

## Meeting Minutes -Montgomery County Emergency Services District No. 6

The Montgomery County Emergency Services District No. 6 Board of Commissioners held its regular meeting at the Porter Fire Department Station 121 on August 24, 2020.

The meeting was called to order by Larry Trout, District Board President.

**Commissioners present:** Larry Trout, Therlyn Cook, Donnie Click, John Kelley, and David Miller.

**Also attending:** District Fire Chief Carter Johnson, Assistant Chief Charlie Martin, District Administrative Assistant Jessica Black, District Legal Counsel John Peeler of Coveler & Peeler, PC, District Bookkeeper Mark Miller of Municipal Accounts & Consulting, LP.

**Commissioners not present:** none

**Public attendees:** none

- The Board convened and the meeting was called to order by Commissioner Cook at 12:35 PM.
- The Board conducted roll call with a quorum present. The Board of Commissioners attended the meeting in person, and consultants appeared either in person or via teleconference.
- The Board opened the floor for public comment though none was offered.
- The Board then opened the Public Hearing on the proposed tax increase. No public was present and no comments were offered.
- The Board concluded the Public Hearing at 12:36 p.m.
- The Board then addressed the District 2021 budget. Motion by Mr. Kelley and second by Mr. Click to approve the budget as previously proposed. **After discussion the motion was approved 5 to 0.**
- The Board then addressed item 6 of the agenda, reviewing the District 2020 Ad Valorem Tax Rate for maintenance and operations. The Board reviewed the proposed Order on the rate. Motion by Mr. Trout using the statutorily required language and second Mr. Kelley to adopt the District 2020 Ad Valorem Tax Rate for maintenance and operations at the rate of \$0.1000/\$100. **After discussion the motion was approved 5 to 0.**
- The Board next addressed item 7, to review and set the District 2020 Ad Valorem Tax Rate for debt. Motion by Mr. Miller and second by Mr. Click to adopt the District 2020 Ad Valorem Tax Rate for debt at the rate of \$0.00/\$100. **After discussion the motion was approved 5 to 0. The Board noted that the total tax rate for 2020 is \$0.1000/\$100.**
- The Board then addressed item 8 of the agenda, minutes of prior meetings. The minutes were reviewed for the July 28, 2020 regular meeting and August 11, 2020 special meeting. Motion by Commissioner Miller and second by Commissioner Click to approve the minutes as presented by Counsel. **After discussion the motion was approved 5 to 0.**
- The Board then addressed item 9 of the agenda: financial report, investments, and bills. Mark Miller presented a report on the financial status of the District for review and action, and he provided a verbal summary of the monthly report and bills for payment. Ms. Miller noted the sales tax had increased sharply compared to that reported in August 2019. Motion by Commissioner Miller and second by Commissioner Click to accept the report and approve the investments and bills as presented, including any additional bills presented at the meeting. **After discussion the motion was approved 5 to 0.**
- The Board then addressed agenda item 10, amendments/revisions to District budget(s). Chief Johnson is tracking sales tax increases.
- The Board next addressed agenda item 11, to review and act on items related to construction, improvements, repairs, renovations, and equipment purchases for District facilities, including selection/engagement of contractor(s), architectural, testing or other services. Chief Johnson reported

that Station 122 was in progress including the following: reassignment of superintendent due to personal matter; details on detention pond contractor; still reviewing ventilator options on Station 121 bay, comparing the options.

- The Board then addressed item 12 of the agenda, disposition of surplus and/or salvage property. Chief Johnson stated that the surplus tanker and engine were on listed on the Rene Bates auction site. Chief Jonson will report back on the auction at the September meeting. Chief Johnson requested the disposal of the metal shower trailer due to water intake. Motion by Commissioner Click and second by Commissioner Miller to declare Station 122 shower trailer as surplus and authorize disposition of same. **After discussion the motion was approved 5 to 0.**
- The Board took no action on item 13 of the agenda, acquisition and financing of capital equipment and vehicles.
- The Board then addressed agenda item 14 regarding real estate matters. Chief Johnson relayed that he was in talks with the Improvement District regarding the possible purchase of old Station 122.
- The Board addressed item 15 of the agenda, to receive a report from the Fire Department. Chief Johnson introduced Assistant Chief Martin to the Board and reported on the following: TIFMAS asked about sending large contingent to California though a smaller group was sent to supplement the central Texas contingent; losing four individuals to TIFMAS deployment does not affect our department in regard to hurricane preparation. Chief Johnson held a brief discussion on storm preparation.
- The Board next addressed item 16 of the agenda, matters related to COVID-19. Chief Johnson shared that the first COVID positive case involving an employee was recently reported. He noted that fortunately, it is a very mild case and the individual will return to duty soon. Chief Johnson stated the CARES Act is not being distributed to ESDs while it seems cities are abusing the funds received for non-COVID costs. The County has not been wishing to pass on any of their funds received. No action taken.
- The Board then addressed agenda item 17, records management issues. Chief Johnson stated that Assistant Chief Martin will receive training and then be responsible for the records management project.
- The Board did not exercise the option of Closed Session under items 18, 19 and 20, consultation with legal counsel for real estate or personnel matters.
- The Board took no action on item 21, personnel matters.
- There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, Commissioner Miller made a Motion seconded by Commissioner Click to adjourn the meeting at 1:16 P.M. **After discussion the motion was approved 5 to 0.**