

WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICE DISTRICT #1
MINUTES OF MEETING OF DIRECTORS
MONDAY MARCH 15TH 2021
AT
9:00 AM
LOCATION .
HOLLY LAKE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
126 PR 7869
HOLLY LAKE, TEXAS 75765

Certification by the President that the provision of the OPEN meeting Act, Section 551.00 1 Et Seq of the Texas Government Code have complied with, in connection with public notice of this meeting and quorum is present.

Board Members present: Kristina Horn, Keith Mullinax, Jim Dixon, and Jay Blint

Guests in attendance: Bill Bollinger, Travis Rattan, Dawn Lofgren, and Donnie Reynolds

Meeting Called to Order by: Kristina Horn

Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation by: Jay Blintj

President Kristina Horn noted for the record that ESD! Meeting for February 2021 was cancelled due to worst snow and ice storm to hit East Texas in 100 years. Road Travel was life threatening and electrical service was intermittent due to storm.

Review/Approval of prior minutes for: January 2021 and February 2021

ACTION: Motion made by Commissioner Mullinax to approve minutes, motion seconded by Commissioner Dixon. Motion passed by a vote of 3 for and 1 abstain.

Treasurer Report for February 2021

Beginning Balance:	\$ 10,995.99
Deposits:	\$ 25,654.29
Interest	\$ 1.83
Disbursements	\$ 750.00
Balance (12/2/20)	\$ 35,902.11

Treasurer Report for March 2021

Beginning Balance	\$ 35,902.11
Deposits	\$ 23,674.62
Interest	3.28
Disbursements	0
Balance	\$ 59,580.01

COMMENTS: Commissioner Blint asked what the \$189 in disbursements entailed. Response from Commissioner Mullinax those were funds paid to Wood County Appraisal District for services rendered and for Go Daddy website maintenance fee.

Payments of Accounts Due:

The HLVFD submitted in February 2021 a request for reimbursement for \$37,295.55. Motion to approve payment from ESD1 To HLVFD for February 2021 reimbursement was made by Commissioner Mullinax, seconded by Commissioner Dixon. Motion approved by vote of 3 yes 1 abstain and check issued to HLVFD.

The HLVFD submitted a request at this meeting for reimbursement of \$22,669. Motion to approve payment from ESD1 to HLVFD for March 2021 reimbursement was made by Commissioner Dixon, Second was made by Commissioner Mullinax. Motion was approved by vote of 3 yes, 1 abstain and check was issued to HLVFD.

Additional request for payments due were submitted by Commissioner Blint for Reimbursement for cost to place annual notice of ESD1 in local paper to meet SAFED requirements in the amount of \$40.50. Request was made by Commissioner Blint for reimbursement of \$9 for paying Wood County fees for first quarter agenda filings with Wood County County Clerk to meet SAFED requirements. Request was made by Commissioner Mullinax for payment to Go Daddy for Microsoft Word subscription fee of \$69 and a payment of \$ for Go Daddy annual web site maintenance fee. Request was made by Commissioner Mullinax for payment of \$389 to Wood County Appraisal District for tax collection fee. Motion to approve these request for payments was made by Commissioner Dixon and seconded by Commissioner Mullinax. Vote passed 3 with 1 abstain to disburse ESD1 funds for payment of above items.

Activity Report from Holly Lake Volunteer Fire Department including training time:

The following report was given by HLVFD Chief Bill Bollinger:

February 2021: 20 total calls

Structure Fires 2

Grass Fires 1

Medical Assist Calls 7

Airport Landing Zone Calls 1

MVC calls 0

General Public Assist calls 9 = 5 EMS stuck in snow, 3 smoke investigations, 1 Diesel spill

Training Hours 150

New Business:

1. Discussion was raised about any planned public events involving ESD1 and HLVFD. Information from Mr. Reynolds and Chief Bollinger was given about the portable Life Pack CPR units. The discussion centered on acquiring these units for placement around the golf course and other meeting areas around Holly Lake Ranch. Asking for donations from the public and seeking grants were discussed as ways to raise money for the purchase of the units. If done then public training could be held to inform the local community how to use the units on a member of the general public until an ambulance arrived.
2. A discussion was held about the letter from Wood County Appraisal District setting up a new web site to allow the general public have access to see in detail how property tax money arrives at the county and the way it is spent by category. From the letter it was not clear if the ESD1 was to take any action other than post a link to this new site on the ESD1 site. Commissioner Mullinax volunteered to contact the WCAD to determine exactly was needed from ESD1 on this project of the WCAD.
3. A discussion was held on what training would be needed for ESD1 board members to maintain the Continuing Education requirements of a board member. The question was raised do the CE courses that

have no fee count towards the required amount of CE credit for a board member or must only CE courses that have a fee be taken for approved CE credit for a board member. President Kristina Horn agreed to search for an answer and report back to the board.

4. A discussion was held on the results of meeting with Wood County Tax Collector Carol Taylor. It was determined that it is possible for the ESD tax rate reach a ceiling of 10%. Currently the 2020 Tax rate was .0197. Being able to raise the tax rate generates more funds for the HLVFD at a very small cost of less than \$4 per month for a property owner on the average. President Horn agreed to contact Connie Rose in the election department of the WCAD to find out what the process is for ESD1 to hold an election this fall to increase the ESD1 tax.
5. A discussion was held on the April 1st 2021 deadline for the Special Purpose District Report to be filed with The State Comptroller's office. Commissioner Mullinax agreed to follow up on the ESD1 needs for this report and complete the report to the Comptrollers office.
6. Discussion on alternative methods for the HLVFD to raise funds outside of the ESD1 tax. Discussed were grants and EDIL loans available from the Federal Government from the 2020 and 2021 Covid relief programs. In addition there are loans available to VFD's under these two covid relief plans for loans up to \$ 2 million dollars over 30 years at an interest rate of 2.75 %. One of the ways to raise funds to pay back the loans would be the establishment of a HLVFD program for residents of the community to leave a small portion of their estate to the HLVFD thru a codicil to their current wills. The local community has a population of 3862 shown on the property tax rolls of October 2020. If 360 residents left an average of a one-time payment from their estate of \$5000 a fund of \$1,800,000 would be generated for the HLVFD.
7. A discussion was held on the need for a person to become trained on monitoring and updating as needed the ESD1 website. Commissioner Mullinax agreed to work with GoDaddy to learn what would be needed to learn to update and maintain this website.

Adjournment: With no further comments put forth by guests in attendance and no additional Board items to discuss Commissioner Dixon made a motion to dismiss the meeting. A second was offered by Commissioner Mullinax.. Vote approved 4 to 0 and meeting adjourned at 10:20 AM March 15th, 2021.

By: Jay Blint, Board Secretary

Prepared by Jay Blint, Board Secretary ESD1