

Hays County ESD4 Board of Commissioners
Special Called Meeting Held on May 1, 2023
Meeting Minutes

Original

1. President Ron Spangenberg called the meeting to order at 5:00p.m.
2. Commissioners present: President Ron Spangenberg, Mr. Joe Pendleton, Mr. Chuck Ware, Mr. Larry Coker, and newly appointed Commissioner Mr. Travis Brown. Also present: Fire Chief Carroll Czichos, Assistant Fire Chief Christopher Robbins, Executive Assistant Angel Robinson, and Administrative Assistant Sydney Johnson. A quorum was present.
3. Public comment: No Public sign-in.
4. Public comment on agenda items: No Public comments.
5. Recognize Travis Brown's appointment and Oath of Office to the HCESD4 Board of Commissioners; President Spangenberg reported that Mr. Brown has been sworn in by the Hays County Commissioners Court and we have his Oath of Office.
6. Discuss and consider purchase of additional Spartan Rescue Pumper, take any related action. Asst. Chief Robbins presented a Memorandum of Understanding from Craig Russell of Metro Fire. In the Memo Mr. Russell confirmed there are 2023 Spartan S-180 Rescue Pumper units available to purchase and that HCESD4 would not owe any money on the purchase until the truck is delivered and received by WFR. There also would not be a down payment required, only a completed Purchase Order. Metro Fire has offered WFR a one-time special discount of \$15,268 toward the purchase of this new truck due to the delays we are experiencing with the truck we already have on order. This would bring our total purchase price from \$815,230 down to \$799,962. This includes make-ready and the same equipment selected for the previous truck. The truck would be purchased through HGAC. Mr. Russell attached an official proposal offer & contract pricing worksheet which outlines the available options and what is selected for the truck. If approved, a purchase order will be sent to HGAC & Metro Fire and the truck could potentially be delivered for Make-Ready in December 2023, with delivery to us in March 2024. Asst. Chief Robbins also presented a Purchase Proposal detailing the price increases over the years, the apparatus product improvement, and ideas to cycle apparatus by adding new and removing obsolete from the station's fleet. President Spangenberg tabled discussion of Item #6 while we move to Item #7, 2023 -24 Preliminary Budget, to determine how this purchase would affect the Budget.
7. Discuss and consider 2023-24 Preliminary Budget, take any related action. President Spangenberg presented the 2023-24 Preliminary Budget and asked how the purchase of the 2023 Spartan Rescue Pumper presented, would affect our budget. He presented the email from Mr. Lerner of Government Capital Corporation that was mentioned at the last meeting. In it, Mr. Lerner advised that 10-year apparatus financing is currently at 4.5% or 4.7%. With a down payment, our annual loan payment could be around \$57,000/yr for 10 years. After discussion, it was determined that with the increase in the Districts Appraisal value and the redistribution of unallocated funds, funds are available to budget a down payment and a potential loan payment. Looking to the future the District may need to prepare to move to increase the tax rate. The District currently has the

lowest tax rate in Hays County. Mr. Ware stated it is important to demonstrate to the public how/where we are spending money and how tight our expense vs. income margin is. Historical data will show this. The objectives Asst. Chief Robbins presented – purchasing additional apparatus, building new stations, and increasing staffing – are not just wants, they are needs for the District. The community & needs for service continue to grow, how will we continue to meet those needs without additional income? Mr. Ware made a Motion to proceed with the Purchase of the 2023 Spartan Rescue Pumper as presented. Mr. Pendleton seconded the Motion. All in favor. The Motion passed unanimously.

8. Adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 6:07pm.

Respectfully,



Joe Pendleton, Secretary HCESD4