

**MINUTES OF AUGUST 20, 2020 MEETING**  
**HARRIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 29**

A regular meeting was duly called of Harris County Emergency Services District No. 29, which was held at **Champions Emergency Services Fire Station** located at **12730 Champion Forest Drive, Houston, Texas 77066** on Thursday, August 20, 2020.

**CALL TO ORDER.**

The meeting was called to order at 4:01 p.m. by **Scott Morgan**, President.

**ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISH QUORUM.**

Mr. **Escott** announced that a quorum was present. Those Commissioners present were:

<b>Scott Morgan</b>	Present
<b>Richard Escott</b>	Present
<b>David Parker</b>	Present
<b>Kenneth Latimer</b>	Present
<b>Bill Hogue</b>	Present

Also present at the meeting was Ira Coveler of Coveler & Peeler, P.C.

**TO RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENT AND CONDUCT THE PUBLIC HEARING/OPEN FORUM TO ALLOW INTERESTED PARTIES TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND BE HEARD REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX RATE SETTING.**

The Board opened the floor for public comment though none was offered.

The Board next moved to pay District bills and discuss open financial matters of the District including the District 2021 proposed District Budget.

**CONCLUDE PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE.**

Mr. **Parker** made a Motion, seconded by Mr. **Latimer** to conclude the Public Hearing on Tax Increase. The Motion passed 5 to 0. The hearing concluded at 4:21 p.m.

**TO ADOPT THE DISTRICT'S 2021 BUDGET.**

The Board next reviewed the proposed District 2021 budget. After discussion by the Board, a Motion was made by Mr. **Latimer**, seconded by Mr. **Hogue** to adopt the District 2021 budget as presented. The Motion passed 5 to 0.

**TO ADOPT THE DISTRICT 2020 TAX RATE.**

The Board addressed the adoption and ratification of the District's 2020 tax rate. There was extensive discussion had by the Board regarding whether to set the District Tax Rate at the No-New-Revenue-Rate or to leave the rate unchanged at \$.10/\$100. Mr. **Hogue** was concerned

with whether the District had adequate funds on hand to meet the needs of the District. He shared that if the District was adequately funded, the Board should consider adopting the lower rate. Mr. Coveler stated that no one from the public came to the hearing to complain about the \$.10/\$100 rate and that no one had called his office to complain or inquire about the proposed tax rate. The Board discussed that in the future there were other unforeseen expenses related to payroll and other obligations that the District was planning for in the future. The Board also discussed that the tax rate was the same rate as last year and that the service level provided by the Department was better than last year with the addition of the second station. Finally, the Board was looking for ways to reduce debt in the future and the income from additional revenue can possibly go towards debt reduction which would result in an ultimate savings to the taxpayer. After review and discussion, a Motion was made by Mr. **Parker**, seconded by Mr. **Latimer** to adopt a rate of \$.10/\$100 as the 2020 District tax rate. The Motion passed 5 to 0.

**CANCEL THE DISTRICT'S TAX RATE ELECTION.**

Mr. Coveler informed the Board that the tax rate adopted by the Board was lower than the voter approval rate and the District did not need to call for an election to adopt \$.10/\$100 as the 2020 District tax rate. A Motion was made by Mr. **Escott**, seconded by Mr. **Latimer** to cancel the election to be held November 3, 2020. The Motion passed 5 to 0.

**TO PAY DISTRICT BILLS.**

No requests were received by the Board.

**ADJOURNMENT.**

There being no further business brought before the Board, Mr. **Latimer** made a Motion, seconded by Mr. **Hogue** to adjourn the meeting at 4:42 P.M. The Motion passed 5 to 0.

The foregoing minutes were passed and approved by the Board of Commissioners on September 3, 2020.

**HARRIS COUNTY  
EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 29**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

**David Parker**  
District Secretary