

**ELLIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 6
MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING on the PROPOSED TAX RATE
and
MEETING to ADOPT TAX RATE**

DATE & PLACE: August 14, 2023, 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, FVFD

Five 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 stated that proper notifications were legally posted on the District's website, *The Waxahachie Sun* newspaper, and at the meeting location pursuant to the Open Meetings Act § 551. Chief Escamilla led the invocation.
- II. **Public Comments:** There were no comments from the public.
- III. **Consider taking action regarding the District's budget for fiscal year October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024:** Commissioner James Malone moved to accept the District's FY 2023-24 budget in the amount of \$1,320,783. Commissioner Rick Beer seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- IV. **Conduct a PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSAL TO INCREASE PROPERTY TAXES:** Commissioner McCormack opened the public hearing at 6:42 PM. There were no comments from the public. Commissioner McCormack then closed the public hearing at 6:45 PM.

**PUBLIC HEARING WAS CLOSED BY THE CHAIR AND
THE REGULAR MEETING OPENED**

- V. **Take a record vote on the District's 2023-2024 tax rate, adopt an Order Levying Taxes, and authorize filing the Order with the Ellis County Tax Assessor/Collector:**

Discuss and consider taking action regarding 2023-24 tax rate, including:

- **Establishing proposed tax rate:** Commissioner James Malone made the following motion: "I move that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of

\$0.058280 per \$100 valuation, which is effectively an 8.71 percent increase in the tax rate.” Commissioner Rick Beer seconded. Commissioner McCormack then polled the commissioners.

Take a record vote on the tax rate.

Chuck McCormack	Yea
James Malone	Yea
Bill Howell	Yea
Rick Beer	Yea

Motion carried unanimously.

- **Adopt an Order Levying Taxes and authorize filing the order with the Ellis County Tax Assessor / Collector:** Commissioner Malone moved to adopt and execute an Order Levying Taxes and to authorize filing the order with the county tax assessor. Commissioner Rick Beer seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

VI. Acknowledge and approve posting of statement regarding adopted tax rate to the home page of the District’s website: Commissioner Bill Howell moved to acknowledge and approve the posting of the statutory notices on the home page of the District’s website regarding the adopted tax rate. Commissioner Chuck McCormack seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

VII. Mr. David Perez of Federated Hermes, Inc. will address the board of commissioners concerning investing in Local Government Investment Funds, specifically the TexPool and TexPool Prime funds, and he will field any questions from the commissioners, including how these funds are managed to comply with the Public Funds Investment Act: Mr. Perez presented information and answered questions from the commissioners. TexPool is sponsored by the state and complies with the Act. TexPool Fund’s current daily rate is a nominal 5.3% APR and TexPool Prime is a nominal 5.5% APR.

VIII. Financial Matters

A. Receive and approve payment of the ECESD#6 July 2023 bills. (Action required)

Commissioner James Malone moved to approve the payment of the July 2023 bills as presented. Commissioner Rick Beer seconded and the motion carried unanimously

B. Review the financial report from the Treasurer for July 2023. (Action required)

Commissioner Bill Howell, Treasurer, gave the July 2023 Treasurer’s Report. He stated the balance of the capital account as of 7/31/23 was \$736,703.60 and the checking balance was \$240,213.12. The July bills were \$84,875.69 (\$45,671.20 Payroll Expenses, \$12,840.08 for EC ESD#6 and \$26,364.41 for ESD6 VFD.) The Forrester VFD July 2023 receipts were \$10,346.19. 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.

C. Review and approve the revised Investment Policy. (Action required)

Commissioner Malone moved and Commissioner Beer seconded to approve the revised Investment Policy that will include the option of investing in the TexPool PRIME Fund. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Discuss and consider adopting a Resolution Authorizing Participation in the TexPool and TexPool Prime Investment Pools and Designating Authorized Representatives and take any related action. (Action required) Commissioner Bill Howell moved to execute the documents to participate in TexPool and TexPool Prime Investment Pools. Commissioner Beer seconded. Motion carried with only Commissioner Howell dissenting.

IX. Administrative Matters:

- A. Approve the minutes of the July 10, 2023 Regular Meeting and the August 3, 2023 Special Meeting on the Proposed Tax Rate.** (Action required) Commissioner Malone moved to approve the minutes of both the July 10, 2023 regular meeting and August 3, 2023 special meeting. Commissioner Beer seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- B. Ms. Carol Bigler's report on the status of the annual financial review** (Action may be required) Mrs. Bigler reported that all requested information has been sent to the auditor, YWRD, PC, and they are almost completed.

X. Operational Matters:

- A. Receive Chief Wes Curry's Forreston VFD monthly report** regarding operations, response times, call volume, training, management activities and membership including the following. (Some items could require action) Chief Curry reported for the month of July 2023, they had 30 runs, of which 8 were EMS assist, 1 EMS call, excluding vehicle accident –with injury, 10 grass fires, 1 dispatched & cancelled enroute, 3 motor vehicle accidents with unintentional alarm, 1 mobile property (vehicle) fire, other, and 1 fire (other). Chief Curry reported not a lot of fire loss.
- 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 2023, they had 109 calls, of which 66 were EMS assist, 29 grass fires & investigations, 12 vehicle wrecks, and 2 structure fires.
- C. ISO review of the district** – Chief's report to commissioners: He gave the information they requested about location of Black Hydrants to Mr. Jeff Edwards of ISO.
- D. Chief will present information on fireproof filing cabinets to be purchased.** Chief Escamilla had two quotes for the commissioners on the fireproof filing cabinets that are required to store the ECESD#6 permanent records. He is gathering more information and quotations.
- E. Set the date and time for the next ECESD#6 regular meeting.** Without objection, Commissioner McCormack set the date for the District's next regular meeting to Monday, September 11, 2023, at 6:30 PM.

XI. Comments from Commissioners on future District-related administrative or operational issues. (No action may be taken.) Business items resulting from comments by Commissioners may become agenda items for the next regular meeting of the ECESD#6.

None

XII. Adjourn:

Commissioner Malone moved to adjourn. Commissioner Beer seconded, motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.



Chuck McCormack, President
ECESD #6 Board of Commissioners
August 31, 2023