



JIM WELLS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICE DISTRICT # 1

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES - June 11, 2024

A regular monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Jim Wells County Emergency Services District #1 was held on Tuesday June 11, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at the Abel Perez Fire House (APFH) 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 Vice President Patrick Carter at 7:02 p.m. Commissioners present were Matthew Schmidt and Diana Hernandez. Commissioners not present were Abraham Aguilar and Karin Knolle. Business Administrator, Brien Nicolau, joined via phone. The firefighters present were Chief Henry Barajas, Assistant Chief David Bradfute, Captain Ron Cole and Gilbert Medrano and Liza Ochoa.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

- There was no public comment.

3. INVITED GUEST SPEAKERS and/or VISITORS IN ATTENDANCE

- There were no guest speakers.

4. SECRETARY'S REPORT

- Commissioner Schmidt made a motion to accept the minutes of the May 14, 2024, meeting as presented. Commissioner Hernandez seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

- Mr. Nicolau presented the Treasurer's Report. The beginning ESD #1 balance was \$106,383.90. The total for cleared checks was \$35,245.05, total deposits were \$5,067.08, which included \$4.09 in interest. The total for uncleared checks and new pending transactions was \$21,462.04, resulting in an ending balance of \$54,743.89. Commissioner Hernandez made a motion to accept the report as presented. Commissioner Schmidt seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

6. SVFD COMMAND STAFF REPORT

- Fire Chiefs Incident, Operations, Vehicle, and APFH Maintenance Reports May 2024.
 - i. Chief Barajas reported that for May the Main Station #1 had 4 call outs and FM 534 Substation #2 had no call outs. Units #1, 2, 4, 5, 6, and 7 are all in service. Unit 3 is still in the shop and should be ready to go by June 14. Mr. Medrano reported that a 16 ft. open vessel boat, including the trailer, was donated to the fire department by his sister. Commissioner Schmidt spoke with Captain Baker from the Game Warden Division of Texas Parks & Wildlife and a water rescue training session will be set up for the firefighters.
- Station 2 Report.
 - i. No call outs. Everything is working well.
- Safety Officers Report.
 - i. No safety report presented.



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

- Discuss and consider adopting the tax and budget planning calendar for 2024 and authorize payment for tax process publications.
 - i. Mr. Nicolau emailed the budget planning calendar for 2024 to the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Schmidt made a motion to adopt the 2024 budget planning calendar and authorize payment for tax process publications. Commissioner Hernandez seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- Discuss and consider status of District website, accessibility, and posting requirements and take any related action.
 - i. Mr. Nicolau reported that everything is going well with the website, and everything will be posted as required. No action taken.

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

- Update on presenting a bill to the Precinct 3 Commissioners office to repair damage to APFH well caused by Precinct 3 workers. Reimbursement cost of \$850.11.
 - i. Commissioner Schmidt gave information on this. He spoke with Commissioner Renee Chapa, and they will help out with fixing the roads around the fire station and also pay for replacing the hose that was damaged.
- Update on establishing a Priority Projects list to present to perspective donors.
 - i. Firefighters still need to discuss and decide by the next meeting on who will oversee that.
- Update on progress for the acquisition of a mini pumper/rescue apparatus and possible funding opportunities.
 - i. Chief Barajas will look into this and will write to the Texas Forest Service for funding. They will investigate other options.
- Update on Sure Fire Recovery Services.
 - i. Mr. Nicolau stated there is no new information on this.
- Update on new website.
 - i. Mr. Nicolau stated there is no new information on this.
- Update on outstanding grants submitted (TFS Equipment Grant, Rural VFD Insurance Program, others?).
 - i. Chief Barajas stated that the approval and check has been received from the Worker's Comp Grant. He said that Texas Forest Service also approved the \$20,000 grant but he is having to verify the amount because it should have been reimbursed at the rate of 90/10.
- Update on Respirator Fit Testing Program.
 - i. Chief Barajas was able to get with Calallen Respirator Clinic and they will be able to offer this class to any firefighter when they are ready.



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

- Update on second water well construction.
 - i. Commissioner Schmidt reported on this, and he said that they are just doing finishing touches and almost done.
- Update on planning for future disaster events.
 - i. Ongoing, no new updates.
- Update on development of Roles and Responsibilities, Operational, and Organizational SOPs for the JWCESD#1/SVFD.
 - i. Chief Barajas stated that they will work on adding information and SOPs involving the boat that was just donated.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Schmidt made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Hernandez seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Carter adjourned the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

Commissioner Diana Hernandez, Secretary
Jim Wells County ESD #1

Date Submitted

7-12-24