

KAUFMAN COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICE DISTRICT #3
MINUTES FROM July 14, 2020

Present: Commissioners: Harvey Chitty, Chuck Carpenter, and David Wallace
Teleconference: Mark Smith
Fire Departments: ASVFD, CMVFD, EVFD and TVFD

1. **Call meeting to order.** President Harvey Chitty declared a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.
Harvey Chitty reported that Tricia Smith had tendered her resignation. The commissioners accepted her resignation.
2. **Public comment on items not on the Agenda.** Harvey Chitty read the statement about public speaking in our meeting. No one was present that wanted to address the Board.
3. **Public comment on Agenda items.** Harvey Chitty read the statement about public comments on Agenda items.

Administrative

4. **Review and consider approval of the June 9, 2020, meeting minutes.** David Wallace moved to approve the minutes from the meeting on June 9, 2020. Chuck Carpenter seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Reports

5. **Receive month report from the Treasurer and consider:**
 - (a) **Approval of reimbursements.** Chuck Carpenter moved to approve the payment of the reimbursements to Ables Springs VFD for their stipend in the amount of \$2,600.00, College Mound VFD for contract labor in the amount of \$2,600.00 and training for \$421.23, Elmo VFD for contract labor in the amount of \$2,527.50 and training for \$2,500.00, and Terrell VFD for contract labor in the amount of \$2,600.00 and training for \$1,200.00, and Kristie Jones for \$43.84 for ESD phone plan. David Wallace seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
 - (b) **Approval of payment of monthly bills and invoices.** David Wallace moved to approve payments to The Carlton Law Firm for \$1,004.50 and Kristie Jones \$600.00 for clerical duties. Chuck Carpenter seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
 - (c) **Approval of monthly financial report.** A financial report was given stating the tax account had a balance of \$525,163.28 and the operating account had a balance of \$1,330.39. The current total for both accounts is \$526,493.67. The commissioners were provided with copies of the bank statements. Kristie Jones provided a breakdown of the current budget and the amounts paid year to date for each item. The Pledge Security Listing from American National Bank for June was provided to the commissioners. Chuck Carpenter moved to approve the financial report. David Wallace seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
6. **Receive monthly report from Ables Springs Volunteer Fire Department regarding financial matters, training, management activities, membership, emergency operations and out of station times, and call volume for fire/rescue calls and for EMS calls.** Ables Springs VFD reported 25 calls for the

month of June. The calls included 1 Building Fire, 1 Vehicle Fire, 2 Grass Fires, 16 Medical Assist, 2 Motor Vehicle Accidents, 1 Cover Assignment, and 2 Dispatched and Canceled. Their average response time was 12.40 minutes.

Ables Springs presented the commissioners with a copy of their Recruitment and Retention Stipend Program.

7. **Receive monthly report from College Mound Volunteer Fire Department regarding financial matters, training, management activities, membership, emergency operations and out of station times, and call volume for fire/rescue calls and for EMS calls.** College Mound VFD responded to 41 calls during June. The calls included 2 Building Fires, 1 Vehicle Fire, 2 Grass Fires, 1 Cultivated Crop Fire, 19 EMS, 6 Motor Vehicle Accidents, 1 Public Service Call, 1 Assist Invalid, 3 Unauthorized Burning, 3 Dispatched and Canceled, 1 Authorized Controlled Burning, and 1 Smoke Detector Activation. Average Response time was 12.12 minutes. They also provided their monthly finance report and Average Response time for July 2019 through June 2020.

8. **Receive monthly report from Elmo Volunteer Fire Department regarding financial matters, training, management activities, membership, emergency operations and out of station times, and call volume for fire/rescue calls and for EMS calls.** Elmo VFD reported 49 calls for the month of June. The calls consisted of 2 Building Fires, 1 Passenger Vehicle Fire, 2 Grass Fires, 2 Medical Assist, 21 EMS calls, 16 Motor Vehicle Accidents, 2 Unauthorized Burnings, and 3 Dispatched and Canceled. Average Response Time was 10.01 minutes. They had an average of 3 firefighters at every incident.

