

HAYS COUNTY ESD #4—WIMBERLEY FIRE RESCUE
Meeting Minutes
For the Board of Commissioners Meeting Held on July 30, 2019

1. President Ron Spangenberg called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.
2. Commissioners present were Ron Spangenberg, Ken Downing, Eddie Gumbert, Joe Pendleton and Chuck Ware. Assistant Chief Matt Van Ostrand, ESD Bookkeeper John White, Autumn Smith, WFR Executive Assistant/Bookkeeper and Angel Robinson, District Assistant were present to assist.
3. Public Comment: No public sign in.
4. Receive monthly report from Treasurer and consider; a) approval of payment of monthly bills, invoices and payroll: Six EFT payments: two to Pedernales Electric Coop, and one each to Spectrum Business, WEX Bank, Intuit and Humana. Two electronic payrolls processed in June for WFR and one each Direct Deposit payment, U.S. Treasury payment and American Funds employee Simple IRA payment. Checks written were 4632 - 4664. Checks Voided: 4634 and 4640. And, b) approval of Statement of Activities showing income and expenses YTD, Balance Sheet, including reports of assets, liabilities and equity; Reconciliation Summaries for ESD #4 and WFRs Ozona bank accounts; and Budget Balance for June 30, 2019. June 2019 expenses are \$43,184.74, including \$53,789.93 in payroll (for three payrolls), with year-to-date expenses at \$615,712.56. The budget balance for this period is \$413,893.47. Income for the current month is \$44,497.40 and \$1,029,606.03 year-to-date. Assets: Current assets are \$1,297,317.11 including the three CD's valued at \$92,542.76. Cash assets available are \$1,204,774.35. Total liabilities are \$90,358.35. A motion to accept the June 2019 financial reports as presented was made by Mr. Ken Downing and seconded by Mr. Joe Pendleton. Motion passed unanimously.
5. Receive monthly report from Fire Chief regarding emergency operations, response time, call volume, training, management activities and volunteer membership; Assistant Chief Van Ostrand reported there were 26 calls with two structure fires and eight vehicle accidents. Average response time was 11 min, 06 sec. For this fiscal year, October 1 – July 27, there have been 291 total incident calls with an average response time of 11 min, 40 sec. There was a residential fire on July 28 at Dara Lane near FM 32. Fortunately, a part-time driver and two volunteers were able to respond relatively quickly, as well as a crew, and, an engine and tender from South Hays Station, who stayed throughout the event. Eventually nine WFR firefighters arrived. Assistant Chief stressed lack of staffing is a serious concern. Day shifts have coverage, however nights and weekends are a challenge to cover and it is always unknown if volunteers can respond. President Spangenberg stated that as one of the lowest taxing agencies in the County, ESD #4's conservative funding is not keeping up with the needs of the rapid population growth. No action at this time.
6. Receive Fire Chief's report on apparatus, equipment, repairs, and item purchases. President Spangenberg stated CAF-40 is back after repair. It continues to have some issues. Adding a quick attack truck is still a priority. Assistant Chief added a new 10' ladder is needed for Engine 42. Purchase of a ladder was approved by President Spangenberg. No action required.
7. Receive monthly report from District's attorney regarding pending litigation matters, contract issues, and legislative efforts and consider taking related action; no activity.
8. Receive report on possible acquisition of property on Winters Mill Parkway; President Spangenberg stated Chief Czichos will tour one property near Caliche Road on Winters Mill. Mr. Phil Van Ostrand

has a five-acre parcel on Brookmeadow that may be a possibility. A new station would require a minimum of three acres. No action at this time.

