



BEN ZELLER
VICTORIA COUNTY JUDGE

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR VCAD BOARD CANDIDATES -
MAY 4, 2024 ELECTION**

This information is provided by the County Judge's Office as general information and it is not legal advice. It is also subject to change and correction. It is up to each candidate to determine the applicable legal requirements for their candidacy and to follow those legal requirements.

Board of Directors Composition

There were legislative changes in 2023 (Senate Bill 2) regarding the composition of the Appraisal District's Board. The board will be composed of nine (9) members: five (5) appointed by the taxing units participating in the District, three (3) At-Large places that are publicly elected by majority vote, and one (1) county Tax Assessor-Collector serving as an ex-officio voting member. 2024 will be a transition year whereby the existing eight (8) appointed members serve until December 31, 2024. The first election for At-Large places will be May 4, 2024. The initial term after the election begins on July 1, 2024, and ends on December 31, 2026. S.B 2 Sec. 5.13(a).

How to Apply

An application for a place on the ballot for Victoria Central Appraisal District Board of Directors At-Large Place 1, At-Large Place 2, and At-Large Place 3 may be filed beginning **January 17, 2024 - February 16, 2024**, with the office of Victoria County Judge Ben Zeller, 101 N. Bridge St, Rm 102, Victoria, Texas 77901. Our office is open during these dates from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday – Friday only.

The filing fee is not the same in every county. In Victoria County, the filing fee for 2024 is \$200. You cannot use a credit card to pay the filing fee. The fee will be deposited to the County Treasury to the credit of the county general fund.

A candidate must indicate which place, At-Large Place 1, At-Large Place 2, or At-Large Place 3, they are running for on the Application for Place on the Ballot and on any petition circulated by the candidate if the candidate will be seeking to file a petition in lieu of the filing fee.

No political party is listed on the Application for Place on the Ballot or on the Ballot; all candidates must appear on the ballot as Independent candidates. Texas Election Code, Section 144.002

The petition in lieu of filing fee is Secretary of State Election Form 2-51 and can be found on the Secretary of State Website. A minimum of 500 valid signatures is required if submitting a petition in lieu of the filing fee. If a signature is not valid, it will not count as part of the 500.

Write-in Candidates

For those persons choosing not to appear on the Ballot but wishing to run as a write-in candidate: Declaration of Write-In Candidacy must be filed no later than 5 pm, February 20, 2024 [the 74th day before election day of May 4, 2024]. A person who submits this Declaration is not required to submit a filing fee or a petition in lieu of filing fee.

Other Resources:

For additional information regarding eligibility and Senate Bill 2, please visit the Secretary of State website at <https://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/laws/advisory2023-24.shtml>

Texas Secretary of State website: Welcome to Texas Elections (state.tx.us) – Campaign Reporting and Other Candidate Information <https://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/index.shtml>

Texas Ethics Commission Texas Ethics Commission Home (state.tx.us) <https://www.ethics.state.tx.us/>