**Minutes of Regular Monthly Meeting**

**Emergency Service District #3**

**Date: November 20, 2023**

J. Miller called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. A quorum was established with four commissioners (Andrew Cook, Yvonne Goss, Tamberly McCullough and Jennifer Miller) present. Shady Grove VFD Chief Jonathan Phillips was present.

No guest were present.

T. McCullough gave the invocation. J. Miller led the pledges to the flags.

Public Comments: None

Discussion and Approval of minutes of the October 2023 Meetings

T. McCullough moved the October minutes be approved, Y. Goss seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Monthly Financial Report for ESD#3

Y. Goss presented the financial report. As of October 31, 2023, the balance in the operating account was $18,745. The balance of the Gardner account was $1,437.04. The reserve account balance was $16,707.50 for a combined total of $36,889.54.

Y. Goss presented a $92.50 bill for the trust bond from CNA Surety. T. McCullough moved that the bill be paid; J. Miller seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Y. Goss presented a bill from Tyler County Appraisal District for $2,090. This bill will be paid in January. T. McCullough moved that the bill be paid; J. Miller seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Because of changes at First Nation Bank and the name changing to First State Bank a new Debit card has been received and there is a new number.

Equipment Needs and TFS Grants

J. Phillips submitted request to TFS for a Grant for a 2000 gallon tanker truck. This would be to replace the ESD # 2000 gallon tanker truck.

J. Phillips showed maps he had gotten from Detcog showing Tyler County and noting where the ESD’s in the county are. Partial Copies are attached

J. Phillips also showed the new “STOP” and “SLOW” signs that were purchased.

Discussion regarding Annexation

The possibility of annexing the Shady Grove VFD service area to ESD-3 was discussed. Y. Goss, indicated that she had gotten the name of attorney that deals with annexation Y. Goss gave the attached information that she got from the attorney who deals with annexation and the information she obtained from the Tyler County Clerks Office regarding annexation. The soonest we could have the annexation on the ballot would be in May and we would have to have all the necessary paper work to the County Clerks office by February 16, 2024 in order to be on the ballot in May.

ESD #3 Website

The creation of an ESD-3 website was discussed. The information about the new web site was discussed. A. Cook had some additional information that had been requested and it is attached.

Volunteer Fire Department Contracts

Y. Goss made motion to renew the contracts for another year. A. Cook seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Hiring a Lawyer for ESD #3

We discussed the need to hire a lawyer due to the annexation that we are considering. Y. Goss had gotten the name of a lawyer who is familiar with annexation and had spoken with her and gotten answers to some of the questions we had (Y. Goss notes are attached) After much discussion a motion was made by J. Miller that we all review the Sample Engagement Letter that the attorney had sent and after reviewing that we email with our comments by Monday November 27 whether we agree that we retain this lawyer. We determined that we need to have someone that can in more detail answer the question we have and she will charge us by the hour at a rate of $250 per hour or her assistant would be $175 per hour.

Fire Department Reports-

White Tail Ridge VFD:

* R. Hoffman was not at the meeting due to a family medical emergency in Alabama.

Shady Grove VFD:

* J. Phillips reported five callouts.
  + Burning during the burn ban on FM256
  + On CR 2080 fire in hollow tree limb
  + S Curve on CR2175 – Golf cart on fire owner extinguished
  + 190 west at 256 N car accident
  + Hwy 190 at CR 2175 car on FM 2175 failed to stop and work truck with trailer while avoiding the car that pulled out turned over
* J. Phillips presented invoices totaling $1,020.94. T. McCullough moved that the expenses be reimbursed, J. Miller seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

J. Miller moved the meeting adjourn; A. Cook seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Minutes prepared and submitted for approval by: Tamberly McCullough, Vice Pres. ESD#3