Limestone County Emergency Services District #2 Regular Meeting – March 21, 2023

A quorum was present and Paul Loeffler called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Attending members were John Beall, Randy Behringer, James Lombard and Charles Eastburn. Members of the WLLVFD that were present included Ernie Solis, J.Griffin, Sherry Solis, Cathy Rayburn and Sheryl Davis. A non-member guest, Robert More, also attended the meeting.

Citizens Comments: There were no citizens' comments.

Meeting Minutes: Randy Behringer made a motion to approve the minutes of the February meeting. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: The checking account balance at the end of February was \$77,848.90. The Reserve Account's balance was \$60,013.80. The Operations Account and Other Savings Account each had a balance of \$20,004.81. The Sales Tax revenue received in February was \$11,326.56. Tax Levies received were \$24,8876.63. Expenses for February were \$12,337.18. John proposed that better controls be established for fuel purchases. WLLVFD will review fuel purchase procedures and provide an up-date and the April meeting.

Service Provider's Report:

Communications Issues: Limestone County made a change from analog communications to digital communications. The result was that some areas within our district to not have proper signal coverage with the digital system. Several options were considered. The recommendation from WLLVFD was that a tower and repeater be installed at Station #1. Randy Behringer made a motion to fund the purchase and installation of a communications tower and repeater. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously. John will have the contracts with the installer and service provider (WISP EXPRESS) reviewed by the Carlton Law Firm. John will also discuss potential liabilities with our insurance provider.

Strategic Planning: The development of the plan is progressing. The plan will include a definitive list of the apparatus that is needed to service the district and a priority list of the sequence of purchasing replacement apparatus. Currently, there are nine trucks in the fleet. The plan should be to maintain the current ISO rating of eight.

WLLVFD Uniforms: The department is still researching Class B uniforms for all members.

Call Responses: There were a total of four responses during February. There was one Medical Response call, one Service call, one Fire call and one False Alarm.

WLLVFD Treasurer's Report: Limestone County will give a small increase to WLLVFD resulting in a new annual amount of \$18,500.00. Total expenses for February were \$9,502.92. The Funding Request amount for the month was \$6.406.89. The annual budget was modified with reductions in fuel and utilities, and increases in apparatus repair and building maintenance. The net impact on the budget is an increase of \$2,500.00. The department will develop a new budget format.

Grant activity: The Texas Forest Service approved a \$3,000.00 grant for recruiting and retention.

Apparatus Report: All apparatus is operational.

ESD Mid-Year Budget Review: The review will be conducted during the April meeting.

Bank Signature Cards: John made a motion to remove Barbara Hicks from the bank signature cards since she has retired from the ESD Board of Commissioners. The current Commissioners will sign the signature cards. The current Commissioners are: Paul Loeffler, John Beal, Randy Behringer, James Lombard and Charles Eastburn.

Telecommunications Sales Tax Exemption: Charles made a motion to revoke the Telecommunications Sales Tax Exemption. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Fire Fighter and EMT Scholarships: The 2023 budgeted amount for scholarships will be allocated for training. The ESD will honor its commitment made to Leighton Mackey for a scholarship if he elects to pursue the Fire Fighter and EMT certification training during 2024.

Webmaster Services and Public Relations: The current website platform may be outdated. We may need to move to a managed service provider. WLLVFD has established a Public Relations Committee and will consider posting information on the Lake Limestone Facebook page, and was encouraged to publish a quarterly newsletter.

Motion to adjourn: Charles made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Approved: Charles Eastburn