

HARRIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #28



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HARRIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT No. 28 MINUTES OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

March 21, 2022

Members in Attendance:

Mike Jenkins, President
Ken Koenig, Treasurer

Dan Dronberger, V. P.
Shirley Jauma, Secretary

Others in Attendance:

Fred Windisch, Fire Chief
Dana Schmanski, Office Manager

Members Excused:

Erika Smiley, Asst. Sec/Treasurer

Public:

No Public

Call to order, roll call and establishment of a quorum.

Mike Jenkins called to order the March 21, 2022, ESD No. 28 Board meeting starting at 5:00 p.m., with a quorum.

To receive public comment.

No public

To approve the Minutes of prior meeting.

Mike Jenkins asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes from the February 22, 2022, regular meeting.

Changes: page 1, Mike Jenkins called meeting to order.

Shirley Jauma made a motion to accept the February 22, 2022, regular meeting minutes with the above changes. Dan Dronberger seconded the motion with unanimous approval of the board.

To receive a financial report from the District Treasurer and to pay District bills, including approval of commissioner fees.

Ken Koenig reviewed the report on Profit and Loss Budget Performance with Percentages for the month of February 2022.

Bank balances in our various accounts as of February 28, 2022:

Checking Account: Beginning balance of \$798,645.75, with deposits totaling \$1,764,657.69 (which includes an interest deposit of \$172.34); and checks and debits totaling \$1,816,213.88 for an ending balance of \$747,089.56.

Money Market Account: Beginning balance of \$14,653.08, with an interest deposit of \$.56; for an ending balance of \$14,653.64.

Sales Tax Money Market Account: Beginning balance of \$250,042.19, with an interest deposit of \$19.18 for an ending balance of \$250,061.37.

Texas CLASS Account: Beginning balance of \$5,455,429.81, with deposits totaling 1,328,420.46 (which includes an interest deposit of \$585.46, for an ending balance of \$6,783,850.27.

We have (5) bills to pay this month as follows:

Armadillo Press	\$690.00	Business Cards all Board Members
Coveler & Peeler	\$1,622.23	February Legal Fees
Erika Smiley	\$357.86	Safe-D Expenses and Mileage
Prime ITS	\$168.00	Annual Cyber Security
PVFA	\$600,000.00	March Draw

To review and take action on the payment of operations funding pursuant to year 2022 budget and service agreement with the Ponderosa Volunteer Fire Department.

Draw – March 2022

FCW – Our request for the March draw is \$600,000.00. We will probably have a draw in April, due to three payroll cycles.

Dan Dronberger made a motion to approve the financials, checks written, March draw and commissioner's compensation. Shirley Jauma seconded the motion with unanimous approval of the board.

KK – we need to consider how much we want to pay on the principal balance of Station 63 building loan. Currently projected we will end the year with \$5,200,000.00. Included in 2023 forecast is \$3,000,000.00 for the new pumpers. In 2024 - 2025 we have a balloon payment due on the existing pumpers. Looking forward we will have funding to pay off the Station 63 building loan in 2023.

SJ – What are the projections for tax income, will it level off? KK – it will be a while before we see a leveling of sales tax with current inflation. DD – what is our savings by paying off the Station 63 building loan in 2023? KK – approximately \$62,000.00 in interest payments. Discussion held by the Board.

KK - No need to make decisions for future events, consider the options for our next meeting.

Shirley Jauma made a motion to send \$200,000.00 in additional principal payment to Trustmark for Station 63 Building Loan with the regular payment. Dan Dronberger seconded the motion with unanimous approval of the board.

To receive a report from the Ponderosa Fire Department (“Department”)

Fire Responses February 2022 – 200 Responses

Major Fires:

02/06 Westfield Place apartments; arson; gate entrances vandalized, delayed entry.

02/07 601 Cypress Station townhouses large fire, extensive damage, electrical due to remodel (Note: this complex has a great history of no major incidents; that changed in February and March of 2022).

02/25 Place Rebecca apartments small fire, cause cigarette; two minor civilian smoke inhalation injuries.

02/27 Cypresswood house; minor issues, stayed on scene investigating.

Hiring Process

We are in process, one firefighter started Monday, and another will start next week. The third firefighter will start on May 2nd, he is currently enrolled in Tyler College Fire School. New hires do not have all their certifications. We will reduce their income by \$4,000.00 annually until completed. This will be included in employment agreement with a specified date, if not completed it will result in termination.

We have one firefighter possibly leaving for The Woodlands Fire Department and one that is disenchanting. And we have two firefighters still off injured.

Station 63 is being staffed 24/7 on B shift. Once we have full staff it will be staffed 24/7.

We are having a Northwest Chief meeting on Wednesday, there is big buzz going around about the area departments paying firefighters too much money. Some departments are starting firefighters at \$71,000.00 annually. Other departments are paying captains \$130,000.00 annually. Discussion held by the board.

Today we were informed of a sales tax website called Texas-tax-rates.org stating we are receiving 2% in sales tax, and we do not, we receive 1%, and other goes to Metro. This group is trying to unseat three commissioners from ESD No. 9. We replied to website telling them it is untrue. Intention is to cause turmoil.

To review, discuss and take action regarding the purchase of capital equipment including apparatus.

FCW – Nothing new to report.

To review, discuss and take action on the Radio System Modification.

FCW – waiting on Microwave parts.

To review, discuss and take action regarding new election equipment for the District.

Nothing new to report.

To review, discuss and take action regarding adding District information to the trucks and apparatus owned by the district.

FCW - they are still working on them to correct the colors.

To review, discuss and take action regarding building at 1603 Ash Meadow Drive.

FCW – some kids vandalized the building while waiting for the school bus. A neighbor across the street called Chaparral Management. We filed a report with HCSO. They broke the marquee in front of building and pulled down the gutter. Discussion held by the board.

To review, discuss and take action to remodel Station 63 dorms to accommodate personnel.

FCW – BRW is sending proposal, we ask for board approval to move forward with placing information in the newspaper once received.

Board made a motion to move forward with advertisement in newspaper concerning remodel of Station 63.

To review, discuss and take action regarding Cypresswood Estates Annual donation in lieu of taxes.

FCW - received 3,500.00 from Cypresswood Estates in lieu of taxes, recorded as miscellaneous income.

To designate the Harris County Tax Assessor-Collector's Office to prepare the District's No New Tax Rate and related tax rate calculations for 2022.

Nothing new to report.


To meet in Closed Session pursuant to Government Code §551.071 to consult with legal counsel.

No closed session.

To set meeting date for April 18, 2022.

Adjournment

Shirley Jauma made a motion to adjourn at 5:44 PM. Ken Koenig seconded the motion with unanimous approval of the board.



Shirley Jauma, Secretary