

SMITH COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT TWO

7:00 P.M. * Monday * August 26, 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 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

Jim Speier invited everyone to the North Texas Air Medical Safety Symposium to be held Wednesday, August 28, 2019 and Thursday, August 29, 2019. The symposium will be hosted by Christus Flight For Life, UT Health Air 1 and RAC-G. It will focus on aeromedical and safety in general.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Leroy Biggers made motion to approve the (a) minutes of the July 29, 2019 regular meeting and budget workshop meeting, as written; (b) July 2019 financial report; 2nd by Charles Wilson; motion carried 5-0.

6. PAYMENTS AND REIMBURSEMENTS

- a. Charles Wilson made a motion to approve current bills/quotes/checks over \$2,000: Card Service Center \$12,949.44 District Credit Card; Eagle Fuel \$2,227.50 District Fuel; Metro Fire \$2,043.00 Gas Detector Repair; Metro Fire \$3,716.00 V Struts for New Engines; Price International \$5,729.86 Noonday Engine 1; Checks Over \$2,000 - Ck #18514 Eagle Fuel \$3,104.55 District Fuel; Ck #18578 Eagle Fuel \$5,779.38 District Fuel; Ck #18603 Eagle Fuel \$5,310.05 District Fuel; Ck #18528 Southern Tire Mart \$4,243.58; Ck #18586 Sierra Packaging Inc.; 2nd by Paul Perryman; motion carried 5-0.
- b. Contract payments made – no action necessary: Reliant \$5,518.89 District Electric Bills, Mobile Communications \$2,738.25 District Paging Services, Suddenlink \$2,153.79 District Internet Account, United Healthcare \$8,162.82 Employee Medical Insurance, Verizon \$3,657.89 July 2019, District Wireless Account, Harris-Craig Architects Inc. \$7,265.00 Arp & F/G Civil Engineering, Mineola fire Department \$3,750.00 4th Fiscal Quarterly Payment, Van Fire Department \$3,750.00 4th Fiscal Quarterly Payment, SCESD2 Payroll – 07/08/2019 \$70,959.28.

7. ADOPTING THE PROPOSED 2019/2020 \$6,007,362 BUDGET (RESOLUTION #2019-005)

President Melton stated we have discussed the proposed budget on several occasions, including during the public hearings. Earl Drott made a motion to approve the proposed 2019/2020 \$6,007,362 (Resolution #2019-005); 2nd by Leroy Biggers; motion carried 5-0.

8. ADOPTING THE PROPOSED 2019 TAX RATE OF 0.084648 PER \$100 EVALUATION (RESOLUTION #2019-006)

President Melton stated this is the same tax rate Smith Co ESD #2 has had for the past 10 years. Charles Wilson made a motion to approve the proposed 2019 tax rate of 0.084648 per \$100 evaluation (Resolution #2019-006); 2nd by Paul Perryman; motion carried 5-0.

9. MOU BETWEEN BULLARD VFD AND SCESD2 FOR TOWER USE

President Melton presented a MOU between Bullard VFD and SCESD2. Larry Locke added that Bullard VFD has a tower that is not being used. SCESD2 will be able to use the existing tower and building at no cost. SCESD2 will put some infrastructure and investment into it. SCESD2 will maintain the equipment ownership. Charles Wilson made a motion to approve the MOU between Bullard VFD and SCESD2; 2nd by Leroy Biggers; motion carried 5-0.

10. FUNDING FOR STATE MANDATED IT SECURITY TRAINING FOR SCESD2

President Melton presented an action on funding for state mandated IT security training for SCESD2 at a cost of \$7,700. Larry Locke stated this is a new bill and they are still trying to figure out how it will be funded. If we start before October 1, 2019 we will be grandfathered in and won't have to find vendors and pricing will be lower. Larry said it's a good thing overall and help increase security for our users. The \$7,700 will be for ALL of our users to be trained. Leroy Biggers made a motion to approve funding for the state mandated IT security training; 2nd by Earl Drott; motion carried 5-0.

11. STUDY BY COMPANY THAT MANUFACTURE BARRACUDA PRODUCTS THAT WAS DONE ON SCESD2 IT

Larry Locke stated that Barracuda has published an article about their products and he was quoted in the article. Larry and Robert Coda received some training from Barracuda not long ago. Barracuda wanted to do a case study with SCESD2. They came down to do an audit of our systems and study on how we are using their appliances. Barracuda said that SCESD2 was in the best practice of use. They have plans to come down and do a video with us next year. SCESD2 will also receive some free barracuda licensing. No motion necessary.

