		\$11,227	\$200,287,971
E	RURAL LAND, NON QUALIFIED OPEN SPA	4,366	24,654.5107	\$3,938,948	\$347,342,514
ERROR		1		\$0	\$13,145
F1	COMMERCIAL REAL PROPERTY	8,371		\$52,536,054	\$2,766,818,774
F2	INDUSTRIAL AND MANUFACTURING REAL	176		\$648,566	\$142,310,098
G1	OIL AND GAS	20		\$0	\$1,218,210
J2	GAS DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM	42		\$1,703	\$11,933,935
J3	ELECTRIC COMPANY (INCLUDING CO-OP)	358		\$0	\$223,119,110
J4	TELEPHONE COMPANY (INCLUDING CO-O	152		\$128,413	\$44,721,465
J5	RAILROAD	169		\$0	\$49,060,247
J6	PIPELAND COMPANY	75		\$0	\$15,144,554
J7	CABLE TELEVISION COMPANY	20		\$0	\$15,069,900
J8	OTHER TYPE OF UTILITY	454		\$0	\$51,822,649
L1	COMMERCIAL PERSONAL PROPERTY	10,864		\$2,790,359	\$975,718,518
L2	INDUSTRIAL AND MANUFACTURING PERS	649		\$0	\$782,018,909
M1	TANGIBLE OTHER PERSONAL, MOBILE H	6,966		\$3,384,505	\$57,121,787
0	RESIDENTIAL INVENTORY	2,172		\$2,995,500	\$71,035,558
S	SPECIAL INVENTORY TAX	294		\$0	\$66,078,055
X	TOTALLY EXEMPT PROPERTY	11,744		\$20,493,773	\$1,025,713,467
		Totals	326,668.4797	\$274,053,597	\$19,115,461,169

2014 Appraisal Operation Summary

In 2014, the Cameron Appraisal District appraised new property and reappraised existing property in accordance with its written 2011-2012 Reappraisal Plan. Results of the 2014 Comptroller's Property Value Study will be certified to the Commissioner of Education in July 2015. All school districts were assigned local appraised values, an indication that the Cameron Appraisal District is generally appraising property at current market value. The results for the property categories studied are shown below. The next Property Value Study will occur in 2016.

2014 Property Value Study CAD Summary Worksheet

031 Cameron

Category	Number of Ratios	2014 CAD Rept Appraised Value	Median Level of Appr	Coefficient of Dispersion	% Ratios w/in (+/-) 10% of Median	% Ratios w/in (+/-) 25% of Median	Price- Related Differential
A. Single- Family Residences	960	9,985,518,358	.99	14.37	52.34	83.00	1.03
B. Multi- Family Residences	0	638,734,492	*	*	*	*	*
C1. Vacant Lots	226	746,724,924	*	*	*	*	*
C2. Colonia lots	0	: 0	*	*	*	*	*
D2. Farm/Ranch Imp	0	1,691,612	*	*	*	*	*
E. Rural non- qualified	57	545,861,466	*	*	*	*	*
F1. Commercial Real	246	2,767,530,005	.99	11.84	61.38	89.43	1.03
F2. Industrial Real	0	142,310,098	*	*	×	*	*
G. Oil, Gas, Minerals	0	1,217,975	*	*	*	*	*
J. Utilities	2	410,871,050	*	*	*	*	*
L1. Commercial Personal	121	975,925,491	*	*	*	*	*
L2. Industrial Personal	0	782,018,852	*	*	*	*	*
M. Other Personal	0	57,146,641	*	*	*	*	*
O. Residential Inventory	0	71,035,558	*	*	*	*	*
S. Special Inventory	0	66,078,055	*	*	*	*	*
Overall	1,612	17,192,664,577	1.00	15.38	53.75	82.06	1.05

^{*} Not Calculated - Need a minimum of 5 ratios from either (A) categories representing at least 25% of total CAD category value or (B) 5 ISDs or half the ISDs in the CAD, whichever is less

^{**} Statistical measures may not be reliable when the sample is small

Exemption Data

active duty (sec 11.132)

Property owners may qualify for a variety of exemptions as provided by the Texas Property Tax Code.

