

**Limestone County Emergency District #2
Regular Meeting – May 16, 2023**

A quorum was present and Randy Behringer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Commissioners present included James Lombard and Charles Eastburn. Paul Loeffler attempted to participate by way of Facetime; however, there were technical difficulties that frequently interrupted communications. WLLVFD members attending included Ernie Solis, Sheryl Davis, Cathy Rayburn, Adam Collett, Randy Denzer, Sherry Solis, Sean Brown and Debbie Gerrard. Guests included County Judge Richard Duncan and Emergency Management Director, Matt Groveton.

Guests' comments and Communications Tower: Judge Duncan stated that there were some incorrect communications from County representatives at the April ESD Board meeting. He further stated that the monies from the American Rescue Plan have been received by the County, The County has approved the bid from STV Communications (Steve Dabney) and he (Judge Duncan) was at this meeting to let ESD#2 know that the County will work with ESD #2 to get a tower erected on the property at Station #1. The tower should be erected within the next four months. The County will own the tower and will enter into an agreement with ESD #2 to clarify the ownership, liability and maintenance for the tower Although other locations were considered, the location at Station 1 is the ideal location to meet the requirements of the County and provide good radio coverage for ESD #2. Radio communications will improve; but they will not be perfect. The County is not on a fully digital system at this time. Steve Dabney will specify the footprint of the tower. It will not exceed 20 by 20 feet. ESD #2 will enter into a contract with STV Communications regarding a 99- year lease for the footprint of the tower.

Matt Groveton said that he had a copy of specifications that were provided by Steve Dabney and would give James Lombard a copy.

There were no additional guest comments.

Motion regarding tower: Charles made a motion for ESD #2 to contract with Limestone County to place a communications tower of at least 130 feet in height at ESD #2 Station 1 with the understanding that the County will own and maintain the tower.

The motion was seconded and passed with three votes for the motion. Due to communications problems Paul was unable to cast his vote.

The contract with STV Communications will be discussed after Steve Dabney delivers it to an ESD#2 Commissioner.

Reading and approval of April meeting minutes: James motioned to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Treasurer's report: The Treasurer presented the report and was reviewed before the meeting by the Commissioners. In summary, the checking account balance at the end of April was \$119,897.20. The Reserve account balance was \$60,025.76. The Apparatus and Other Savings Accounts each had a balance of \$20,008.80.

Service Provider's Report:

Calls for response: There were a total of 16 calls for response with 10 medical calls and six fire calls. Three of the medical calls involved life-saving situations. There will be a shift to include medical response gear in Responders' personal vehicles.

Grant activity: WLLVFD is working on a grant application to buffer recruiting costs.

Strategic Plan: We will table the report about the Strategic plan until the WLLVFD membership has an opportunity to review and discuss the Plan. The ESD #2 President will call a special meeting with the single agenda item being the Strategic Plan.

WLLVFD Membership: Four Associate members of WLLVFD have moved into the Responder group.

WLLVFD Training: CPR training will be schedule in June and participation by all members is required.

WLLVFD Treasurer's report and Funding requests: The total expenses for the month were \$6807.41. Fundraising activities produced \$2309.00. WLLVFD requested to be reimbursed for expenses of \$1845.06.

Adjournment: James made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. .

Approved: *Charles Eastburn*