12. ARP & FLINT FIRE STATIONS FUNDING

Chief Rozell stated that we were not happy with the first quotes. We looked into some changes and took on a little more ourselves to help with the cost. The buildings will be identical. We will be taking on things such IT, appliances, furniture and landscaping. Now the total project cost for both stations is \$4,680,917, saving us \$649,480. We've already paid \$231,917 out of our capital account. The amount of funding we need will be \$4,449,000. But if we get funding for \$4,500,000 million dollars we would be able to recoup some of the \$231,917 that we have already spent. On a 10 year note it will cost approximately \$535,000 per year. This is on the high side because we will get a lower interest rate. Paul Perryman made a motion to approve the funding of \$4,500,000 and TPC of \$4,680,917 for the Arp & Flint Fire Stations; 2nd by Charles Wilson; motion carried 5-0.

13. RENEWAL OF SCESD2 TAX ABATEMENT POLICY

President Melton presented the renewal of SCESD2 Tax Abatement Policy. This is something we do every two years. Charles Wilson made a motion to renew the SCESD2 Tax Abatement Policy; 2nd by Leroy Biggers; motion carried 5-0.

14. RESOLUTION DEDICATING THE PROPOSED SALES TAX REVENUE FOR STAFFING

President Melton stated we need a resolution dedicating the proposed sales tax revenue for staffing. We do not want to raise property taxes and want a resolution confirming what we've already discussed. Chief Rozell added that putting it writing shows good faith and shows the people that we are serious about dedicating the funds to staffing. We will approve the resolution in September and send it out with sales tax packets. Earl Drott made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-007 dedicating the proposed sales tax revenue for staffing; 2nd by Paul Perryman; motion carried 5-0.

15. FIRE CHIEFS PRESENTING AND DISCUSSING ISSUES

Arp – Mack Arnold asked about the mailings for the sales tax revenue. He said they can set up a table a football games with information. Asked for talking points so everyone will have the same information. Mack also said he appreciated the board in support of the new engine.

Bullard – Justin Walker reported things are good. Looking forward to it being their turn to host a town hall meeting.

Chapel Hill – Dale Peterson reported everything is good.

Dixie – Matt York said he was just blessed to be here.

Flint/Gresham – No one from Flint.

Jackson Heights – Michael VanWinkle report things are good. The new engine is in service. Looking forward to getting the other station up to standard.

Noonday – Mel Harper reported the city has had a change of heart on the sales tax.

Red Springs – No one from Red Springs.

Troup – Johnny Brown reported the new engine is up and running.

Whitehouse – Gene Champion reported things are good. We need rain.

Winona – No one from Winona.

Mr. Brooks said they will not be issuing a burn ban as of now. They have not seen fire volume or changes in fire behavior. He also stated that the professionalism of SCESD2 is very impressive to him.

Kelcey Trotty said we made a donation of out of date, expired gear to a ministry in Doug Hanning's church. The gear that was donated went to Guana. The gear that Guana had before was from the 1970's and 1980's. Kelcey also spoke about the Texas Brotherhood Ride. It's a group of firefighters, law enforcement, dispatchers, EMS personnel that rode bicycles through Smith County in honor of the ones that have been killed in the line of duty. This year they did 8 days and 650 miles. SCESD2 was presented with a poster from the Texas Brotherhood. The same on that is presented to the families of the fallen.

Michael VanWinkle said the Northeast Texas Fire Marshal's Association will be having a fall meeting on September 28, 2019 at the Arp High School. Everyone will be getting a flyer.

16. DIRECTOR OF IT REPORT

Larry Locke reported we are in a trial run with Verizon Wireless Private Network. This includes both Battalion Chiefs and the Red Springs area. 28 trouble tickets have been resolved. Arp Station #1 Internet is back up and running. The problem was with the utility company power line arcing over to their tower. Radio reprogramming will start on August 27, 2019. Arp will be first. Every Tuesday and Thursday we will be reprogramming radios. We also have the capability to reprogram the radios in house.

17. CHIEF OF OPERATIONS REPORT

Chief Rozell reported we will be programming radios. The fire chiefs have come together and had a meeting about the radios. We will gather all the ones that are not in use, bring them back here and get them programmed. This will also help us keep a better count of inventory. They will be assigned to specific firefighters. This will allow for accountability. We will set an alias to the person who has the radio for safety purposes. He also reported that he, JD and Larry went to a Planned Section Chief training in Red Oak. It was a really good class. We will continue with our Incident Management Team and build it up. There will be an upcoming class in Noonday for further training.

18. DISTRICT EMPLOYEE CONCERNS

President Melton called for a closed session at 7:48 p.m.

19. REMARKS BY PRESIDING OFFICE AND/OR BOARD MEMEBERS

Not necessary.

20. CLOSED SESSION

Item #18 was taken into closed session.

21. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Returned from closed session and called meeting back to order at 8:06 p.m.

22. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

President Melton stated the next board meeting is at Smith County ESD #2, 14128 SH 110 South, Whitehouse, TX 75791, Monday, September 23, 2019 at 7:00 pm; he declared the meeting adjourned at 8:07pm.

Respectfully submitted by: _____

Paul Perryman, Secretary/Treasurer