The chart below shows the 2014 Exemptions Granted by Jurisdictions

2014 Exemption Chart

		State Mandated			Local Option				
1			Scale Maridated Over65 &		Over65 &				
1		100% Disabled		Surviving			Over-65 &	Surviving	Optional
TDC		Veteran		Spouseor	Disabled		Surviving	Spouse or	Percentage
Code	Taxing Jurisdiction	Homestead	Homestead	Disability	Veteran	Ho mestead	Spouse	Disability	Ho mestead
SBR	CITY OF BROWNSMILE	###		-	***		6,000		
V	TOWN OF BAYMEW	###			***		-1		
	CITY OF COMBES	***			***		10,000		
	THE COURT OF THE C	###			***		10,000	410,000	
_	CITY OF HARLINGEN							₹1 U,UUU	
CIL	CITY OF INDIAN LAKE	###			***			+	
CLA	CITY OF LA FERIA	###			***			+	
CLO	CITY OF LOS FRESNOS	###			***				
CLV	CITY OF LAGUNA MSTA	###			***		3,000		
CPI	CITY OF PORT ISABEL	###			***		3,000		20%/5,000
	CITYOF PRIMERA	###			***	5,000		5,000	
	TOWN OF PALM VALLEY	###			***	0,000	-	0,000	
		THE PARTY OF THE P			***		-		
	CITY OF RIO HONDO	###						•	
CRV	CITY OF RANCHO VIEJO	###			***	5,000			
CSB	CITY OF SAN BENITO	###			***	1		◆ 5000	
CSP	TOWN OF SOUTH PADRE	###			***		3,000		20%/5,000
CSR	CITY OF SANTA ROSA	###			***				
CLI	CITY OF LOS INDIOS	###			***		5%/5,000		
	CAMERON COUNTY	###			***		12,000		ř.
		###	45,000	40.000	***		12,000	4 620	<u>-</u>
	BROWNSVILLE I.S.D.	11 7 2 2 7 7 2	15,000	10,000				4,620	
	HARLINGEN I.S.D.	###	15,000	10,000	***				
ILA	LAFERIAI.S.D.	###	15,000	10,000	***				
ILO	LOS FRESNOS I.S.D.	###	15,000	10,000	***				
ILY	LYFORD I.S.D. (Collected by Willacy)	###	15,000	10,000	***				
IPI	POINT ISABEL I.S.D.	###	15,000	10,000	***				
	RIO HONDO I.S.D.	###	15,000	10,000	***				
_		###			***		-		
ISB	SAN BENITO I.S.D.		15,000	10,000	550550				
ISM	SANTAMARIA I.S.D.	###	15,000	10,000	***				
ISR	SANTAROSALS.D.	###	15,000	10,000	***				
SAN	PORT OF HARLINGEN	###	Diges not Co	ollect Taxes	***	5,000		10,000	
SBN	BROWNSVILLE NAV DIST	###			***				
SPN	PORT ISABEL NAVIGATION	###	Diges not Co	ollect Taxes	***				
SC1	LAGUNA MADRE WATER DIST	###			***		3,000		20%/5,000
SD1	DRAINAGE DIST #1	###			***		0,000		207070,000
	DRAINAGE DIST #3	###			***				
SD4	DRAINAGE DIST #4	###			***				
SD5	DRAINAGE DIST #5	###			***				
SES	CAMERON COUNTY EMS	###			***	h			
SP1	PASEO DE LA RESACA MUD #1	###			***				
	PASEO DE LA RESACA MUD #2	###			***				
	PASEO DE LA RESACA MUD #3	###			***				

