

SMITH COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT TWO

7:00 P.M. * Thursday * June 27, 2019

14128 SH 110 South * Whitehouse, Texas 75791

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Randy Melton called the Smith County ESD #2 meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll was called; five commissioners were present: Randy Melton, Leroy Biggers, Charles Wilson, Earl Drott and Paul Perryman. He certified that a quorum was present.

2. PRAYER AND PLEDGE

President Randy Melton led the meeting in prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States and Texas flags.

3. RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

President Melton welcomed all guests to the meeting.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No one signed up for public comments.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Leroy Biggers made motion to approve the (a) minutes of the May 30, 2019 regular meeting, as written; (b) May 2019 financial report; 2nd by Charles Wilson; motion carried 5-0.

6. PAYMENTS AND REIMBURSEMENTS

- a. Paul Perryman made a motion to approve current bills/quotes/checks over \$2,000: Card Service Center \$13,461.60 District Credit Card; Superior Fleet Service, Inc. \$2,912.96 Dixie E-1 A/C Repairs; Checks Over \$2,000 - Ck #18362 Eagle Fuel \$4079.66 District Fuel; Ck #18401 Eagle Fuel \$7,176.20 District Fuel; Ck #18325 Winona VFD \$2,220.00 Correction to Winona Pay Per Call; Ck #18357 Braun Intertec Corporation \$4,534.00 Arp Geotechnical Evaluation; Ck #18358 Braun Intertec Corporation \$5,005.00 F/G Geotechnical Evaluation; Ck #18371 Mobile Communications Services \$6,957.21 District Paging Services; Ck #18381 Superior Fleet Service Inc. \$2,003.35; Ck #18462 Freddy's Mechanical Services LLC \$2,267.50 District A/C Repairs; Ck #18479 Roquemores Hardware \$3,090.11; 2nd by Leroy Biggers; motion carried 5-0.
- b. Contract payments made – no action necessary: Reliant \$4,314.32 District Electric Bills, Nextiva \$2,290.69 District Phones & Fax, Mobile Communications \$2,738.25 District Paging Services, Suddenlink \$4,673.40 District Internet Account, United Healthcare \$8,162.82 Employee Medical Insurance, Verizon \$2,931.30 June 2019, District Wireless Account, Smith County Appraisal District \$20,354.25 3rd Quarter Appraisal District Fees, ESCI \$13,000.000 Master & Strategic Plan Billing, Harris-Craig Architects Inc. \$8,747.95 Arp & F/G Civil Engineering, SCESD2 Payroll – 06/07/2019 \$81,981.88, 06/21/2019 \$74,384.84.

7. 2019 TAX ABATEMENT REVIEW

Randy Melton presented the summary of the 2019 Smith County Tax Abatement Annual Review. On March 27, the tax abatement oversight committee met to review the status of the 5 current projects as of December 31, 2018. The committee found that 989 new jobs have been created to date as a result of these expansion projects, and over \$71 million have been invested in new plants and

equipment in Smith County. Four projects (Dragline Service Specialties, GG Distributing, John Soules Foods 2014, and John Soules Foods 2018) were in compliance with all terms, and the committee recommended 100% tax abatement for these companies for 2019. One company (Boyd Metals) was not in compliance and was penalized accordingly, with a recommendation for 87% tax abatement for 2019. Charles Wilson made the motion to accept the abatement; 2nd by Paul Perryman; motion carried 5-0.

8. GMP FOR ARP FIRE STATION 1

Chief Rozell said that he met with WRL on Tuesday, June 25, 2019. The GMP (Guaranteed Maximum Price) for Arp Fire Station 1 has exceeded the original price. All bids are in. The architect is now looking at changing some structural aspects in the plan. The architect will come back with some recommendations. A few items may go out for rebid. We are hoping to have the GMP approved next month and start building the latter part of August. Motion to table item number 8 for now made by Leroy Biggers; 2nd by Charles Wilson; motion carried 5-0.

9. GMP FOR FLINT/GRESHAM FIRE STATION 1

Chief Rozell said that he met with WRL on Tuesday, June 25, 2019. The GMP (Guaranteed Maximum Price) for Flint/Gresham Station 1 has exceeded the original price. All bids are in. The architect is now looking at changing some structural aspects in the plan. The architect will come back with some recommendations. A few items may go out for rebid. We are hoping to have the GMP approved next month and start building the latter part of August. Motion to table item number 9 for now made by Leroy Biggers; 2nd by Charles Wilson; motion carried 5-0.

10. FINANCING ARP & FLINT/GRESHAM FIRE STATIONS

Chief Rozell said that he has been in contact with Ed King from Government Capital. The GMP issue isn't something new. The lenders understand and have all the paperwork ready. We are still good for several months. No new paperwork will have to be submitted with us closing out this year. Motion to table item number 10 for now made by Leroy Biggers; 2nd by Charles Wilson; motion carried 5-0.

11. PIO (PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER) FOR THE DISTRICT

Chief Rozell said that we have been depending on the Fire Marshall's Office to be our PIO. He believes now is a good time to have one or two of our own. We will provide training so the PIO's will be certified and have an understanding of HIPPA and the legalities of the position. Paul Perryman mentioned that he would like to see JD Smith and Kelcey Trotty attend available classes. Motion to approve implementing PIO's made by Charles Wilson; 2nd by Leroy Biggers; motion carried 5-0.

