

HARRIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #28



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HARRIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #28 MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

April 15, 2019

Members in Attendance:

Mike Jones, President
Shirley Jauma, Secretary

Dan Dronberger, Vice President
Ken Koenig, Treasurer

Others in Attendance:

Fred Windisch, Fire Chief
Dana Schmanski, Office Manager
Donald Brown
Bob Schmanski, ESD7

Fire Fighters

Carlos Cardenas
Constantine Pollos
Austin Smith

CALL TO ORDER

Mike Jones called to order the April 15, 2019, ESD Board meeting starting at 5:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Mike Jones asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes from the March 18, 2018 Board Meeting.

Dan Dronberger made a motion to approve minutes as written. Shirley Jauma seconded with unanimous approval of the board.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public in attendance.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Ken Koenig reviewed report on sources and uses of cash for the month of March 2019.

In review of the financial statements; we deposited a \$1,000,000.00 into a Texas CLASS account and received interest of \$2,223.13 in one month. We made the same amount of interest on all other accounts combined. We recommend a proposal to reduce Money Market Account and Sales Tax Account to a balance of \$250,000.00 each, transfer funds to the Texas CLASS fund. We project to earn \$48,000.00 this year in additional interest income.

Budget YTD revised forecast handout, historical information on Sales Tax Revenue from FCW shows an increase in Sales Tax Revenue with a projected increase of \$200,000.00 in 2019.

We recommend for consideration, to pay an additional \$100,000.00 or \$200,000.00 on the Station 63 Building Loan. It will save us approximately \$300,000.00 in overall costs over the next few years. Strongly suggest we consider an additional principal payment annually to reduce the interest paid over the life of the loan. Especially with the possibility of new tax reform. Discussion held by the board.

Dan Dronberger made a motion to transfer all funds above \$250,000.00 in the Money Market Account and the Sales Tax Account, and transfer to Texas CLASS Fund. Shirley Jauma seconded the motion with unanimous approval of the board.

Dan Dronberger made a motion to issue \$200,000.00 check to Trustmark National bank as an additional principal payment on Station 63 Building Loan. Shirley Jauma seconded the motion with unanimous approval of the board.

Ken Koenig submitted the report on the bank balances in our various accounts as of March 31, 2019.

Checking Account: We had a beginning balance of \$678,509.09 with deposits totaling \$149,995.24 (which includes an interest deposit of \$214.97); and checks and debits totaling \$586,327.17 for an ending balance of \$242,177.16.

Money Market Account: We started with a beginning balance of \$2,152,281.73, with an interest deposit of \$2,284.96, for an ending balance of \$2,154,566.69.

Sales Tax Money Market Account: Beginning balance of \$1,797,570.97, with deposits totaling \$109,398.09 (which includes an interest deposit of \$1,996.66); for an ending balance of \$1,906,969.06.

Texas CLASS Account: Beginning balance of \$1,000,072.19 with an interest deposit of \$2,220.33, for an ending balance of \$1,002,292.52.

We have (1) bill to pay this month as follows:

Coveler & Peeler	121.25	Legal Fees for March
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ESD Commissioner Compensation – June 2019

PVFA Draw – May 2019

ESD 2019 Budget

Nothing to report

Ken Koenig – we ask approval for Station 63 Building Loan payment due May 11, 2019 for \$373,712.47. We have prepared Check # 2292 and need approval to mail prior to May ESD Meeting.

Dan Dronberger made a motion to sign check and approve payment of Station 63 Building Payment. Shirley Jauma seconded the motion with unanimous approval of the board.

Dan Dronberger made a motion to approve the financials and checks written. Shirley Jauma seconded the motion with unanimous approval of the board.

FIRE CHIEF REPORT

Fire Responses – 184 Responses March

Major Responses:

March 4 – Apartments on Bammelwood; medium damage

March 28 – Apartments on Hollow Tree; minor damage

New Hires – Introductions

FCW - Want to introduce our new hires to Ponderosa Fire Department:

Fire Fighter, Austin Smith – I have been a firefighter for almost 5 years. Eager to be part of the team.

Fire Fighter, Carlos Cardenas – I am a new firefighter. Very eager to start my career.

