



District at which all residents, qualified electors of the District, shall be entitled to vote. The Board hereby finds that holding the Election on such date is in the public interest. The hours during which the polling places are to be open on election day shall be from 7:00 o'clock a.m. to 7:00 o'clock p.m. The voting locations, dates, and times for early voting and election day are attached as Exhibit "A" to this Order and incorporated by reference herein.

Section 2. Conduct of Election; Joint Election Agreement; Contract for Election Services. The Election shall be conducted by election officers, in accordance with the Texas Election Code and the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas and of the United States of America. Pursuant to Chapter 31 of the Texas Election Code, the Board orders that the Election be conducted under a Contract for Election services with Rains County, which will be presented to the Board for its consideration and approval when available.

Chapter 271 of the Texas Election Code provides that the authorities of two or more political subdivisions that have ordered elections for the same day in all or part of the same territory may enter into an agreement to hold the elections jointly in election precincts that can be served by common polling places, and the Board is expressly authorizing this action. Pursuant to Chapter 271 of the Texas Election Code the Board hereby determines that this Election be conducted under the terms and conditions of one or more agreements to conduct joint elections, which will be presented to the Board for its consideration and approval when available.

The District will utilize the Hart Intercivic Verity voting system, which has been approved for use by the Texas Secretary of State for early voting by personal appearance, on election day, and for early voting by mail.

Section 3. Voting Precincts; Election Judges and Clerks and other Election Officials. Except as otherwise provided herein, the presently existing boundaries and territory of the Rains County election precincts that are wholly or partially within the District are hereby designated as the voting precincts of the District for the Election. The precinct numbers for the District's election precincts shall be the corresponding Rains County precinct number of each precinct that is wholly or partially within the District.

The Board finds the use of vote centers, if applicable, under the Countywide Polling Place Program as described in Section 43.007 Texas Election Code, will result in a more convenient voting opportunity for the voters and a more efficient and cost-effective administration of the election, and use of vote centers by the County, if applicable, is hereby approved.

The Board approves the appointment of persons designated by the Rains County Elections Administrator to serve as election workers both during early voting by personal appearance and on election day. Such proposed presiding judges, alternate judges, and clerks shall meet the eligibility requirements of Chapter 32, Subchapter C of the Texas Election Code. The rate of pay for judges, alternates and clerks of the election shall be determined by the Rains County Elections Administrator. The Board approves the appointment of persons designated by the Rains County Elections Administrator to serve on the early voting ballot board, at the central counting station, or in any other capacity needed in order to conduct the Election. Instruction for all election workers shall occur as provided in the Joint Election Agreement(s) and/or Contracts for Election Services.

In the event that the Superintendent or the Board's Agent (as defined in Section 6 below) shall determine from time to time that (a) the polling places hereby established and designated shall become unavailable or unsuitable for such use, or it would be in the District's best interests to relocate the polling places, or (b) that the Presiding Election Judge or Alternate Presiding Judge hereby appointed shall become disqualified or unavailable, the Superintendent or the Board's Agent is hereby authorized to designate and appoint in writing a substitute polling place, Presiding Election Judge or Alternate Presiding Election Judge, giving such notice as is required by the Election Code and as deemed sufficient. Furthermore, the Superintendent or the Board's Agent is hereby authorized to allow the Presiding Election Judge or Alternate Presiding Election Judge, upon request, to designate and appoint such additional clerks as may be required from time to time to assist at the polling places in order to efficiently carry out the duties of the office, giving such notice as is required by the Election Code and as deemed sufficient.

Section 4. Ballots. The ballots shall be suitable for use with the Hart Intercivic Verity voting system and shall otherwise conform to the requirements of the Election Code so as to permit the electors to vote "FOR" or "AGAINST" the measure which shall appear on the ballot. The ballot shall propose the adoption of a tax rate that exceeds the voter-approval tax rate. The ballot language is expected to be substantially similar to the following:

**OFFICIAL BALLOT**

**PROPOSITION**

[ ] FOR

RATIFYING THE AD VALOREM TAX RATE OF \$0.8766 PER \$100 VALUATION IN RAINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR THE CURRENT YEAR, A RATE THAT WILL RESULT IN AN INCREASE OF 11.4 PERCENT IN MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS TAX REVENUE FOR THE DISTRICT FOR THE CURRENT YEAR AS COMPARED TO THE PRECEDING YEAR, WHICH IS AN ADDITIONAL \$1,812,303.

