

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

DATE AND PLACE: August 19, 2024, Monday, 6:30 PM
Ellis County ESD#6 VFD Fire Station No. 1
1816 FM 66
Waxahachie, Texas 75167

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chuck McCormack, President
Dale Walling, Treasurer
Rick Beer, Secretary
Jason Smithey, Asst. Sec / Asst. Treasurer

CHIEFS PRESENT Chief Jake Escamilla, ESD#6 VFD
Chief Wes Curry, Forrester VFD

Four 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 with only Commissioner Howell absent. Commissioner McCormack stated proper notifications were legally posted on the District's website, published in *The Waxahachie Sun* newspaper and posted at the meeting location pursuant to the Open Meetings Act. Chief Curry led the invocation.
- II. **Public Comments:** There were no public comments.
- III. **Conduct a public hearing on the proposal to increase property taxes:** Commissioner McCormack opened the public hearing at 6:32 PM. There were no comments from the public.

**PUBLIC HEARING WAS CLOSED BY THE CHAIR AND THE REGULAR
MEETING OPENED at 6:35 PM.**

- IV. **Consider taking action regarding the budget for fiscal year October 1, 2024, to September 30, 2025.**
 - A. **Consider authorizing the payment of a monthly stipend of \$500 to the Assistant Chief of ESD6 VFD while this position is in charge of the monthly payroll and watch schedule:** Commissioner Walling moved to approve the stipend and that payment will begin October 1, 2024, at the start of the new Fiscal Year. Commissioner Beer seconded, and motion carried unanimously.

B. Make final adjustments and then vote to adopt the budget for the coming fiscal year 2024-25 and a resolution for same: Commissioner McCormack moved to increase the annual budget from \$1,844,118 to \$1,869,118 to accommodate for estimated earned interest. Commissioner Walling seconded; motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Walling moved to adopt the amended budget of \$1,869,118, and a resolution for same. Commissioner McCormack seconded, motion carried unanimously.

V. Take a record vote on the District’s 2024 tax rate, adopt an Order Levying Taxes, and authorize filing the Order with the Ellis County Tax Assessor / Collector: Commissioner Walling made the motion: *“I move that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.075500/\$100 valuation, which is effectively a 38.22 percent increase in the tax rate.”* Commissioner Beer seconded the motion. Commissioner McCormack then polled the commissioners.

Take a record vote on the tax rate.

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| Rick Beer | Yea |
| Jason Smithey | Yea |
| Dale Walling | Yea |
| Chuck McCormack | Yea |

The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner McCormack moved to adopt and execute an Order Levying Taxes and authorize filing the order with the Ellis County Assessor / Collector. Commissioner Walling seconded; motion carried unanimously.

VI. Acknowledge and approve posting of statement regarding adopted tax rate to the home page of the District’s website: Commissioner McCormack moved to approve the posting of notice of the adopted tax rate on the website. Commissioner Walling seconded; motion carried unanimously.

VII. Financial Matters

A. Receive and approve payment of the ECESD#6 July 2024 bills. (Action required)

Commissioner Walling moved to approve the payment of the invoices as presented. Commissioner Smithey seconded; motion carried unanimously.

B. Review the financial report from the Treasurer for July 2024. (Action required)

Commissioner Dale Walling, Treasurer, gave the July 2024 Treasurer’s Report. Commissioner Walling stated the balance of the capital account as of 7/31/24 was \$216,491.47, the balance of the TexPool investment account as of 7/31/24 was \$921,915.72 and the checking balance was \$144,892.99.

The July bills were \$85,817.32 (\$42,573.71 Payroll Expenses, \$26,872.05 other, for ECESD#6 and \$16,371.56 for ESD#6 VFD.) The Forreston Volunteer Fire Department July 2024 receipts were \$14,330.38. 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.

VIII. Administrative Matters:

- A. Approve the minutes of the July 8 and August 19, 2024 regular meeting and the August 5, 2024 Special meeting on the Proposed Tax Rate. (Action required)**
Commissioner Walling moved to approve the minutes as written., Commissioner Beer seconded, motion carried unanimously.
- B. Consider commencing the initial planning to renovate and expand ECESD6 VFD Station 2 by conducting a Special Workshop Meeting with local architect Anthony Mottla to discuss the design build process:** Commissioner McCormack moved to schedule a special meeting workshop with Mr. Mottla sometime soon. Commissioner Walling seconded, and motion passed unanimously.

IX. Operational Matters

- A. Receive Chief Wes Curry's Forreston VFD monthly report regarding operations, response times, call volume, training, management activities and membership. (Some items may require action):** Chief Curry reported 24 runs for the month. He then asked to move \$9,000 from the FVFD FY2024 budget account 412.000 to account 873.120 to purchase 9 suits of hot weather gear.
Chief reported that Siddons Martin is finalizing their formal proposal to manufacture a brush truck for the District.
- 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. (Some items could require action.)** Chief Escamilla reported 85 runs for the month of July with 44 Fire and 41 EMS of which 45% in NE, 9% in NW, 13% in SE and 33% in SW.
Chief Escamilla also reported he was soliciting bids to repair or replace the heating and cooling system at ESD#6 VFD Station 2.
- **ISO review of the District** – Chief's report to commissioners: Chief Escamilla reported that all the records, maps and testing requested by ISO have been provided to them and we are now waiting for further instructions on the review process.
- C. 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 9, 2024, at 6:30 PM, at ESD#6 VFD Station 1.
- X. 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 ECESD#6: There were no comments from commissioners.
- XI. Adjourn:** Commissioner Beer moved to adjourn. Commissioner Walling seconded, and motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM.


Chuck McCormack, President
ECESD #6 Board of Commissioners
September 9, 2024