

## SMITH COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT TWO

7:00 P.M. \* Monday \* January 25, 2016  
14128 SH 110 South \* Whitehouse, Texas 75791

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### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The Smith County ESD #2 board meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Randy Melton. Roll was called; five commissioners were present: Randy Melton, Charles Wilson, Paul Perryman, Leroy Biggers, and Matt Thiessen. It was certified that a quorum was present.

### 2. PRAYER AND PLEDGE

Noonday Fire Chief, Richard Adams led the meeting in prayer; President Melton 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 in for public comment.

### 5. CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Wilson made a motion to approve the (a.) minutes of the December 28, 2015 Regular Meeting as written; (b.) December 2015 financial report; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Thiessen; motion carried 5-0.

### 6. PAYMENTS AND REIMBURSEMENTS

Mr. Biggers made a motion to approve payment of bills: (a.) VFD Reimbursements – 11 December Packets for total of \$121,198.20; (b.) Current bills/quotes over \$2,000: No Current ones: Tyler Truck Center – Red Springs Plow 9 Repairs – approved 11-23-2015 \$2,046.42 final amount \$2,498.02, \$451.60 over quote; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Wilson; motion carried 5-0.

(c.) Contract payments made: \$2,263.58 Nextiva – District Phone & Fax Service; \$3,181.00 Gollob Morgan Peddy – District Accounting Services; \$3,010.50 Mobile Communications – District Paging Services; No action necessary.

### 7. BUNKER GEAR EVALUATION

President Melton stated that in the books there is an article about bunker gear evaluations; we have tried other brands: Veridian and Lakeland; they have not been as good as the Lion and Globe. He turned the floor over to Chief of Operations Terry Rozell who stated that he has come to the conclusion that the Lion and the Globe are pretty much on par with each other; but he has compared the two and he believes that Lion is edging the Globe out. Lion is using a one-step higher outer shell at a cost of \$1,915 for a set of bunker gear and the comparable set of Globe is \$2,118. Dixie VFD, Bullard VFD and Jackson Heights VFD have all received grants to purchase 5 sets of new bunker gear at around \$10,000 and he has given them the go ahead to order Lion; our part for each department will be \$1,723. Because of the grants we will be purchasing 15 sets of bunker gear and it will cost less than \$5,000. He stated that he has not talked to all of the chiefs, but wants to go county wide with the Lion gear. Mr. Thiessen made a motion to go with Lion Bunker Gear and pay the cost share for each department; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Biggers; motion carried 5-0.

## **8. ISO PRESS RELEASE**

President Melton stated that the next item is the plan for a press release about the ISO ratings; he turned the floor over to Chief Rozell, who stated that Ken Dickey helped with writing the release; this has been a long time coming and they have worked diligently to get our ratings dropped. He explained all of the ratings and stated that it is time to open this to the press; the information is on the web site also. Mr. Wilson made a motion to approve the ISO news release; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Thiessen; motion carried 5-0.

**President Melton stated that we would be going to #12 at this time of the meeting.**

## **12. FINAL PHASE OF SCESD2 IT SERVER ROOM**

Director of IT, Larry Locke stated that there are three quotes in their books for the final phase of the server room project; we have 2 more departments to bring onto the domain and we will be ready to start this final phase. The first one is \$2,187.76 for fiber optic lines for the server room; this will increase the speed and amount of data that we can get through the room. The second is \$6,309.59 for the exchange server license; this will enable us to bring our emails in-house; right now they are outsourced through GoDaddy. We would be able to have group email addresses for each of the departments and this also includes the user license for Microsoft Office to have it on the server to enable us to use all of the computers that are in place. The third is \$5,303.56 for redundant storage array; we have one in the server room now and this would be the back-up to that one; we will also receive 3 years of free cloud storage along with this. Mr. Thiessen made a motion to go with all three quotes to complete the final phase of the server room and to use the IT funds and use the contingency fund as needed; Chief Rozell stated that this was not supposed to happen until next year, but things have moved along quickly; this is actually \$7,000 under budget of what the original cost was going to be; we need to get this done; get the QuickBooks updated and on the server; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Biggers; motion carried 5-0.

## **13. LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE AND SUB-COMMITTEES**

No reports.