[ ] AGAINST

Section 5. Election information to be provided in Spanish. The Superintendent and all other election officers appointed by the Board responsible for the preparation of notices, instructions, orders, ballots and other written material pertaining to the Election shall cause each such document to be translated into and furnished to voters in both the English language and the Spanish language in order to aid and assist voters speaking Spanish as a primary or an alternative language to properly participate in the election process. In addition, the Superintendent and other responsible election officers are hereby authorized and directed to make available to the voters having the need of an individual capable of acting as a translator and speaking both English and Spanish languages who will assist Spanish speaking voters in understanding and participating in the election process.

Section 6. Approval of Appointment of Agent. The Secretary to the Board has appointed Pam Gilliard, an employee of the District, as the Secretary's agent ("Agent") to

perform the duties of the Secretary related to the conduct and maintenance of records of the Election as required under the Texas Election Code during the period beginning three days after the effective date of this Order and ending not earlier than the fortieth (40th) day after the day of the Election. Pam Gilliard is authorized to designate staff in the District to perform any or all of the various responsibilities of the Board's Agent. The Agent shall maintain an office open for election duties for at least three hours each day, during regular office hours, on regular business days during the period designated in this section. The Agent shall maintain in her office, the documents, records and other items relating to the Election and shall be the Agent designated to receive documents on behalf of the District that are required by the Texas Election Code. The Agent shall post notice of the location and hours of her office as required by the Texas Election Code.

Section 7. Early Voting. The Regular Early Voting Clerk for the District will be Pam Gilliard and the Joint Early Voting Clerk will be the Rains County Elections Administrator. Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to the Joint Early Voting clerk at the following address:

Rains County Election Administrator  
Attn: Lisa Kneifl  
220 W. Quitman Street  
Emory, TX 75440  
Phone: 903-473-5009  
Fax: 903-473-5086  
Email: [lisa.kneifl@co.rains.tx.us](mailto:lisa.kneifl@co.rains.tx.us)  
Website: <https://www.co.rains.tx.us/page/rains.Elections>

The Regular Early Voting Clerk shall forward those ballot by mail applications or ballots voted by mail received by the District to the Rains County Elections Administrator. Early voting for the Election shall be conducted jointly with other entities. The Rains County Elections Administrator shall serve as the Joint Early Voting Clerk and shall appoint any necessary deputy early voting clerks. An original, signed, complete application for a ballot by mail may be submitted to [lisa.kneifl@co.rains.tx.us](mailto:lisa.kneifl@co.rains.tx.us). If a voter submits an application for ballot by mail by fax or email, the original, hard copy of the application MUST be mailed and received by the regular early voting clerk no later than the 4<sup>th</sup> business day after it was originally submitted.

For the use of voters who are entitled by law to vote early by mail, the regular early voting clerk shall provide each voter with a ballot with instructions to mark the ballot indicating his or her vote for each candidate or measure on the same ballots utilized for early voting by personal appearance at the Election. An application for a ballot by mail must be received by October 27, 2023 (mere postmarking by the deadline is insufficient).

Section 8. Delivery of Voted Ballots; Counting; Tabulation; Canvassing of Returns; Declaring Results. In accordance with the requirements of the Texas Election Code, after the close of voting on Election day, the presiding election judge for each respective election precinct or vote center shall deliver the ballot boxes and other materials for their respective precinct or vote center to the return center or central counting station, as applicable. The early voting ballot board, at a time and in the manner permitted under the Texas Election Code shall tabulate the early voting ballots and deliver the results to the central counting station or return center, as

applicable. Further, the early voting ballot board shall reconvene, as necessary, to make a determination in relation to provisional ballots as required by the Texas Election Code. The Rains County Elections Administrator shall make a written return of the Election results to the Board in accordance with the Election Code. The Board shall canvass the returns and declare the results of the Election.

In accordance with Sections 26.08(c) and (d) of the Tax Code, if a majority of the resident, qualified electors of the District voting at the Election, including those voting early, shall vote in favor of the Proposition, then the tax rate for the current year is the rate that was adopted by the Board. If the Proposition is not approved, the Board may not adopt a tax rate for the District for the current year that exceeds the District's rollback tax rate.

Section 9. Notice of Election. Notice of the Election, stating in substance the contents of this Order, shall be published one time in the English and Spanish languages, in a newspaper published within the District's territory at least 10 days and no more than 30 days before the Election and as otherwise may be required by the Texas Election Code. Notice of the Election shall also be posted on the bulletin board used by the Board to post notices of the Board's meetings, and on the District's website no later than the 21st day before the Election.

