



JIM WELLS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICE DISTRICT # 1
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES - APRIL 09, 2024

The Board of Commissioners of Jim Wells County Emergency Services District #1 held a regular monthly meeting on Tuesday April 09, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at the Abel Perez Fire House located at 101 FM 1540 in Sandia, Texas 78383 for the following purposes.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

Meeting was called to order by Board President, Abraham Aguilar at 7:09 pm. Commissioners present were Karin Knolle, Matthew Schmidt, and Diana Hernandez. Commissioner Patrick Carter was not present. Business Administrator, Brien Nicolau joined via phone. The firefighters present were Chief Henry Barajas, Assistant Chief David Bradfute, and Captain Ron Cole.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

3. INVITED GUEST SPEAKERS and/or VISITORS IN ATTENDANCE

Two guest speakers were present. Tray Watkins from South Texas Water Well provided information on the second water well installation at the APFH and Lance Brown, Jim Wells County Emergency Management Coordinator, provided information about the County's payment for the water well and the HALO Flight landing site project.

4. SECRETARY'S REPORT

Commissioner Schmidt made a motion to accept the minutes of the March 19, 2024, meeting as presented. Commissioner Hernandez seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Nicolau presented the Treasurer's Reports. The beginning SVFD balance was \$2,514.19. There was \$900.11 deposited which included \$0.11 in interest, total cleared checks were \$81.95 and there were \$225.00 in uncleared transactions, resulting in an ending balance of \$3,107.35. The beginning ESD #1 balance was \$130,148.10. The total for cleared checks was \$13,358.27, total deposits were \$2,054.01, which included \$4.91 in interest. The total for uncleared checks and new pending transactions was \$10,599.66 resulting in an ending balance of \$108,244.18. Commissioner Hernandez made a motion to accept the reports as presented. Commissioner Schmidt seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

6. SVFD COMMAND STAFF REPORT

Chief Barajas reported that for March the Main Station had 2 call outs and FM 534 Substation #2 had no call outs. Units #1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 are in service. Unit 6 is out of service, waiting for Roy Aguilar to obtain a kit to rebuild the steering wheel gearbox.

7. NEW BUSINESS— Discuss, consider, and take action regarding:

- i. Purchase of 12V fire monitor, with harness, low flow nozzle, CAN proportional Joystick w/20' harness for Unit 3.

Assistant Chief Bradfute presented a quote from MES for \$7,016.96 to purchase the monitor. The labor to install it will add another \$3,000 to \$4,000 to the quote depending on modifications to the apparatus it is being installed on. Commissioner Schmidt made a motion to approve a not to exceed amount of \$11,000 for the parts and labor. Commissioner Knolle seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

8. OLD BUSINESS (Items tabled for further deliberation, updates, and/or action, or review of quotes/information)

- i. APFH phone and recorded message.

Business Administrator Nicolau asked if the recorded message for the phone at the fire station office can be updated with information as to who you are calling and to call 911 if it is an emergency. Firefighters will take care of this request.



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- ii. Update on Sure Fire Recovery Services.
Business Administrator Nicolau has been trying to get in touch with the man in charge so he can get more information about the application process. Chief Barajas will try to get in touch with him and see if he responds.
- iii. Update on changing website hosting company and updating current website.
Business Administrator Nicolau is still compiling information about switching services.
- iv. Update on obtaining Treasurer’s Bond.
Business Administrator Nicolau stated that he was able to obtain the bond. It is for 3 years at a cost of \$260.00.
- v. Update on outstanding grants submitted (TFS Equipment Grant, Rural VFD Insurance Program, others?).
Chief Barajas had two quotes for the PPE Equipment Grant. One was from Darley and one from Heiman Fire. The grant is for \$20,000 and the things on these quotes are only \$10,000 to \$11,000. The grant pays for 90% of the cost. It was suggested that the firefighters investigate ordering more items to take advantage of the whole grant, but Chief Barajas stated that they also must consider when items will be delivered. The grant is only available to use until August if not then they will lose it. Commissioner Knolle made a motion for the firefighters to try to take advantage and use the grant to order equipment before the deadline. Commissioner Schmidt seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- vi. Update on Respirator Fit Testing Program.
Chief Barajas requested more time to get a new bid from someone else that could be less expensive and local to the area.
- vii. Update on FM 534 substation and donated supplies.
Captain Cole stated that everything is going well at Substation #2.

9. PENDING ITEMS (Items previously approved or in process)

- i. Update on second water well construction with monies provided by Jim Wells County Commissioners Court.
Mr. Watkins stated that he ordered the screens for the 6” casing that will go into the new water well and that will take about two weeks to come in. After that is received then they will be drilling the new water well at SVFD.
- ii. Update on planning for future disaster events.
Ongoing, no new updates.
- iii. Update on development of Roles and Responsibilities, Operational, and Organizational SOPs for the JWCESD#1/SVFD.
Ongoing, no new updates.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Schmidt made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Hernandez seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Aguilar adjourned the meeting at 7:58 pm.

Commissioner Diana Hernandez, Secretary
Jim Wells County ESD #1

Date Submitted 4-18-2024