	PALM VALLEYUTILITYDISTRICT	###		L					
	SANTAROSAUTILITY DISTRICT	###	Diges not C	ollect Taxes	***				
	SOUTH TEXAS I.S.D.	###			***				
STS	SOUTHMOST UNION JR COLLEGE	###			***				j
SV2	VALLEYMUD #2	###			***				
U 12	Trace I mov #2								
	*** A								
***	*** Amount depends on Code					◆ ELECTED OP	HON PER PR	DPOSTION 13	
1	DV1 - 10%to 29% \$5,000								
1	DV2 - 30%to 45% \$7,500								
1	DV3-50%to 69%\$10,000								
1	DV4 - 70%to 100% \$12,000								
1	surviving spouse is granted same amou	ent at time of secur	eele death (c	ection 11 22	5)				
1		하나 내가 있는 것은 것이 모든 것이 없다.				n who			
1	### - 100% EXEMPTED - 100% disabled								
1	met qualifications at time of death & surviving spouse of a U.S. arm service member who died on								

• PROPOSTITION 13 AUTHORIZED COUNTY, CITY, TOWN, AND JUNIOR COLLEGE DISTRICTS TO FREEZE PROPERTY TAXES ON A RESIDENTIAL HOMESTEAD OF A PERSON WHO IS DISABLED OR AGED 65 OR OLDER.

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 of existing improvements. The tax ceilings are adjusted if new improvements are added to the existing homestead.

In 2014, other taxing jurisdictions allowing the tax ceiling provisions were:

Jurisdiction

CITY OF BROWNSVILLE
TOWN OF BAYVIEW
CITY OF COMBES
CITY OF HARLINGEN
TOWN OF INDIAN LAKE
CITY OF LA FERIA
CITY OF LOS FRESNOS
TOWN OF LAGUNA VISTA
CITY OF PORT ISABEL
CITY OF RIO HONDO
CITY OF SAN BENITO
CITY OF SOUTH PADRE ISLAND
CAMERON COUNTY
TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE DISTRICT

Homeowners qualifying for the residential homestead exemption receive a **homestead cap** that limits the increase of **taxable value** on the homestead to ten percent per year.

Disabled Veterans

In addition to the residential homestead exemption allowable to disabled veterans with 100% service connected disability, disabled veterans are allowed a general exemption on any property they own based upon the percentage of disability rating determined by the Department of Veterans' Affairs. Current exemptions based on these ratings are:

