

## NOTICE OF OPEN MEETING SUBMISSION

DATE OF SUBMISSION: November 18, 2020  
NAME OF AGENCY: Texas Department of Agriculture  
BOARD/COMMITTEE: Texas Agricultural Finance Authority  
DATE OF MEETING: December 10, 2020  
TIME OF MEETING: 9:30 AM (Central Time)  
STREET LOCATION: N/A  
PHONE ACCESS: Dial in: (512) 910-3546  
Conference ID: 380877834#

WEB ACCESS: Link to join the meeting  
[https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_NGMyMzdjYjUtYzg2OC00ODQwLTk2OTEtODdiNjM4MTVjZDdm%40tbread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%220d16d504-d03a-4e2e-8316-8408747d7c7f%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%229113f039-a9c0-4e06-bbf5-68cfceb56d1f%22%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_NGMyMzdjYjUtYzg2OC00ODQwLTk2OTEtODdiNjM4MTVjZDdm%40tbread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%220d16d504-d03a-4e2e-8316-8408747d7c7f%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%229113f039-a9c0-4e06-bbf5-68cfceb56d1f%22%7d)

IF EMERGENCY MEETING, REASON:

NAME OF TEXAS REGISTER LIAISON: Skyler Shafer

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM: Mindy Fryer; 1700 North Congress Avenue, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor, Austin TX; (512) 463-6908.

*Open meeting to be held in accordance with Governor Abbott's March 16, 2020 suspension of certain provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act, which are being implemented to maintain government transparency while mitigating the risk of spreading COVID-19. The Texas Agricultural Finance Authority will hold a meeting by telephone/video conference at the date and time provided above. Members of the public will be entitled to participate and address the Board during the meeting by accessing the meeting remotely through the means provided. The public may access an electronic agenda and materials that the Board will be considering at the meeting at the following link:*

<https://www.texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/TexasAgriculturalFinanceAuthority.aspx>

*Additionally, access to a recording of the meeting will be made available to the public upon request by sending an email request to [Grants@TexasAgriculture.gov](mailto:Grants@TexasAgriculture.gov).*

AGENDA:

- I. Call to Order/Roll Call
- II. Opening Remarks
- III. Discussion and Action on minutes of the July 15, 2020 meeting

- IV. Annual Financial Audit – Discussion and Action
  - a) Presentation/Review of the 2020 Audited Financial Statements as conducted by Martinez, Rosario & Company, LLP, CPAs
  - b) Possible action on and approval of 2020 Audited Financial Statements
  - c) Action and approval for staff to start the process of procuring future services for financial audits
- V. Updates on procurement activities
  - a) Outside Bond Counsel - Possible action on and approval
  - b) Outside Financial Advisory - Possible action on and approval
- VI. Discussion and possible action related to bonding appropriation
  - a) Updates provided by TDA staff
- VII. Discussion and possible action related to TAFA Rule Review
  - a) Overview and purpose of process
  - b) Timeline
  - c) Stakeholder input
- VIII. Presentation of TAFA overview by TDA staff, including discussion of program history and unpaid obligations. Possible action related to unpaid obligations, Interest Rate Reduction program, and Young Farmer Interest Rate Reduction program
  - a) Agricultural Loan Guarantee – Discussion of outstanding obligations, recommendations, discussion and possible action on guarantee limits, types of loans, and composition of loan guarantee portfolio
    - Discussion and possible action on updates to eligibility for clarification
  - b) Young Farmer Guarantee – Discussion of outstanding obligations and possible action related to same
  - c) Rural Municipal Finance – Discussion of outstanding obligations and possible action related to same
  - d) Interest Rate Reduction/Young Farmer Interest Rate Reduction – Discussion of outstanding obligations and possible action related to same. Discussion and possible action on use of programs for natural disaster recovery.
- IX. Presentation of, discussion on, and possible action regarding Young Farmer Grants
  - a) Discussion of pending grant applications, and possible action to make awards and fund particular grant applications
  - b) Discussion of and possible action on board and/or staff recommendations for improvements to application material, processes and/or the grant making process
    - Review of new TDA online Grant Management system and use for application evaluation
  - c) Set dates for the next round of grant applications
- X. Other Business Raised at Meeting: Response and action to be placed on next agenda
- XI. Public Comment
- XII. Adjourn