

Southwest Leon Co. Emergency Services District No. 2  
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES**  
**June 17, 2025**

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1. Hank Dembosky called the meeting to order at 6:01pm.
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 participated by phone. NOTE: At this point, Dembosky requested amending the Agenda to allow asked the representatives from Texas A&M Forest Service (Ben O'Connor) and Repsol (Ryan Bowles) to provide their updates.
  - a) **Ben O'Connor, Fire Coordinator for Texas A&M Forest Service**, stated they provide specific types of fire training and assist with wildfires. Guerra asked him about HTL/VFD's request for a new tanker and equipment that was submitted three years ago (both HTL VFD's two trucks together are very old). He stated he does not expect HTL/VFD's request to be filled anytime soon because qualifying criteria are based primarily on population and response times. Dembosky stated that State Representative Angelia Orr and Senator Charles Schwertner need to be apprised of this information.
  - b) **Pecan Prairie Solar Project – Ryan Bowles, Senior Director at Repsol**, has 15 years of renewable energy experience, especially relating to power generation and health/safety. He will be the contact person for any ESD No. 2 needs or questions. Contract execution is expected in July 2025, with site mobilization to follow approximately six weeks later. Repsol will be onsite daily during construction and operation. He estimates 400-500 workers will be onsite for 6-8 months during construction, and 10 full-time staff onsite for operations and maintenance. The following were discussed: (1) challenge of adequate local area housing for 400-500 workers; (2) impact of 18-wheeler traffic and increased local area traffic on Highway 3, which is the only way in and out of Hilltop Lakes; and (3) safety of school students. Repsol will work with local area schools to prevent disruption of school buses picking up/dropping off students. Guerra suggested that Repsol safety personnel conduct separate training for HTL, Flynn, etc., because all staff are volunteers, and they also work elsewhere. Fire/EMS staff need to understand risks, gaps in coverage, etc., so they understand what they may be facing in an emergency. She also asked if there would be a retention pond or reservoir that HTL Fire could pump water from, if needed, and Mr. Bowles responded that the contractor could possibly build a water tower, tank, reservoir, or retention pond on either the north or south side of the project.
5. Treasurer's Report:
  - a) Majoue presented five (5) checks for approval (list attached). Bryant motioned to approve, and Majoue seconded. Motion carried.
  - b) Majoue reported on May 2025 financials (report attached). ESD No. 2 has a projected shortfall of \$6,000 for 2026. ESD No. 2 has always taken 5% less than the Appraisal District said they were going to give us, and it appears we will not meet the 2026 budget with property taxes. However, ESD No. 2 is operationally sound. We will follow the same financial controls as last year. Smith motioned to approve the financial report, and Bryant seconded. Motion carried.
  - c) Sales tax revenue for June 2025 was \$5,849.86 (copy attached).
6. The HTL VFD/EMS Financial and Activity Reports (attached) were presented by Sheri Guerra (VFD) and William Flippin (EMS). The monthly performance measures reported are noted in the activity report. Majoue motioned to approve the reports, and Smith seconded. Motion carried.
  - EMS Calls: 25
  - Average Response Time: 07 mins, 31 secs
  - Average Out-of-Chute Time: 01 min, 33 secs
  - Fire Training Hours: no report
  - Response Hours: no report

- a) Guerra reported that DACO worked on three fire trucks, and they plan to return in July. HTL/VFD has not yet received an invoice from DACO for the tanker truck repairs. Guerra said this is the first time that HTL/VFD has had all fire trucks in operational condition at the same time.
  - b) Guerra reported that Jim Hawthorne is stepping back from the HTLVFD/EMS Treasurer position, and that position will not be filled right away. An updated HTL/EMS/ESD#2 contact information list, adding William Flippin as EMS Admin Supervisor, was provided (copy attached).
  - c) The initial draft 2026 operating budget (copy attached) is similar to the 2025 budget. While Ambulance revenue has exceeded \$135,000, but they plan to keep this amount in the budget for next year.
  - d) Flippin advised that (1) Leon County ESD No. 3 (Jewett) elected to conduct interfacility transports (hospital to nursing home, etc.), which could result in an increased call volume for HTL/EMS; (2) call response times for HTL/EMS are averaging 25-30% below the national average of 10 minutes; (3) he is considering monthly mandatory online training for EMS employees; and (4) proper operation checks of the artificial defibrillators have been performed.
7. Reports/Updates/Recommendations:
- a) Pecan Prairie Solar Project – See Item 4b above.
  - b) GranSolar Bess Texas 3 Battery Storage Project – no update.
  - c) The Rural Ambulance Grant legislation (\$28,000,000+) passed in the 89<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session on May 23, 2025 and was sent to Governor Abbott. State Representative Angelia Orr and Senator Charles Schwertner, who represent our District, were members of the committee. Leon County should receive \$300,000, of which ESD2 should get \$75,000.
  - d) Leon County Communications System – VFD/EMS upgrades – no update.
  - e) Emergency Planning, CERT – HTL/EMS will attend the July 2025 CERT Training.
  - f) Files and Records – no update on files and records; however, Claren’s dolly has been found.
8. Majoue motioned to again table the discussion regarding additional funding for items necessary for tanker repairs and other VFD/EMS items until the next meeting. Smith seconded, and the motion carried.
9. Budget Planning Calendar:
- a) Majoue made the following motion: “I make a motion to follow the appropriate tax planning calendar depending on what the voter approval rate is.” Smith seconded, and the motion carried.
  - b) After review and discussion of possible increases/decreases in expenditures, ESD No. 2 expects approximately \$16,205 in increased expenditures for next fiscal year. The HTL VFD/EMS contract is expected to increase from \$310,000 to \$335,000.
  - c) Majoue made a motion to approve the Leon Central Appraisal District’s ESTIMATED Certification of the 2025 tax appraisal roll - \$369,200,000 (copy attached). McGuire seconded, and the motion carried.
10. Carlton Law Firm asked if they could help ESD No. 2 prepare policies and procedures. This option will be kept open. Three sections of policy apply to ESD No. 2. McGuire will take the lead.
11. There were no additional items recommended by our Law Firm.
12. Majoue motioned to approve the May 20, 2025 meeting minutes, and Smith seconded. Motion carried.
13. None.
14. None.
15. None.
16. Next meeting will be Tuesday, July 15, 2025, at 6pm.
17. At 9:35pm, Smith motioned to adjourn, and Majoue seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judy Bryant, Secretary