Fire Fighter, Constantine Pollos – I have 10 months as a firefighter, really like team atmosphere here at Ponderosa Fire Department.

FCW - They have started their initial tour, they are off Wednesday and will begin their individual shifts starting Thursday. Welcome aboard Gentlemen.

GTT traffic preemption program

Simple modifications to the agreement as per Mr. Coveler. Mike Jones signed new agreement, forwarded to attorney.

BBQ Cook Off

BBQ sponsors have donated \$12,750.00. BBQ Cook-Off will be held April 26th and 27th, in Cypress, Texas, about 11 miles from Station 61. Deposited funds into Non-ESD account and then transferred to checking as expenses incurred.

New Electricity Contract

New electricity contract signed with Pulse Power. Included with contract a family and friends pricing package. Our members are eligible for Pulse Power with reduced electricity rates. Additionally, each time a member signs a contract with Pulse Power, they will make a donation, to the Ponderosa Fire Department-Curtis Cook Fund (amount to be determined).

Training Field Income Agreement

An agreement with Aldine Fire Department approved and activated to use our training field at Station 63. A similar agreement to follow with Spring Fire Department.

Workers Compensation Insurance

One of our captains had a back injury in October 2012. Injury insured by Texas Mutual Workers Compensation insurance including spinal surgery on L4 & L5.

In October of 2018, his leg began hurting with severe back pain. Physician told him it was same disk, same injury. We assumed Texas Mutual would be responsible, but they denied claim, stating their peer doctor said, “not related to initial injury”.

His personal insurance will not insure a work related injury. He has appealed the process with Texas Department of Insurance. In the interim, we are paying his salary and he will begin working light duty next week. More information to follow.

Administrators Luncheon

Tomorrow we will host the Administrators Luncheon for the Harris County area Fire Departments and ESDs. It is held the second Tuesday of each quarter with a rotation of locations.

Other Current and Long-Range Information Exchange

Former Board President, Dan Langford

Nothing new to report. Waiting for date of celebration.

Review, Discuss and Take Action Board Commissioner Replacement

Nothing new to report.

Review, Discuss and Take Action on Granting Exemptions

Discussion held by the board, board approval to remain the same as follows:

Homestead	\$ 0
Over 65	\$ 30,000
Disability	\$ 75,000

Approval by vote of 4 in favor, 0 against.

Ken Koeing made a motion for Granting Exemptions for 2019 remain the same as stated. Shirley Jauma seconded the motion with unanimous approval of the board.

Legislative Discussion

FCW – SB2, the House and Senate are at odds. The house seems to be more in tune with what the senate is doing. Smaller ESD’s should continue to be exempt. The House version is very strong, changed to 4.5% instead of 2.5%.

Report on the President’s participation in the Emergency Response Leadership Coalition.

Mike Jones – they introduced a new Red Cross Representative. Discussion held concerning SB2 legislative information.

Area ESD Board Members Meeting

Ken Koenig – discussion held concerning shared staff expenses. Station 62 staffing and 2 other fire departments, working together to share staffing expenses to place firefighters in seats on the truck at Station 62.

Shirley Jauma – discussed group purchasing for savings on regularly purchased items. First meeting held, everyone in agreement to continue meeting in the future.

Bob Schmanski – Purchasing in quantity, everyone will use their own purchase orders for items needed. The advantage, using same vendors for better pricing.

Bob Schmanski - Shared resources for Station 62. It is perfectly located on the boarder of the district. The biggest beneficiary will be Klein Fire Department followed by Spring Fire Department and then Ponderosa Fire Department. As the tax receiving entities, we are responsible to the Tax Payers for complete coverage in the event of emergency. ESD#16 is on board with this proposal, as well as ESD#7.

FCW - today as an example, Station 62 is not staffed with firefighters. After evaluation, Wednesdays and Thursdays have the least amount of responses from Station 62.

Schedule upcoming meetings and consider agenda items

Next Regular Meeting May 20, 2019.

Adjourn

Dan Dronberger made a motion to adjourn at 6:00 pm. Shirley Jauma seconded the motion with unanimous approval of the board.



Shirley Jauma, Secretary