

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
ELLIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 6**

DATE & PLACE August 9, 2021, Monday, 6:30 PM
Ellis County ESD#6 Fire Station No. 1
1816 FM 66
Waxahachie Texas 75167

MEMBERS PRESENT Chuck McCormack, President
James Malone, Vice President
Bill Howell, Treasurer
Rick Beer, Secretary

CHIEFS PRESENT: Chief Jake Escamilla, ESD 6
Chief Wes Curry, Forreston VFD

Six guests were present

I. Call to Order, Roll Call, Certification of a Quorum, and Invocation: Commissioner McCormack called the meeting to order and declared a quorum present and confirmed that proper notifications were posted on the District's website and outside of the advertised meeting place. Commissioner Randy Johnston, Assistant Secretary / Treasurer, was absent. Chief Escamilla led the invocation.

II. Approve the minutes of both the Monday, July 12, 2021 regular meeting and the Monday, July 26, 2021 Special Meeting: Commissioner Malone moved to approve the minutes of these two meetings as written, Commissioner Beer seconded, motion carried unanimously.

III. Financial Matters

A. Review the financial report from the Treasurer for July 2021: Commissioner Bill Howell, Treasurer, gave the July 2021 Treasurer's Report. He stated the balance of the capital account as of 7/31/21 was \$1,093,902.85 and the checking balance was \$54,429.68. The July bills were \$78,387.83 (\$63,067.97 for EC ESD#6 and \$15,319.86 for ESD6 VFD.) The Forreston VFD July 2021 receipts were \$17,102.44. Commissioner McCormack asked for any questions or corrections to the report, there being none, he requested that the Treasurer's Report be filed for audit.

B. Receive and approve payment of the ECESD#6 bills: Commissioner Malone moved to approve the payment of the July 2021 bills as presented. Commissioner Beer seconded, motion carried unanimously.

IV. Public Comments: There were no comments from the public.

V. Administrative Matters

A. Annual Audit Update: Status report from accounting firm, YWRD, PC on the District's annual audit due June 1, 2021: Commissioner McCormack reported that the

District's annual financial report and audit of its financial records are now complete and delivered to the Ellis County Fire Marshal's office, as directed, and posted on the District's website, as required. The CPA firm, YWRD, informed the District that one final invoice is forthcoming.

- B. Consider retiring one or both truck notes and financing the new P-25 radio system or leaving the truck notes in place and paying cash for the radios:** Commissioner Howell moved to leave the two existing truck notes in place and pay cash for the P-25 compliant hardware for the district-wide replacement of all its public safety radios at a cost of \$287,925.59. Commissioner Malone seconded; the motion passed unanimously.
- C. Discuss the District's budget and potential tax rate for fiscal year 2021-2022 and prioritize spending for the year:** The commissioners discussed the rapid population growth in the District and the elevated expectations for our volunteer fire departments and their response times. The more urban the District becomes, the more District constituents expect stations to be staffed with compensated personnel. With EC ESD 6 Station 1 now staffed 24/7/365, the commissioners agreed that the District's short term goal is to staff EC ESD 6's Station 2 with compensated personnel for at least twelve-hour shifts every day of the year. Potential tax rates including the voter approval rate were also discussed.
- D. Consider taking action regarding 2021-22 budget:** After reviewing and clarifying several budget items, Commissioner Malone moved to approve a proposed budget of \$1,063,167 for FY 2021-22. Commissioner Beer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- E. Discuss and consider taking action regarding 2021 tax rate, including:**
- **Establishing proposed tax rate:** Commissioner McCormack moved to adopt a proposed tax rate of \$0.0711 and Commissioner Howell seconded the motion. Commissioner McCormack then called for a record vote.
 - **Taking record vote and scheduling public hearing:"**
Record vote results:

Malone	Yea
Howell	Yea
Beer	Yea
McCormack	Yea
Johnston	Absent and not voting

Commissioner McCormack moved to set the date for a public hearing for Monday, AUG 23, 2021 at 6:30 PM, ESD6 VFD Station 1 at 6:30 PM, Commissioner Malone seconded, motion carried unanimously.
 - **Authorizing publication of "Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase" in the *Waxahachie Daily Light*:** Commissioner Howell moved to authorize said publication and Commissioner McCormack seconded with the motion carrying unanimously.
 - **Acknowledging and approving posting of Notice About 2021 Tax Rates and "Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase" to home page of District website:** Commissioner Howell moved to acknowledge and approve the statutory notices on the District's website, Commissioner McCormack seconded and motion carried unanimously.

VI. Operational Matters

- A. Receive Chief Wes Curry's Forrester VFD monthly report regarding emergency operations, response times, call volume, training, management activities and membership:** Chief Curry reported for the month of July they had 25 runs, 16 of which were EMS assist, 4 motor vehicle accidents, and 3 structure fires.

- **Emergency Generator – consider purchasing generators for 2 stations:** Chief Curry reported he is still gathering information. He reported to the Board that a Generac 18,000-watt propane-fired generator now cost in the neighborhood of \$6,000 with installation costing an additional \$4,000 to \$5,000. No action was taken.
- **Service Provider Contract with ECESD#6 – status report on reviewing and executing the revised contract:** Commissioner McCormack reported that after a review session with the Forrester VFD board members, they have reviewed and edited approximately one-half of the revised contract. Chief Curry informed the commissioners that another review session will be conducted very soon.

B. Receive report from Chief Jake Escamilla on ESD#6 VFD and ECESD#6 regarding emergency operations, response times, call volume, training, management activities and membership including the following: Chief Escamilla reported for the month of July, they had 82 runs, of which 39 were EMS assist, 9 motor vehicle accidents /4 of which involved injuries.

- **ISO review of the district** – Chief Escamilla reported that the review is still on temporary hold awaiting ISO’s visit to the District.
- **P-25 Public Safety Radio conversion status:** Escamilla reported that the District’s radios are in his possession and they have been inventoried with serial numbers recorded, etc. The County’s P-25 network coordinator is working with Chief Escamilla to interface the District’s radios onto the system. Motorola is in the process of scheduling their personnel to install the radios in all of the District’s vehicles.
- **Update on ESD6 VFD Station 1 proposal from CAS Septic Service, LLC. to expand the existing system to accommodate increased usage of the station:** Chief Escamilla reported that CAS is now onsite at Station 1 and commencing to install a new and larger LPD OSSF (Low-Pressure Dosing On-Sight Sewer Facility.)

C. Set the date and time for the next ECESD#6 regular meeting and public hearing on the proposed tax rate: Without objection, Commissioner McCormack set the date for the Public Hearing on the Tax Rate for Monday, AUG 23, 2021 at 6:30 PM ESD6 VFD Station 1, as previously approved during this meeting, and the next regular meeting date for Monday, SEP 13, 2021.

VII. Comments from Commissioners on future District-related administrative or operational issues: Commissioner Malone reminded the commissioners that the SAFE-D Convention in Ft. Worth is coming up in September. All five commissioners and both chiefs are planning to attend for training and obtaining general ESD information.

VIII. Adjourn: Commissioner Malone moved to adjourn, Commissioner Beer seconded, motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.


 Chuck McCormack, President
 ECESD #6 Board of Commissioners
 August 10, 2021