

**Hays County ESD #4—Wimberley Fire Rescue  
Meeting Minutes  
For the Board of Commissioners Meeting Held on August 31, 2021**

1. President Ron Spangenberg called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.
2. Commissioners present were Mr. Ron Spangenberg, Mr. Chuck Ware, Mr. John White and Mr. Larry Coker. Also present, Chief Carroll Czichos, Assistant Fire Chief Christopher Robbins and Executive Assistant Angel Robinson, Mr. Pendleton was absent. A quorum was present.
3. Public comment: No Public sign in. No Public comments
4. Public comment on agenda items; No Public comments
5. Receive July 1 – 31, 2021 monthly report from the Treasurer and consider; a) approval of payment of monthly bills, invoices, and payroll: EFT payments: Three to Pedernales Electric, and one to Time Warner. Two payroll transactions, one payment each to U.S. Treasury, one American Funds, and Texas Workforce Commission. Checks: 5379-5412 were written, 5394-5396 were void. And b) approval of Statement of Financial Position, Income Statement of Budget Performance and reconciliation summaries of ESD 4's Ozona bank accounts.

**Treasurer's Summary Report:**

|                                 |    |              |
|---------------------------------|----|--------------|
| Income for July 2021            | \$ | 79,647.30    |
| Year-to-Date Income             | \$ | 2,111,773.39 |
| Expenses for July 2021          | \$ | 78,057.38    |
| Year-to-Date Expenses           | \$ | 1,066,547.95 |
| Budget Balance                  | \$ | 1,045,225.44 |
| Current Assets (Incl. CD's)     | \$ | 3,246,943.42 |
| Current Assets (Incl. A/R)      | \$ | 3,501,822.42 |
| Value of Three CD's             | \$ | 93,799.00    |
| A/R 60 Day Sales & Use Process  | \$ | 254,879.00   |
| Cash Assets                     | \$ | 3,153,144.42 |
| Liabilities                     | \$ | 125,257.67   |
| <br>                            |    |              |
| Net Sales and Use Tax Received: | \$ | 49,245.33    |
| Ad Valorem Collected:           | \$ | 27,822.17    |

A motion to approve the Treasurer's report for payments for the month of July 2021 made via check and EFT, Financial Reports, Assets, Income Statements, Sales and Use Tax and Ad Valorem revenue, account reconciliation was made by Mr. Larry Coker and seconded by Mr. John White. The Motion was unanimously approved. President Spangenberg reported both the Ad Valorem and Sales and Use Tax are coming in at higher amounts than projected for this year's budget.

6. Receive monthly report from Fire Chief regarding emergency operations, response times, call volume, training, management activities and career and volunteer personnel; Assistant Chief Robbins reported that there were 75 calls including 3 house fires, 16 calls assisting EMS, 13 MVA calls, and calls were canceled in route 6 times. One house fire was a total loss. Kyle Fire

and North Hays Fire Rescue provided mutual aid. WFR responded to a mutual aid call for South Hays Fire Department. The fire started in a mattress in a Texas State fraternity house. Assist. Chief Robbins reported firefighters K. Kidd, C. Sundholm and R. Wells, performed an extrication that was life threatening to a pinned driver. Due to these firefighters' ability to perform a complex and difficult extraction, the driver is now recovering in ICU. Average scene arrival time was 8.9 minutes. MVCs and EMS support make up 50% of calls. Assist. Chief Robbins stated he applied for state funded training for staff in:

- Wildland Fire
- Hazmat Technician
- Hazmat Incident Command and,
- Confined Space Rescue

Currently three of the four applications are approved by the State of Texas and will provide approximately \$39,000 in training, at no cost to the District. WFR firefighters would be eligible to support the Hays County Hazmat Team upon successful completion of the courses. Training is available to all fire departments in Hays County due to the training awards received by WFR. Hays County fire departments would receive approximately \$100,000 in training, should they all participate. Chief Czichos stated four applicants for Captain positions participated in the required physical agility test and the written test on August 30. The selection process continues. No action taken at this time.

7. Receive Fire Chief's report on apparatus, equipment, repairs, and item purchases; Chief Czichos reported a recall on Brush 41. Additional repairs on B-41 totaled approximately \$3,200. Engine 44, a 1973 International requires a new fuel pump. E-44 is housed at the Rolling Oaks Station and is not operational at this time. Chief Czichos reported he discussed with President Spangenberg the option of removing E-44 from the apparatus fleet due to age and the difficulty of obtaining replacement parts. Options could be donation or sell as surplus. Seven sets of wildland gear are on order. One set of bunker gear is being shipped and the snow chains previously ordered were delivered. Chief Czichos added the front parking lot is being inspected for water leaks/damage. Discussion occurred on work needed at the Pump Station, Chief Czichos will follow-up. No action at this time.
8. Receive monthly report from District's attorney regarding pending litigation matters, contract issues, and legislative efforts and consider taking related action; President Spangenberg reported the District has executed the general contractor construction contract with G Creek Construction. Additionally, President Spangenberg and Mr. Chuck Ware executed the financing documentation with Government Capital for \$600,000 toward construction of Central Station's Addition. No action taken at this time.
9. Discuss and consider the proposal presented by property owner for a future Fire Station on Winters Mill Parkway; Chief Czichos stated that the property owner forwarded a contract donating a Winters Mill Pkwy parcel to the District with several stipulations. Possible revisions to the contract stipulations were discussed. Chief Czichos will follow-up with the property owner to address the stipulation limiting the timeframe allowed for the District to build a fire station on the parcel. No action at this time.