Section 10. Authority of the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent of Finance. The Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent of Finance shall have the authority to take, or cause to be taken, all actions reasonable and necessary to ensure that the Election is fairly held and returns properly counted and tabulated for canvass by the Board, which actions are hereby ratified and confirmed.

Section 11. Preamble Incorporation. The recitals contained in the preamble hereof are hereby found to be true, and such recitals are hereby made a part of this Order for all purposes and are adopted as a part of the judgment and findings of the Board.

Section 12. Inconsistent Provisions. All orders and resolutions, or parts thereof, which are in conflict or inconsistent with any provision of this Order are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict, and the provisions of this Order shall be and remain controlling as to the matters ordered herein.

Section 13. Governing Law. This Order shall be construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas and the United States of America.

Section 14. Severability. If any provision of this Order or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall be held to be invalid, the remainder of this Order and the application of such provision to other persons and circumstances shall nevertheless be valid, and the Board hereby declares that this Order would have been enacted without such invalid provision.

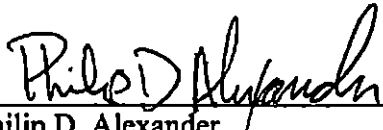
Section 15. Notice of Meeting. The Board officially finds, determines, recites and declares that written notice of the date, hour, place and subject of the meeting at which this Order is adopted was posted in compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act for at least 72 hours preceding the scheduled time of the meeting; and that such meeting was open to the public as required by law at all times during which this Order and the subject matter thereof was

discussed, considered and formally acted upon. The Governor has suspended and modified certain open meeting requirements pursuant to his disaster declaration. These changes include allowing the District to establish procedures for telephonic or video-conferenced meetings that are accessible to the Public.

Section 16. Authorization to Execute. The President of the Board is authorized to execute and the Secretary of the Board is authorized to attest this Order on behalf of the Board; and the President of the Board, the Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendent of Finance are authorized to do all other things legal and necessary in connection with the holding and consummation of the Election.

Section 17. Effective Date. This Order is effective immediately upon its passage and approval.

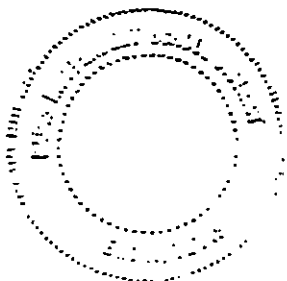
PASSED AND APPROVED August 21, 2023.

  
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Philip D. Alexander  
President, Board of Trustees

ATTEST:

  
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Heath Sisk  
Secretary, Board of Trustees

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Exhibit "A"

Early Voting and Election Day Voting Locations, Dates, and Hours

**Early Voting by Personal Appearance**

**Main Early Voting Location**

Rains County Courthouse Annex  
Election Office (Side of County Annex)  
220 W. Quitman St.  
Emory, Texas 75440

**Dates and Hours**

Monday, Oct. 23, 2023 - Friday, Oct.27, 2023 8:00 am- 5:00 pm  
Monday, Oct. 30, 2023 - Wednesday, Nov.1, 2023 8:00 am- 5:00 pm  
Thursday, Nov. 2, 2023 and Friday, Nov. 3, 2023 7:00 am- 7:00 pm

**Election Day Voting Locations – Voters must vote in their precinct where registered to vote.**

All locations listed below will be open November 7, 2023, from 7 am through 7 pm.

**Precinct 101**

Rocky Point Community Center  
2134 S. St. Hwy 19, Emory, Texas 75440

**Precinct 408**

First Baptist Church of Point  
985 Industrial Blvd., Point, Texas 75472

**Precinct 102**

East Tawakoni Community Center  
288 Briggs Blvd., E Tawakoni, Texas 75472

**Precinct 203**

Bright Star Baptist Church  
1399 RS Co Rd 3480, Alba, Texas 75410

**Precinct 204**

Rose Community Center  
109 Ravine, Emory, Texas 75440

**Precinct 305**

Della Blanton Memorial Hall  
200 RS Co Rd 4370, Emory, Texas 75440

**Precinct 306**

Emory Fire Department  
1250 W Lennon, Emory, Texas 75440

**Precinct 407**

Point Community Center  
241 S 1st Street, Point, Texas 75472



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