

Southwest Leon County Emergency Services District No. 2

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

April 15, 2025

1. Hank Dembosky called the meeting to order at 6pm.
2. Hank Dembosky led the Board in prayer.
3. Hank Dembosky led the Board in the pledges of allegiance.
4. Guests (4) are noted on the attached sign-in sheet. Commissioners in attendance: President Hank Dembosky; Vice-President Skip Smith; Treasurer Colleen Majoue; and Secretary Judy Bryant. Assistant Treasurer Lori McGuire was absent.
5. Treasurer's Report:
 - a) Majoue presented one (1) check for approval (see attached). Bryant motioned to approve, and Smith seconded. Motion carried.
 - b) Majoue reported on March 2025 financials (report attached). Majoue motioned to approve, and Bryant seconded. Motion carried.
 - c) Sales tax revenue for April 2025 was \$12,979.94 (copy attached). Smith motioned to approve, and Bryant seconded. Motion carried. NW Leon Co. ESD #3 (Normangee/Flynn/Marquez) has a sales tax election set for May.
 - d) In June 2025, after the May 30, 2025 maturity of one CD at Prosperity Bank, funds will be added from the other one which was recently closed. Majoue motioned to approve, and Smith seconded. Motion carried.
6. The HTL VFD/EMS Financial and Activity Reports (attached) were presented by Sheri Guerra (VFD), Jennifer Travis (EMS), and Jim Hawthorne (Treasurer, HTLVFD). The monthly performance measures reported are noted in the activity report. Smith motioned to approve the reports, and Majoue seconded. Motion carried.
 - EMS Calls: 36 (35 in District, and one for mutual aid)
 - Average Response Time: 08:58 mins
 - Average Out-of-Chute Time: 01:04 mins
 - Fire Training Hours: 15
 - Response Hours: 93

Sheri Guerra reported that: (1) the part needed to keep the tanker batteries charged arrived, but it was the wrong one; (2) DACO will be here next week about repairs to the tanker; (3) William Flippin, who has 20 years of EMS experience, accepted the position of EMS administrator and will also serve as a paramedic. His duties include focusing on compliance, EMS care for the community, and staff training. Jennifer Travis reported that: (1) Of the 36 EMS calls received, 35 were in District and one was for mutual aid; (2) Medic 2 went in for a recall and was fixed; (3) EMS is still doing Saturday health checks; (4) EMS has received most of the equipment they've ordered; and (5) she will contact 9-1-1 Coordinator Kirstin Jolin to get 9-1-1 maps. Jim Hawthorne reported that the first quarter budget was off about \$100, but that's not a concern because they have about \$250,000 in reserve if needed.
7. Reports/Updates/Recommendations:
 - a) Pecan Prairie Solar Project - no update. Dembosky stated that he wonders how tariffs will affect this project.
 - b) GranSolar Bess Texas 3 Battery Storage Project – no update.
 - c) Leon County Communications Upgrade plan - ESD's have not been brought into the loop on VFD/EMS upgrades. This project is important because it will eliminate communication "dead zones" in the county. Fire Chiefs say the project is moving forward, and communication towers are going up. One million dollars is being set aside to upgrade communication equipment.

- d) Smith stated that CERT needs training, and they may ask Mike Russ and William Flippin. CERT will do a house-to-house survey to identify residents at risk. CERT had a presence at the HTL/FVD golf tournament. HTL Property Owners' Association adopted a resolution to allow CERT to use all HTL facilities for emergency services.
- e) Files and Records – no update.
- 8. No discussion or action on additional funding for tanker repairs. Postponed until next meeting.
- 9. Majoue motioned to approve the March 18, 2025, meeting minutes, and Smith seconded. Motion carried.
- 10. Industry News/Training/Legislative Updates:
 - a) House Bill 924 (anti-sales tax bill) was filed and is still in the Ways and Means Committee. If it becomes law, it will endanger ESDs. On a good note, House & Senate passed their budgets. There is additional money in the budgets for rural fire departments.
 - b) Sheri Guerra stated that HTL/VFD has made a grant request through the Forest Service for a fire truck, but they would prefer the FEMA grant. She asked about the \$350,000 grants for ESD, and Dembosky replied that the legislation has passed the House and that Judge Ryder said it will be split equally among the four Leon County ESDs.
 - c) Dembosky monitors state and federal legislative issues and said there is a House Bill proposed in Washington to allow ESDs to apply for federal grants. He will talk to Jeff Murski of Congressman Pete Sessions' team and ask them to support this.
- 11. Dembosky has a key to the glass/aluminum bulletin board at the HTL Post Office. Another is at the Fire Station. That bulletin board is for ESD, Fire/EMS and CERT. Jennifer Travis plans to post announcements about the EMS Saturday health checks.
- 12. No public comments.
- 13. Next meeting will be Tuesday, May 20, 2025, at 6pm.
- 14. At 7:40pm, Smith motioned to adjourn, and Majoue seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Bryant
Secretary

Website: <https://www.safe-d.org/southwest-leon-county-emergency-services-district-no-2/>

SW Leon Co. ESD #2 meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 6pm at the Hilltop Lakes Fire Station