

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

November 19, 2024

1. Hank Dembosky called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.
2. Hank Dembosky led the Board in prayer.
3. Hank Dembosky led the Board in the pledges of allegiance.
4. Commissioners in attendance: President Hank Dembosky; Vice-President Skip Smith; Treasurer Colleen Majoue; Assistant Treasurer Claren Kotrla; and Secretary Judy Bryant. There were no guests.
5. Treasurer's Report:
 - a) Majoue presented Check 1004 in the amount of \$3,823 for the monthly ambulance payment. Bryant motioned to approve, and Smith seconded. Motion carried. Majoue stated that the online QuickBooks subscription, which is an automatic monthly withdrawal of \$63.84 from the Prosperity bank account, would be increasing to \$65/month, effective November 27, 2024. Dembosky recommended that, even though it is a previously Board-approved automatic withdrawal, Majoue include it in the list of monthly payments she presents to the ESD Board. Dembosky will follow up with SAFE-D on our annual dues.
 - b) Majoue reported on October 2024 financials (reports attached). Kotrla motioned to approve, and Majoue seconded. Motion carried.
 - c) Sales tax revenue for November 2024 was \$3,905.64.
 - d) The funds in the certificates of deposit (CD) are contingency funds and are not obligated. In our December 2024 ESD meeting, a decision needs to be made whether to combine the two CDs at Prosperity Bank (\$26,877.54 and \$41,830.89) or let the \$26,877.54 CD renew in January 2025 as a 4-month CD.
6. In the absence of HTL VFD/EMS representatives at this meeting, Dembosky presented their reports. Easterly is willing and able to part with a '99 Engine. There is value in getting this engine donated to HTL VFD to show that another one is needed when HTL VFD applies for a grant to get one. HTL VFD/EMS would like to get \$80,000 from HTL POA, but that is not expected to happen. The HTL VFD/EMS has \$125,000 in contingency funds. The reports were reviewed. The monthly performance measures are noted in the activity report. Majoue motioned to approve the VFD Operational, EMS Operational, and the VFD/EMS Financial reports and Kotrla seconded. Motion carried.
 - EMS Calls: 17
 - Average Response Time: 5 mins
 - Average Out-of-Chute Time: 2 mins
 - Fire Training Hours: 10.5
 - Volunteer Response Hours: 20
7. Reports/Updates/Recommendations:
 - a) Annual Audit – Should be closing in December. We are on schedule.
 - b) Annual TDEM Report – Bryant and Kotrla will work on this.

- c) November POA Board Meeting – A POA Board member stated that the security money goes to ESD. That is not correct. POA Board could not come to an agreement with General Manager Annette Craig.
 - d) Fire Marshall duties & responsibilities – Dembosky talked to County Board of Commissioners. All Leon County ESDs are dealing with solar farms and battery storage. The Texas Department of Emergency Management can us look at all the plans, etc.
 - e) Pecan Prairie Solar Project – email update from Carolyn Heibert provided and included. Hank talked to Leon County Appraisal District. To date, they had not received information on the land parcels that are involved in these projects. Hank will follow up with Carolyn, Judge Ryder, etc. The appraisers do not do the work until they get it as an assignment.
 - f) GranSolar Bess Texas 3 Battery Storage Project – Ryan Turner reported to Dembosky that the project is moving along smoothly, but no details provided.
 - g) Dembosky submitted the 2024 Tax Rate Submission Report to Victoria Willis on Tuesday, November 5, 2024. Copy of email attached.
 - h) Kotrla suggested we have a locksmith repair the currently used file cabinet or put a pin lock on it. Majoue made a motion to approve, and Smith seconded. Motion carried.
 - i) Dembosky and Gail Huffine attended CERT training on crowd control.
8. The 2025 SAFE-D annual meeting/conference is scheduled for February 6-9. None of the ESD #2 Commissioners need to go for continuing education; however, there is \$750/person in the budget if any Commissioner(s) wants to attend. Payment will be on the March 2025 agenda for those who attend.
9. Majoue motioned to approve the October 22, 2024 meeting minutes. Smith seconded. Motion carried.
10. Majoue recommended Lance Nichols as a possible candidate for filling the Commissioner open seat in 2025. Dembosky will call Mr. Nichols to see if he is interested in serving. Bryant motioned to approve, and Smith seconded. Motion carried.
11. No items recommended by our Law Firm.
12. Dembosky sent an email October 25, 2024 to SAFE-D about Comptroller's Office, sales tax loophole and Circuit Breaker Limitation (copy attached). This needs to be looked at in the Legislative Session.
13. Hilltop Lakes Lighting of the Christmas tree will be November 29, 2024. The recently held HLEA Barn Dance turned out great.
14. No public comments.
15. Next meeting will be Tuesday, December 17, 2024, at 6pm.
16. Kotrla motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:10pm. Smith seconded. Motion carried.