Southwest Leon Co. Emergency Services District No. 2

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

February 21, 2025

- 1. Hank Dembosky called the meeting to order at 2pm.
- 2. Hank Dembosky led the Board in prayer.
- 3. Hank Dembosky led the Board in the pledges of allegiance.
- 4. Guests (3) in attendance are noted on the attached sign-in sheet. Commissioners in attendance: President Hank Dembosky; Vice-President Skip Smith; Treasurer Colleen Majoue; Secretary Judy Bryant, and Assistant Treasurer Lori McGuire.
 - NOTE: At this point, Majoue made a motion, seconded by Smith, to move on to agenda items 9 and 16 to accommodate discussions with guests Carolyn Heibert (Repsol) and Lyle Sanders (TDEM). Motion carried.
- 5. Swearing In/Signing Oath of Office for returning Commissioners Judy Bryant and Skip Smith and new Commissioner Lori McGuire was conducted January 24, 2025 by Precinct IV Justice of the Peace Lee Weiler. Oath of Office Forms 2204 and Statement of Officer Forms 2201 are attached, as well as the article and photo that appeared in the January 29, 2025 edition of The Normangee Star.
- 6. After reviewing the actions taken at the January 21, 2025 meeting, which was before Bryant, Smith, and McGuire were sworn in January 24, 2025, Smith motioned that the full Board approve those actions, and Majoue seconded. Motion carried.
- 7. Treasurer's Report:
 - a) Majoue presented eight (8) checks for approval (list attached). Smith motioned to approve all checks, and Bryant seconded. Motion carried. Dembosky provided an Affidavit of Lost Original Check for use if we need to report a lost/stolen check from Leon County and need a replacement check issued.
 - b) Majoue reported on January 2025 financials (report attached). Smith motioned to approve, and Majoue seconded. Motion carried.
 - i) Leon County TAC payments for January 12- February 15 totaled \$173,228.88 (copy attached).
 - c) Sales tax revenue for February 2025 was \$35,818.00 (copy attached). Additionally, there was a brief discussion about possibly depositing only sales tax revenue in the Normangee Bank account and depositing property tax revenue in the Prosperity Bank account. This will be discussed further in the March 2025 ESD Meeting.
- 8. The HTL VFD/EMS Financial and Activity Reports (attached) were presented by Sherri Guerra. The monthly performance measures reported are noted in the activity report. Smith motioned to approve the report, and McGuire seconded. Motion carried.
 - EMS Calls: 25
 - Average Response Time: 3 minutes
 - Average Out-of-Chute Time: 1.5 minutes
 - Fire Training Hours: 16.5
 - Response Hours: 19
 - a) Annual Meeting update will be provided at the next meeting.
 - b) Sheri Guerra reported that the fire engine from Robertson County is here. They are still waiting for the title to be received from the State. The ladder has been repaired, and additional items have been put on it. Additional repairs will be done. There is concern that their FEMA grant request for a new fire tanker may be affected by the new federal administration. They applied for a \$4,400 rural firefighters assistance grant from Texas Forest Service regarding workers compensation and insurance.
- 9. Reports/Updates/Recommendations:
 - a) Carolyn Hiebert of Repsol reported that the 2,600-acre solar farm mobilization is scheduled for June 2025, but it could slip to August. They should start receiving large equipment sometime

between October and December. There could be 8-10 big trucks per day, spaced throughout the day/five days per week. They believe they have secured all major purchases. They are wrapping up the title review, solar panel purchases, and the permit through the Corps of Engineers Clean Water Act. Tariffs will increase costs for them, such as steel purchases. Safety Planning should start in April if the EPC contract gets signed, but it will more likely start in May. Their biggest risks are: (1) if they have to use a different EPC contractor; and (2) if the Wildlife Management Plan doesn't get approved. Carolyn will ask their agency about signage for turns on Hwy. 3. Tye White will be on site, not necessarily every day, but most of the time. Dembosky will provide Carolyn contact information for the current Hilltop Lakes POA Board Members.

- b) See email from Ryan Turner (attached).
- c) Dembosky, Smith and McGuire attended the SAFE-D Annual Conference February 6-8, 2025, in Round Rock, Texas.
- d) Dembosky and Smith met with State Representative Angelia Orr's Chief of Staff to affirm that Ms. Orr understands rural ESD challenges and to offer ESD #2's support for things she may need from us. A meeting was also held with State Senator Charles Schwertner's rural affairs policy analyst.
- e) Next CERT Meeting is March 1, 2025. CERT may assist with the 3/17 Hilltop Lakes Health Fair.
- f) The fire safe is set up and ready for files to be transferred into it.
- 10. Majoue made a motion to use \$3,458.08 of sales tax revenue to fund items necessary to place the engine recently acquired by HTL VFD/EMS into service. McGuire seconded, and the motion carried.
- 11. Majoue will complete the required Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts Financial Information Report, and it will be included in our March 2025 meeting agenda.
- 12. Smith motioned to approve January 21, 2025, meeting minutes, and Majoue seconded. Motion carried. We will need to start signing the minutes after they've been approved.
- 13. Smith reported that he had spoken with VFIS and that insurance premium will remain the same. Payment due early March. Will approve check ASAP.
- 14. Public Information Act and Open Meetings Act Training Certificates (2025) for McGuire are attached, as well as Dembosky's SAFE-D September Webcast Online Training Certificate (2024)
- 15. Commissioners Open Forum:
 - a) Dembosky reported that the annual SAM registration is complete and is active.
 - b) Dembosky provided an updated handout for the Southwest Leon County Emergency Services District No. 2 that included contact information for each of the 2025 ESD Officers (attached).
 - c) Dembosky provided an updated 2025 Contact Information sheet for 2025 ESD Officers (attached).
 - d) Smith wants to have T-shirts made for ESD Commissioners. This will be finalized at the March meeting.
 - e) Dembosky provided an email from the State of Texas Federal Surplus Property Program offering ESD #2 the opportunity to join so that we may benefit from the program (copy attached).

16. Public Comment:

- a) Sheri Guerra asked if all Leon County ESDs get together. Dembosky replied that there is ongoing discussion about Leon County ESD Presidents getting together.
- b) Lyle Sanders, Texas Department of Emergency Management, wants to expand CERT in Robertson County, with a focus on train derailments. Dembosky offered for someone from Leon County CERT to go speak with them.
- 17. Next meeting will be Tuesday, March 18, 2025, at 6pm.
- 18. At 5pm, Smith motioned to adjourn, and Majoue seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,