

# Hardin County Emergency Services District 2

## *Minutes of the Meeting of July 16, 2020*

The meeting was called to order by President Fritz Erbelding at 6:00 PM. Roll call showed present Commissioners Evans, O'Blanc, Erbelding, Tumbleson, Koch and Attorney Leverett. Opening prayer was said by Chief McNeil and pledges were said to the US and Texas flags.

**1. Meeting in closed or executive session pursuant to Chapter 551, Texas Government Code:**

**a. 551.071, Government Code – Consult with legal counsel**

**b. 551.074, Government Code – Personnel**

The Board went into executive session at 6:01 and returned at 6:18 under 551.074; stated nothing to report.

**2. Public Comments on Consent Agenda and Regular Agenda Items- None**

**3. Reports**

**a. Fire & EMS Auxiliary Report- None**

**b. Fire Chief's report:**

- Current uptrend on runs
- Current ER wall time, longest 2-3 hours
- Fire calls totals 33, month of June, with 147 med calls
- Overlapped fire calls 3 and 60 EMS calls

**c. ESD Reports or comments**

- i. Update on repairs and North Station-** Carpenter was pulled to another job and will return shortly, looking at a 2-3 month finish date.
- ii. Update on Covid-19 in our area-** The department will continue to reserve South Station as the departments' quarantined area, if needed; offer masks and hand sanitizer for all the necessary visitors and encourage spacing for those using the meeting room. No action made.
- iii. Lisa O'Blanc has completed extra training is Public Funds Investments-** Commissioner O'Blanc was acknowledged of her additional training.
- iv. Update on sale of Ladder Truck-** The contact failed to state what is not included in the sell; it was discussed to remove all equipment on the truck except the ground ladder and at the time of sell remove our name from the truck.

d. **This month will start setting the tax rate and budget work-** all acknowledged

**4. Consent Agenda items:**

- a. **Treasurer's Report**
- b. **Payable of accounts payable**
- c. **Approval of Minutes**

Commissioner O'Blanc stated that the General Fund revenue expense was at 95% goal and the expenses at 46% - which is good news. Commissioner Tumbleson made a motion to accept the consent agenda reports as presented. Commissioner Koch 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motion carried.

**ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA**

**5. Regular Agenda items:**

- a. **Discussion and possible action to engage with the John Carlton Law Firm as special counsel solely with regard to the process for adoption and calculation of ad valorem taxes for the calendar year of 2020-** Due to the Senate Bill 2 updates, the department requested expert Attorney John Carlton's approval. Law firm Germer and Gertz are aware of this request. A motion was made by Commissioner Tumbleson to engage with the John Carlton Law Firm for the purpose and set the tax rate for 2020-21. Commissioner O'Blanc 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motion carried.
- b. **Discussion and possible action to adopt a proposed calendar for our tax planning process that this Firm will help us with-** Joyce Brown stated that a certain date is required to have each part of the tax rate accomplished by; the dates of workshop for the budget is noted on this calendar, which tonight is an example. Attorney Leverett stated that it is not necessary to publish in a newspaper. Attorney John Carlton will work on this for the department. No action needed for this item.
- c. **Discussion and possible action to adopt the purposed 2020-21 budget-** Chief McNeil stated that the volunteer allotment has increased; the training budget has increased. Discussion was had on pay per call for volunteers. A motion was made by Commissioner Erbelding to adopt the 2020-21 budget as presented. Commissioner O'Blanc 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motion to accept was by raising the right hand; motion to accept was noted by the following Commissioners:
  - Tommy Evans
  - Lisa O'Blanc
  - Fritz Erbelding

- Joe Tumbleson
- Ernie Koch

Motion was carried by all.

**6. Items for the agenda for next meeting:**

- Revisit equipment of excess
- North station
- Fork lift brakes
- Light for north station flag pole

**7. Adjournment-** Commissioner Tumbleson made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner O'Blanc 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 PM.

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President, Fritz Erbelding

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Secretary, Ernie Koch