Elmo reported they were getting more maintenance done at the station with their paid contractors. The community was dropping by more to have blood pressure checked, etc.

9. **Receive monthly report from Terrell Volunteer Fire Department regarding financial matters, training, management activities, membership, emergency operations and out of station times, and call volume for fire/rescue calls and for EMS calls.** Terrell VFD responded to 36 calls for the month of June. The calls included 2 Building Fires, 3 Grass Fires, 2 Outside Trash Fires, 3 EMS Assists, 12 Motor Vehicle Accidents, 1 Gas Leak LPG, 1 Smoke Odor Removal, 1 Public Service, 2 Assist Invalid, 1 Fill-in, 5 Dispatched and Cancelled, and 3 No Incident Found. Average Response Time was 9 minutes. Terrell VFD also submitted their June financials.

Harvey said he felt like the county was getting better service with the paid contractors being at the stations. Mark Smith asked the departments to provide how many firefighters were at each incident on their monthly reports.

Discussion/Action Items

10. **Discuss and consider how to revise the First Amendment to Agreement for Providing Fire Protection Services that allows the Volunteer Fire Departments to submit reimbursement for additional paid personnel and/or stipends.** Harvey Chitty explained the attorney's response to the question about stipends. Basically, the commissioners can divide the funds any way they chose.

David Wallace stated that he thinks the amendment should say paid personnel and/or stipends.

Harvey Chitty stated during this trial period, the commissioners want to see if more firefighters are showing up to each scene and if the stipend is working.

Chuck Carpenter moved to amend the amendment written by John Carlton to say the ESD will pay reimbursement for paid personnel and/or stipends. David Wallace seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

11. **Discuss and consider a Resolution adopting Investment Policy, Strategies, Guidelines, and Management Practices.** Chuck Carpenter had the Investment Policy signed by Greg Jebsen at American National Bank.

Chuck Carpenter moved to adopt the Resolution for an Investment Policy, Strategies, Guidelines, and Management Practices for Kaufman County Emergency Services District No. 3. David Wallace seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Kristie will edit the Investment Policy to change the signature page and replace Tricia Smith, Secretary, with Mark Smith, Vice-President, and include new dates.

12. **Discuss and consider proposal of 2020 tax rate.** The 2020 Tax Rate Calculation Data had to be submitted to the Kaufman County Tax Assessor by July 10, 2020. The Proposed Tax Rate was set at .09/\$100 based on the previous effective tax rate and rollback rate. This is just a proposal and can be changed once we receive the proposed tax amount from Kaufman County.

13. **Discuss VFD 2020-21 Budgets.** The departments have submitted proposed budgets in the following amounts. Ables Springs: \$179,000 plus \$35,000 for Firefighter Recruitment and Retention for a total of \$214,000, College Mound: \$112,200, Elmo: \$215,100 that includes \$31,200 for paid staffing, and Terrell: \$200,000.

Harvey Chitty asked Kristie to email the commissioners a chart with the proposed budget amounts for each department and the number of calls each department responded to this year.

14. **Discuss ESD 2020-21 Budget.** The board will look at funds received during 2019-20. This item will continue to be discussed at the August meeting. Hopefully, the board will have received the proposed tax amount we will collect from Kaufman County during the 2020-21 fiscal year.

Harvey Chitty asked the board if they would be available to attend a called meeting on August 4 to discuss budget matters. By law, the county should have their projections to us by July 27, 2020. The board said they would be available.

15. **Discuss agenda items, time and date for the next meeting.** Agenda items for the Called Meeting on August 4 include review of VFD 2020-21 budgets, review of ESD 2020-21 budget, discussion of proposed 2020 tax rate, and additional funding for EMT training.

16. **Adjournment** David Wallace moved to adjourn at 8:13 p.m. Chuck Carpenter seconded the motion. The motion carried.

By: Kristie Jones

Kristie Jones, Clerk
Kaufman County Emergency Service Dist. #3