Southwest Leon Co. Emergency Services District No. 2

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

August 18, 2026

1. Hank Dembosky called the meeting to order at 6:01pm.
2. Dembosky led the Board in prayer.
3. Dembosky led the Board in the pledges of allegiance.
4. Guests (2) are noted on the attached sign-in sheet. Commissioners in attendance: President Hank Dembosky; Treasurer Colleen Majoue; Secretary Judy Bryant; and Assistant Treasurer Lori McGuire. Skip Smith resigned, so there are now only four commissioners.
5. Treasurer's Report:
   (a) Majoue presented three (3) checks for approval (see attached). McGuire motioned to approve the checks, and Majoue seconded. Motion carried.
   (b) Majoue reported on July 2026 financials (report attached). Dembosky noted that the balance through mid-August indicates that ESD No. 2 will be just fine on our budget and expenses. We will stay within the adopted budget. Majoue motioned to approve the financial reports, and McGuire seconded. Motion carried.
   (c) Sales tax revenue for August 2026 was $7,626.72 (copy attached). Dembosky stated that HdL spent a lot of time with him and Majoue discussing the reduction in sales tax revenue ESD No. 2 has been experiencing. There appears to be no revenue lost from ESD #3 beginning their sales tax collection. One company that paid sales taxes in prior years no longer submits them. This change alone has resulted in ESD No. 2 losing approximately $100,000 in sales tax revenue.
6. The HTL VFD/EMS Financial and Activity Reports (attached) were presented by Sheri Guerra (VFD). The monthly performance measures reported are noted in the activity report. McGuire motioned to approve the reports, and Majoue seconded. Motion carried.
   - EMS Calls: 31
   - Average Response Time: 10 mins, 53 secs (per Sheri Guerra, this average response time is incorrect)
   - Average Out-of-Chute Time: 01 min, 24 secs
   - Fire Training Hours: 34 (total includes June training conducted in July and July training)
   - Response Hours: 31

   Guerra reported (1) reimbursements from Texas Forest Service ($25,000 for extrication equipment and $24,953 for bunker gear) have been received and deposited in bank account; (2) HTLVFD/EMS is over on projected payroll amounts; (3) Brush truck 3 repairs were taken care of under warranty; (4) DACO came to work on Engine 1; (5) HTLEMS has installed PSTrax inventory system for equipment and supplies; (6) narcotics safes are being purchased for the ambulances; (7) ambulance loan balance is down to $121,000; (8) BLINK brand security cameras will be installed due to stolen propane incident; and (9) Guerra included $2,800 for AirMedCare flight insurance in the HTLVFD/EMS budget. Coverage for ESD No. 2 Commissioners is included in the budgeted amount.
7. Reports/Updates/Recommendations:
   (a) See item 5(c) above.
   (b) Discussion included: (1) Dembosky stated he is waiting for handouts from the August SAFE-D meeting from Clay Avery at SAFE-D; (2) ESDs are being questioned by the legislature about why property taxes are so high, but in ESD #2 the average tax rate is $1 per day on a $300,000 house; (3) Jewett received $350,000 for an ambulance, but it cannot be ordered until the funds are in Leon County; and (4) Guerra said "yes" to requesting as second $350,000 that will be good for five years. She will follow up with Madison, the Leon County Grant Writer.
   (c) Guerra provided a HTLVFD wish list to Ryan B. of Repsol, but she hasn't heard back from him.
8. A brief discussion was held on the three draft ESD No. 2 Operating Procedures presented by McGuire at the July 21, 2026 meeting. Discussion will resume at the next meeting. Additionally, McGuire provided drafts of two other ESD No. 2 Operating Procedures: (1) Annual Budgeting and Financial Management; and (2) Annual Budget & Tax Rate Calendar. Board members need to review the documents and be prepared to discuss them at next month's meeting.
9. None.
10. The ESD No. 2 approved operating budget for October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027, in the amount of $503,801. The Board approved the adoption of the budget with the following record votes: Dembosky – yes; Majoue – yes; McGuire – yes; and Bryant – yes. Bryant will have the document notarized and Dembosky will send it to SAFE-D for posting on the website.
11. After review of the Order Levying Taxes, Dembosky made the following motion: "I move that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of $0.10 per $100 taxable value, which is effectively a 10.50 percent increase in the tax rate." Majoue seconded the motion, and the motion carried. The Board approved the adoption of the tax rate with the following record votes: Dembosky – yes; Majoue – yes; McGuire – yes; and Bryant – yes.

12. The FY26/27 ESD No. 2 Operating Budget was discussed. Majoue motioned to award $442,972 (95% of the LCAD Certified Roll) for the HTLVFD/EMS contract, and 5% ($23,314) will be held in reserves. McGuire seconded, and the motion carried.
13. Majoue motioned to approve the July 21 and July 30, 2026, meeting minutes, and McGuire seconded. Motion carried.
14. Dembosky reminded the Board that (1) the 2027 SAFE-D meeting will be held at Kalahari Convention Center in Round Rock and (2) Cyber Security Training is required by the State, so Board members may be able to take it at the 2027 SAFE-D meeting. Cyber Security Training can also be downloaded.
15. Majoue stated she has still not received credit for her training hours at the 2026 SAFE-D meeting. Dembosky will not be available to attend the September and October ESD No. 2 meetings in person, but he will attend by phone. He also will not be available to attend the HTLVFD meetings during the same timeframe. Majoue will attend the September 8 HTLVFD meeting, and Lori will attend the October 13 meeting.
16. Guest Andres de la Garza discussed the need for tri-band type radios and channel system for all Leon County ESDs. This setup would allow everyone to communicate with each other. He stated that the federal government ordered it in 2011, but Leon County has not updated to the new system. Dembosky said that at the SAFE-D meeting, he learned some counties are mounting cameras on their towers that can detect fires using artificial intelligence (AI), and that Leon Co. should consider. If a determination is made that there is a fire, a call is placed to 911. This system is already active in the Austin area. De La Garza added that Houston Police Department is working with a system that detects gun shots.
17. Next meeting will be Tuesday, September 15, 2026, at 6pm.
18. At 8:13pm, Majoue motioned to adjourn, and McGuire seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Bryant, Secretary

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