9. Discuss and consider Recurring Fund Transfer within the District's financial institution; President Spangenberg explained an automatic transfer of funds to the checking account will ensure payroll funds are in the bank twice a month on payroll dates. A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Ware to implement an automatic recurring fund transfer, within ESD #4's financial institution, twice a month totaling a minimum of \$50,000.00 a month, to fund checking account and cover payroll for ESD #4's employees. The Motion was seconded by Mr. Eddie Gumbert. Unanimously approved.
10. Discuss and consider BLS, First Responder Organization in cooperation with Wimberley EMS and Dr. Moore, additional equipment and insurance may be required; President Spangenberg stated Assistant Chief Van Ostrand met with Mr. Moore and EMS representative to address BLS. There is some delay with this collaboration. Assist. Chief stated there hasn't been any movement from EMS on protocols. Questions were asked if EMS was interested in proceeding. No action at this time.
11. Discuss and consider online training for District board members; President Spangenberg stated the on-line Safe-D training notifications arrive leaving very little time to schedule attendance. Board members who work weekends cannot attend and obtain credit. No action necessary.
12. Discuss and consider locks for ESD offices; President Spangenberg said the ESD office needs updated door locks. Mr. Chuck Ware made a Motion to approve funds in the amount of \$1,500 for combination locks (\$1,200), and installation (\$300), similar to the existing station door locks and Motion was seconded by Mr. Eddie Gumbert. Motion passed unanimously.
13. Discuss and consider G. Robinson's ambulance proposal to donate the vehicle to RP Search Services, a 501(c)3 non-profit search and rescue organization; Assist. Chief said the ambulance has been used minimally, is taking up maintenance time and expense, and is not large enough for a rehab vehicle. President Spangenberg said the vehicle was donated by EMS to ESD #4 and minimal funds have been put into the vehicle, it is at the lowest priority on the maintenance schedule and it does have some operational issues. He stated Mr. Robinson suggested the donation with the agreement he would maintain the vehicle and insurance and make it available to WFR as needed. Mr. Ware said the unit still needs to be available quickly. Assist. Chief Van Ostrand said Mr. Robinson has provided his personal Command Vehicle to WFR when needed in the past. President Spangenberg confirmed Section 775 regulations would be followed if the proposal is pursued. Additional review will be needed. Action is tabled.
14. Discuss and consider gym membership for Board members; Mr. Chuck Ware said the fire fighters utilize the gym membership for health reasons; and he suggests this be offered to Board members to help keep them fit. A Motion to offer the same physical fitness policy to Board Commissioners as is in place for volunteer and career fire fighters was made by Mr. Ware and seconded by Mr. Pendleton. Unanimous approval.
15. Discuss and consider stipend for the Volunteer attendee for Car Seat Safety Certification; President Spangenberg shared that a volunteer attended a 3-day training program to install car seats. He would like to offer a stipend to the volunteer for his time and commitment. A Motion to provide this volunteer a \$200 stipend for his 24 hours of classroom attendance and for obtaining the Car Seat Safety Certification was made by Mr. Joe Pendleton and seconded by Mr. Eddie Gumbert. Unanimous approval.
16. Discuss and consider the water storage at Pump Station; President Spangenberg said the removal of the old pump engines continues. Mr. Pendleton had questions about the new tank purchase and

installation. President Spangenberg stated he'd like to table discussion until Chief Czichos is in attendance at the next Board meeting. Item tabled.

President Spangenberg recessed the meeting at 9:42 am and reconvened at 9:50 am. All previously attending Board members were present.

17. Discuss and consider adoption of the tax budget planning calendar for 2019 and take any related action; President Spangenberg shared the planning calendar prepared with the advisement from ESD #4's legal firm. A motion to accept the tax planning calendar was made by Mr. Ken Downing and seconded by Mr. Chuck Ware. Approved unanimously.
18. Discuss and consider Sales Agreement for 501(c)3's assets to ESD #4; President Spangenberg stated the Agreement has gone to legal for review. We are working with the WVFR Executive Board members to execute the Agreement. No action at this time.
19. Discuss and consider approval of reimbursement requests; No requests at this time.
20. Discuss and consider notification of the subdivision of property; No notifications at this time.
21. Discuss and consider approval of minutes from June 25, 2019; President Spangenberg shared presented the June minutes. Mr. Chuck Ware made a motion to approve the minutes as presented at today's meeting and Mr. Joe Pendleton seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.
22. Discuss future agenda items, time and date for next meeting; Next regularly scheduled meeting is on August 27, 2019 at 8:30 a.m.
23. Budget Workshop; President Spangenberg began discussion on the current fire fighter staffing. 42% of calls are after hours. With demographic changes in Wimberley, he spoke on the tax rate variables, i.e., to stay at the present rate or move toward an increase. The potential FY 2019 – 2020 sales tax and ad valorem taxes, at the current roll back rate, are estimated at \$1.282M. It's inescapable that 24/7 staffing (24/48 or 48/96 schedules) must be considered, allowing for a minimum of two career fire fighters 24/7 at the Central Station. The Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grants are a possible source of funding. Mr. Ware stated that in addition to staffing, new equipment and a new station cannot be funded at the current tax rate. President Spangenberg said there will be additional discussion on this topic at the August 13, 2019 special called meeting. A Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Chuck Ware and seconded by Mr. Ken Downing. Approved unanimously.

President Spangenberg adjourned the meeting at 10:44 a.m.



Ken Downing, Secretary