## **14. DIRECTOR OF IT REPORT**

Mr. Locke stated that he has resolved 57 support tickets since the last meeting; in a little over a month. Like he stated earlier, there are 2 sites remaining to take onto the domain; the access control software that was approved at the last meeting has been implemented, tested and is working properly; Flint-Gresham is set to have their access control system implemented tomorrow and will be the first facility actually going onto the system. The IT Committee is drafting two policies that they will hopefully bring to the next meeting; they looked at software to integrate the access control with our active directory and our ID card printer at a cost of \$4,000; He spent 5 hours writing our own at no cost except for his hourly rate. Just to give you a heads up, Verizon Wireless is scheduling downtime nationwide for tomorrow between midnight to 5 a.m.; Arp, the Command Trailer; Flint-Gresham #2 and Jackson Heights are all on Verizon Wireless; you shouldn't have many problems at that time. Also, all of the IT Committee members should have received an email asking them to get pictures of all of their department's members to make new access cards for them that will be compatible with the new access control system.

## **17. CLOSED SESSION**

The board went into closed session at 7:35 p.m. to discuss Item # 9 & #10 with the board's legal counsel.

## **18. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

The board returned to the open session at 8:30 p.m.

## **9. SCESD2 - EMPLOYER OF PAID FIREFIGHTERS**

President Melton stated that we discussed Item #9 in the closed session with our legal counsel; this is a plan for SCESD2 to become the employer for the paid fire fighters in our district; Mr. Biggers made a motion to implement this plan for SCESD2 to be the employer for the paid firefighters; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Wilson; motion carried 5-0.

## **10. SCESD2 RESTRUCTURING PLAN**

President Melton stated that the restructuring plan was discussed in the closed session with our legal counsel; it is a plan for SCESD2 to have 2 Battalion Chiefs: John Hargis and Kelcey Trotty to assist the Chief of Operations with the hiring of firefighters; scheduling, and running the daytime operation of the departments. Mr. Thiessen made a motion to implement the SCESD2 restructuring plan; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Biggers; motion carried 5-0.

## **11. PURCHASE OF TWO COMMAND VEHICLES**

President Melton stated that Chief Rozell is wanting to buy two ¾ ton pickup trucks plus securing the funds to equip them out (lights, radios, front bumper, console & graphics – approximately \$10,000) for the new Battalion Chiefs. The three bids are: Silsbee Ford - 2016 864C Ford F150 SuperCrew V8 (BuyBoard) \$32,048 each; Silsbee Ford - 2016 Ford F-250 (BuyBoard) \$32,754.50 each; and Caldwell Country Chevrolet - 2016 Chev 2500HD Silverado Crew Cab (HGAC) \$30,576 each. Chief Rozell stated that to purchase two of the low bid trucks from Caldwell Country Chevrolet and equip them appropriately would be approximately \$84,000; we have \$100,000 budgeted for capital purchases; we have no other capital purchases scheduled for this budget year. Mr. Thiessen made a motion to purchase two command vehicles using the low HGAC bid for the 2 new Battalion Chiefs; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Biggers; motion carries 5-0.

## **15. CHIEF OF OPERATIONS REPORT**

Chief Rozell stated that the VFDs ran 7,481 calls in 2015; we received a full refund of \$5,749 from the City of Winona for the natural gas line that was not completed; it is deposited in the bank and we now have a propane tank set and the heater installed at Winona VFD station #2; it is up and running and the quarterly county meeting will be held there in February. He let the fire chiefs know that he was able to get the district on the government contract with Batteries Plus Bulbs for the bulk purchase of batteries at half the price we were paying; there will be a supply on hand at the office for the departments as they need them. Arp VFD is working with the Overton Fire Department to have an automatic aid agreement where they are a part of our box calls; when there is a box call in the Smith County area close to Overton; they will provide a truck and personnel to assist Arp and if there is a box call in Overton; Arp will provide a truck and personnel to assist Overton; we are working together, neighbors helping neighbors. There are four Overton firefighters living in Arp's district that have joined their department.

## **16. PRESIDING OFFICER REMARKS**

President Melton stated that at the next meeting we are hoping to have a special guest speakers, one of our elected officials and Captain Hudgens from the Tyler Junior College Fire Academy; he also wants to have insurance billing on the February agenda; the SAFE-D conference will be February 18<sup>th</sup> through the 20<sup>th</sup> in Galveston; and everyone needs to get there Texas A & M Forestry Service W/C Cost Share Grant application in.

## 19. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

President Melton stated the next board meeting will be at Smith County ESD #2, 14128 SH 110 South, Whitehouse, Texas 75791; Monday February 29, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.; because of the SAFE-D Conference we are moving the meeting to the 5<sup>th</sup> Monday; he declared the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Perryman, Secretary/Treasurer