10. Discuss and consider Election of an ESD Representative to the Hays County Combined Emergency Communications Centers (HCCECC) Executive Board. Nominees are Steve Janda and Andy Cable; President Spangenberg led a discussion regarding the nominees to represent ESD 4 for Representative on the HCCECC, Executive Board. A rising vote was taken and the Commissioners voted unanimously for Steve Janda. Chief Czichos will notify Chief Smith of the Board's action.
11. Discuss and consider Bids for rewiring the electrical for proposed relocation of shop area; Chief Czichos reported his discussion with Matt Harelson, Vice-President, G Creek Const. regarding using G. Creek's electricians. The District will need bids or a quote to add 3 circuits and additional outlets. No action at this time.
12. Discuss and consider "retiring" Engine 44 from District Fleet and disposing of as Surplus or Salvage equipment; President Spangenberg reported E-44's maintenance issues, insurance costs and the unnecessary space used at Rolling Oaks Station to house it, raise the question if retaining E-44 is prudent. Chief stated E-48 and T-46 should fit in the Rolling Oaks bay, as well as the Brush and other smaller trucks. Discussion occurred on the pros and cons. Chief will follow up on the potential requirements of disposing of E-44. No action at this time.
13. Discuss and consider retirement plan options with TCDRS; Kristina Fox met via Zoom with the Board of Commissioners to present TCDRS' plan options consisting of:
  - TCDRS is structured where the risk is shared between the employee and employer.
  - Employee contributions occur each pay period.
  - Every year regardless of the market, accounts grow by 7% compounded interest.
  - When fully vested employees receive a monthly benefit for life with an option to extend benefit payouts to a beneficiary, upon their passing.
  - Full-time and Part-time employee participation is mandatory. There is no opt out clause. Temporary employees are not included.
  - Other savings/retirement account funds cannot be rolled into the plan.
  - Upon separation from the District, an employee has these options;
    - Employee may maintain funds in TCDRS and treat as a savings account, continuing to earn 7% compounded interest.
      1. At the age of 72, the IRS requires the funds be withdrawn with the option to roll over into another plan for tax benefits.
    - Employee may withdraw their funds. TCDRS would withhold 20% for taxes with a possibility of an early withdraw penalty, depending on their age.
  - In each of these options, the employee forfeits the right to the employer match, even if fully vested.
  - Employee receives the employer match only as a monthly retirement payment benefit for life. Employees must retire from the ESD to receive the match.
  - The employer decides the amount employees, contribute to the fund, every pay period. The employer may choose a 5% or 7% contribution by the employees.
  - The employer decides the matching percentage the employer provides (100%, 125%, 150%, 175%, 200% or 250%).

- Employers may join on the 1<sup>st</sup> of any month. The first payment to TCDRS will be due on the 15<sup>th</sup> of the following month.

TCDRS provides a dedicated employer service representative to the District administrator.

Employees have access to an interactive and user-friendly website to monitor their account. Upon request, Ms. Fox reviewed Plan 3 with a 7% employee contribution and an employer match of 150%, with 8-year vesting, and selecting rule of 75.

- To be eligible under this Plan, an employee must have 20 years of service with the employer, or a total number of 75 that is the sum of the employee's age plus years of service. If the total sum is 75, the employee is eligible.
- The District's cost for this Plan 7.06% of the annual salary budget. A group term life insurance policy for all employees costs of \$1,518 per year bringing the total cost \$41,210 per year. Mr. Larry Coker made a motion to enter into agreement with TCDRS with Plan 3 with an 8-year vesting, rule of 75, and a 20-year employment, and include life insurance. Mr. John White seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

14. Discuss and consider long range planning; no action at this time.

15. Discuss and consider notification of the subdivision of property; President Spangenberg stated the District received a subdivision notification from Thompson Professional Consulting for lot 6A on Green Acres Drive. The average plat is 7.85 acres and 2 acres will be subdivided., they are dividing out two acres of that. It's located on Western Rd., behind the High School's football field. A motion to accept the notification of subdivision of property by Thompson Professional Consulting for Green Acres Lot 6A was made by Mr. Chuck Ware and seconded by Mr. Coker. The motion passed unanimously.

16. Discuss and consider approval of reimbursement request; no items for reimbursement. No action necessary.

17. Discuss and consider approval of minutes from; Mr. Chuck Ware made a motion to approve the July 12 and 27, and August 4 and 17, 2021 minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. John White. The motion passed unanimously.

18. Adjourn; President Spangenberg adjourned the meeting at 10:36 a.m.

Respectfully,



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Joe Pendleton, Secretary