12. NEED FOR SALES TAX TO BE USED TO MAN STATIONS WITHOUT RAISING PROPERTY TAX FOR THE 2019-2020 BUDGET YEAR

Chief Rozell presented the need of a sales tax increase being on the November ballot. This increase would be dedicated to staffing. As of now, we've exceeded what our budget will support. Without a sales tax increase to generate more revenue we are looking at not being able to man the stations and/or raising property taxes. A sales tax increase would be a fairer tax. As it would include nonresident people passing through the county and not put the burden on the property owners of Smith County. This increase would affect the unincorporated areas of Smith County. All cities are at the 8.25 cent cap, except Noonday and Chapel Hill. These two are .5 cent under. This sales tax increase is projected to generate \$1 million in revenue, which would help man 5 to 6 more 24/7 stations. Paul Perryman noted that since this area was settled in 1840 the labor has been provided for free until Smith County ESD #2 was created in 2007. At which time, stations started

being manned from 8am-5pm. He also noted that we sometimes struggle to respond to calls from 11pm-7am. In 2018 alone, we responded to 7000 calls. We need to help relieve some of the pressure on our Volunteers. The board is in favor of the sales tax increase. Motion to authorize Chief Rozell to take whatever actions he deems necessary to prepare for the sales tax referendum and to spend reasonable amounts of money and make necessary arrangements was made by Charles Wilson; 2nd by Earl Drott; motion carried 5-0.

13. KONE CRANE REPAIR

Randy Melton stated the crane at the Maintenance Shop needs repairs. The cost will be over \$2000. Motion made to repair the crane made by Earl Drott; 2nd by Paul Perryman; motion carried 5-0.

14. MOU BETWEEN TEXAS A&M FOREST SERVICE AND SCESD2 FOR PRESCRIBED BURN TRAINING

Chief Rozell stated this will allow us to work hand and hand with the Texas A&M Forest Service when working on prescribed burns. This will allow our firefighters to obtain additional wildfire training. Firefighter certifications will allow us to deploy to such places as West Texas with equipment. It's mainly a formality to cover both Smith County ESD #2 and the Texas A&M Forest Service. Motion to approve an MOU between SCESD2 and the Texas A&M Forest Service made by Leroy Biggers; 2nd by Paul Perryman; motion carried 5-0.

15. FIRE CHIEFS PRESENTING AND DISCUSSING ISSUES

Arp – Mack Arnold reported that things are good in Arp. He would also like for the board to consider making a resolution in honor of Connie McCoy. President Melton said we could put it on next month's agenda.

Bullard – No one reported.

Chapel Hill – Dale Peterson reported that they sent 3 guys to the conference. 1 will be going to Texas A&M.

Dixie – No one reported.

Flint/Gresham – Tim Stone reported that everything is good in Flint/Gresham.

Jackson Heights – Kelcey Trotty reported things are good in Jackson Heights. They've been very busy with calls. He, along with some others, went to the SFFMA Conference. There was a driving competition. Dale Peterson won 1st place and Michael Van Winkle won 2nd place. They are waiting on the new engine to come in. The 5 ton is now in service and being used.

Noonday – Mel Harper reported that things are good in Noonday. They are getting ready to send 6 people to Texas A&M.

Red Springs – No one reported.

Troup – Tim Mager reported that he went to Florida with Terry to see the new engines.

Whitehouse – Gene Champion reported that things are good in Whitehouse.

Winona – Jared Jones reported that things are good in Winona. They have been very busy with calls. He was also able to go to the SFFMA Conference and able to network with a lot of people.

16. DIRECTOR OF IT REPORT

Larry Locke reported that the Response Master 2.0 is currently rolled out to all dashboards and 95% of the tablets. He also met with AT&T about the coverage area. Summer cleanup is underway. Winona #3 tower was struck by lightning. It is being worked on now. Over 20 system tickets and 31 user tickets have been resolved since the last meeting.

17. CHIEF OF OPERATIONS REPORT

Chief Rozell spoke of Dale Peterson winning the driving competition. All 3 of the new engines are in Texas. In roughly a month they will all be in service. The Jackson Heights truck will be going to Texas A&M for a demonstration. Everything else has been going as normal.

18. REMARKS BY PRESIDING OFFICE AND/OR BOARD MEMEBERS

President Melton asked about an ESCI update. Chief Rozell said that we were still working them. They have requested more information. President Melton also asked if we had the new A/C in the command trailer. Chief Rozell said it hasn't come in yet. Paul Perryman would also like to have a new engine brought to one of the meetings.

19. CLOSED SESSION

Not necessary.

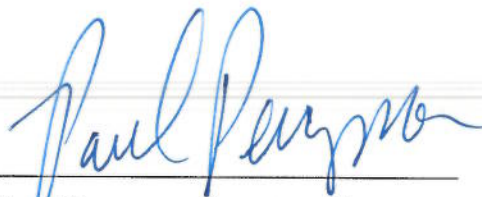
20. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Not necessary.

21. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

President Melton stated the next board meeting is at Smith County ESD #2, 14128 SH 110 South, Whitehouse, TX 75791, Monday, July 29, 2019 at 7:00 pm; he declared the meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:



Paul Perryman, Secretary/Treasurer