

## **Limestone County Emergency District #2 Regular Meeting – April 18, 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. WLLVFD Members in attendance included: Randy Denzer, J. Griffin, Ernie Solis and Sherry Solis. County Commissioner Bill David Sadler and Emergency Management Director Matt Groveton were guests.

**Communications:** Bill David Sadler commented about the status of the county's plan to erect 13 towers, primarily to improve broadband services. The towers would probably not serve the needs of WLLVFD. Following additional input from Matt Groveton, the guests summarized by stating in order for WLLVFD to obtain suitable radio communications in all parts of the ESD #2, the ideal solution would be for WLLVFD to erect its own tower at a location that meets their requirements. Mr. Sadler stated that he would check with the county to determine if any moneys could be available to buffer the costs of installing a tower and repeater for WLLVFD.

**Roads:** The Fire Chief mentioned the condition of some roads within our district. LCR 750 serves as a main corridor and is in very poor condition. Mr. Sadler stated that repairs are an on-going issue and that the Roads and Bridges Department need additional equipment and training.

**Citizens Comments:** There were no citizens' comments.

**Reading and approval of minutes:** James made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 18 meeting. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

**Treasurer's report:** Tax levies for April were \$31,061.31. Revenue from Sales Taxes was \$9,169.48. Expenses for April were \$7,030.69. The checking account balance at the end of April was \$108,776.09. The Reserve account balance was \$60,025.76. The Apparatus Account and Other Savings Account each had a balance of \$20,008.80.

**Service Provider's Report:**

**Responses:** There was one fire call and five medical calls for response during the month.

**Training:** Six WLLVFD members completed a six-hour Tender training session. Fourteen members completed training covering Structural, Wildland Firefighting, Vehicle Collisions and Apparatus Familiarization. The session was for a three - hour period. In order to conduct an Extended Incident Management training program, 12 individuals need to enroll. Debbie Gerard-Thompson is schedule to participate in First Responder Training. Sherry Solis and Debbie Gerard-Thompson attended an Emergency Reporting Software Conference and training session. Although there were several benefits from the training sessions, they did not believe the conference was germane to their needs.

**Treasurer's report:** The complete WLLVFD Treasurer's report was submitted previous to this meeting. The checking account balance was \$21,606.10.

**Funding request:** WLLVFD requested to be reimbursed for expenses totaling \$5,561.10.

**Personal Information:** WLLVFD is committed to protecting the personal information of its members. A policy will be developed to clarify which information will be retained in files.

**Grants:** A Texas Forest Service grant covering TEAKS Fire School training is in the process and awaiting a determination.

**Fuel Purchasing:** New controls are in place to ensure that all fuel purchases are warranted.

**Community outreach:** A CPR training session will be conducted for the general public at 3:00 p.m. on April 23 at Station #2.

**Class B Uniforms:** The purchase of uniforms is on hold pending the completion of a plan.

**Generator at Station #2** – NRG Energy Inc. will install a complete system at Station #2.

**Strategic Plan:** The Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) Analysis is complete. The Apparatus Replacement Plan will be completed before within the next two weeks. The WLLVFD Strategic Plan will be presented at the ESD meeting in May.

**Emergency Fire Chiefs' meeting:** The most significant announce at the meeting was that the Prairie Hill VFD has ceased to operate due to lack of first responders. There was discussion about the reduction in volunteers throughout Texas. The Austin Fire Department had approximately 7200 applicants in 2019. This year they had only 1200 applicants.

**Recruiting:** Charles made a motion that a committee be formed with participants from the ESD and WLLVFD to develop a plan to enhance recruiting for WLLVFD. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Paul appointed Charles as the ESD's committee member.

**ESD Treasure's Annual Budget Review:** John conducted the annual budget review. Paul made a motion to revise the proposed budget. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously. A discussion determined the specific adjustments to the budget to ensure the ESD stayed on track to meet the bottom line operating budget of \$120,000.00. Randy Behringer made a motion to approve the revised budget. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. The revised budget will be posted on our website, [wllvfdesd2.org](http://wllvfdesd2.org).

**Adjournment:** Randy Behringer made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Approved : **Charles Eastburn**