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

2014 Certified Market Values

Year T Entity	Description	▼ Properties	Market ×	Taxable Value	Tax Rate
2014 CBR	CITY OF BROWNSVILLE	70,272	6,705,644,907	5,987,180,217	0.700613
2014 CBV	TOWN OF BAYVIEW	486	60,154,565	43,715,421	0.250000
2014 CCB	CITY OF COMBES	1,779	86,872,276	76,737,689	0.811099
2014 CHG	CITY OF HARLINGEN	31,225	3,266,970,037	2,933,924,313	0.588827
2014 CIL	TOWN OF INDIAN LAKE	596	13,136,667	12,436,792	0.800000
2014 CLA	CITY OF LA FERIA	4,153	227,779,004	199,158,450	0.713587
2014 CLI	CITY OF LOS INDIOS	651	159,758,137	51,936,068	0.432362
2014 CLO	CITY OF LOS FRESNOS	2,552	186,746,374	170,672,573	0.715000
2014 CLV	TOWN OF LAGUNA VISTA	2,213	312,560,531	300,753,627	0.337290
2014 CPI	CITY OF PORT ISABEL	3,138	343,761,453	304,108,196	0.626327
2014 CPR	CITY OF PRIMERA	2,163	109,599,176	97,904,360	0.689607
2014 CPV	CITY OF PALM VALLEY	805	116,658,764	115,224,457	0.452541
2014 CRH	CITY OF RIO HONDO	1,157	70,097,315	59,111,481	0.860600
2014 CRV	TOWN OF RANCHO VIEJO	1,792	237,494,263	230,973,465	0.419906
2014 CSB	CITY OF SAN BENITO	11,440	714,554,721	610,797,034	0.728125
2014 CSP	CITY OF SOUTH PADRE ISLAND	9,112	2,612,303,436	2,520,865,650	0.262754
2014 CSR	CITY OF SANTA ROSA	1,288	45,236,953	40,135,809	0.575830
2014 GCC	CAMERON COUNTY	208,991	19,115,461,169	16,899,362,578	0.399291
2014 IBR	BROWNSVILLE I.S.D	70,084	6,718,176,451	5,504,468,589	1.145666
2014 IHG	HARLINGEN C.I.S.D	41,953	4,088,643,565	3,410,154,265	1.218000
2014 ILA	LA FERIA I.S.D	9,229	530,115,435	379,462,546	1.299100
2014 ILO	LOS FRESNOS C.I.S.D	32,661	1,952,619,632	1,504,360,178	1.190000
2014 ILY	LYFORD C.I.S.D.	358	23,357,334	10,590,650	1.280000
2014 IPI	POINT ISABEL I.S.D	21,578	3,828,870,470	3,586,401,547	1.081634
2014 IRH	RIO HONDO I.S.D	6,035	417,057,781	256,062,602	1.369100
2014 ISB	SAN BENITO I.S.D	22,276	1,330,948,143	903,490,823	1.304900
2014 ISM	SANTA MARIA I.S.D	1,820	87,801,404	42,546,790	1.280000
2014 ISR	SANTA ROSA I.S.D	3,082	138,756,899	78,806,327	1.372200
2014 SBN	BROWNSVILLE NAVIGATION DISTRICT	93,195	8,542,817,443	7,545,389,602	0.042000
2014 SC1	LAGUNA MADRE WATER DISTRICT	16,723	3,451,448,972	3,243,685,041	0.039260
2014 SD1	DRAINAGE DISTRICT #1	63,671	5,633,141,967	5,013,997,035	0.029500
2014 SD3	DRAINAGE DISTRICT #3	27,534	2,205,562,780	1,768,115,517	0.147218
2014 SD4	DRAINAGE DISTRICT #4	2,994	134,583,731	116,511,574	0.041320
2014 SD5	DRAINAGE DISTRICT #5	23,951	1,838,705,984	1,645,501,772	0.137364
2014 SES	EMERGENCY SERVICE DISTRICT #1	65,326	4,017,012,015	2,937,206,839	0.100000
2014 SP1	PASEO DE LA RESACA MUD #1	407	80,850,293	71,418,997	0.420000
2014 SP2	PASEO DE LA RESACA MUD #2	739	121,997,946	108,180,456	0.420000
2014 SP3	PASEO DE LA RESACA MUD #3	962	100,877,583	99,351,180	0.420000
2014 SPL	PASEO DE LA RESACA LANDSCAPE 8	k N 2,095	302,999,858	278,966,828	0.150000
2014 SST	SOUTH TEXAS I.S.D	208,898	19,113,519,102	17,154,363,725	0.049200
2014 STS	TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE DISTRIC	CT 124,313	12,493,414,367	11,412,730,729	0.164094
2014 SV2	VALLEY MUD #2	2,299	275,373,241	264,675,622	0.350000

SIGNIFICANT PROPERTY TAX LAW CHANGES

There were many changes enacted into the tax code during the 2011 legislative session, which have affected Cameron Appraisal District in 2014. The change in the requirements to receive the homestead exemption is one of the more significant changes. The law now requires a Texas Driver's License, a vehicle registration (or affidavit of not owning a car) and a utility bill all with the address for which an exemption is being requested.

Another change to the exemption law is regarding the completely disabled veterans. If the completely disabled veteran should die, the spouse of the veteran is entitled to the exemption until he or she remarries.

Senate Bill 1505 made changes to the methodology in the calculation of oil and gas for the appraisal of these properties.

House Bill 2387 revised the law by clarifying that the general counsel employed by the district does not work for the chief appraiser, but works for the board of directors and will work at the board's discretion.