Hays County ESD4 Board of Commissioners Special Called Meeting Held June 13, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Original

- 1. President Ron Spangenberg called the meeting to order at 5:26pm.
- 2. Commissioners present: Mr. Ron Spangenberg, Mr. Joe Pendleton, Mr. Chuck Ware, Mr. Larry Coker, and 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. Discuss and consider purchase of equipment to build out new Engine 41, take any related action; Chief Czichos and Assistant Chief Robbins presented a list of items needed to build out the new Rescue Pumper. The list has a total of 34 items, including multiples of the same item (such as helmets and bullet proof vests), for a total of \$17,099 plus shipping & handling at +/- \$500. Mr. Ware made a motion to approve the purchase of all items on the list, not to exceed \$17,600 including shipping and handling. Mr. Pendleton seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
- 6. Discuss and consider District Purchasing Policy, take any related action; The District's attorney, The Carlton Law Firm, PLLC, has recommended some revisions to the District's Purchasing Policy. The suggested revisions were presented to the Board and discussion occurred. We will be corresponding with Carlton Law to address some concerns raised by the Board before moving on this item. No action taken at this time.
- 7. Presentation by attendees to Station Design 2023 Conference, take any related action; Chief Czichos and Mr. Pendleton presented key takeaways from the Conference on new fire station construction planning. They include: 1) establishing a Design Team including a several firefighters, one or two Commissioners, an admin staff member, the Fire Chief and Asst. Chief, and the Architect; and 2) involve Architect early in the process, allowing them to perform a site study and establish a budget for the project. Adding a second station could potentially raise the District's ISO rating thereby benefiting the District residents with lower property insurance rates. Following discussion, no action taken.
- 8. Discuss and consider Chief Robbins' Informative Land & Building Presentation, take any related action; No action taken.
 - Entered into Executive Session at 6:42pm.
 - **Reconvened at 7:11pm**; all Board Members previously stated as being present reconvened. No action taken at this time.
- 9. Discuss and consider Concrete Pad for dumpsters, take any related action; Chief Czichos provided a quote in the amount of \$7,500 for a 25' x 25' concrete pad. He will obtain additional quotes. He will inquire if a City permit is required. No action taken.
- 10. Discuss and consider Fire Chief's PTO accrual and usage, take any related action;
 - Entered into Executive Session at 7:20pm.
 - **Reconvened at 7:48pm**; all Board Members previously stated as being present reconvened. No action taken.

- 11. Discuss and consider FY 2023-24 Budget workshop including Employee Benefits, take any related action; the District's health insurance company, TX Health Benefits presented cost increase of 80% renewal rates for FY 2023-2024 for the District employees that totals an additional \$89,144 per year for a total of \$200,575 to maintain current coverage. TX Health Benefits had earlier provided a +/-16% increase for all members. The Board asked to hear the District employees' preferences. Mrs. Robinson will provide information to employees and ask for input and/or concerns prior to the next meeting, or to attend the next meeting and speak to the Board directly. Asst. Chief Robbins presented, for consideration in the 2023 2024 budget, three QRAE III Systems gas detection devices to detect carbon monoxide and other unsafe gases in homes or confined spaces. An estimate of \$4,133 from FarrWest Environmental Supply, Inc., is a 4-year lease for service and maintenance on the system and upgrades when new versions of the device are released. When purchased, the buyer is responsible for maintenance and purchasing new devices. Robbins recommends leasing the devices with a 4-year renewal option. No action taken at this time.
- 12. Discuss future agenda items, time, date, and place for next meeting. The next board meeting will be held June 27, 2023 at 8:30am at 111 Green Acres Dr. in Wimberley, TX.
- 13. Adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.

Respectfully

Chuck Ware, Treasurer and Secretary HCESD4