WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICE DISTRICT #1
MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY DECEMBER 18, 2023
9:00 AM
LOCATION:
HOLLY LAKE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
126 PR 7869
HOLLY LAKE RANCH, TEXAS 75765

Meeting Minutes-FINAL

Call the Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:12 a.m. by President Kristina Horn. Commissioners Keith Mullinax, Chuck Bahr, Robin Edwards and Cindy Treece were present.

Certification by the President that the provisions of the Open Meetings Act, Section 551.001 Et. Seq. of the Texas Government Code have been complied with in connection with public notice of this meeting and that a quorum is present.

President Horn confirmed that all provisions of the Open Meetings Act were met.

Invocation

The invocation was given by Commissioner Bahr.

Pledge of Allegiance

All stood for the pledge.

Recognition of guests

No guests were recognized, but the Board appreciated the presence of HLVFD personnel.

Receive public comment

Commissioner Mullinax congratulated Lieutenant Joe Taylor as the new Fire Chief as of January 1, 2024, and recognized retiring Chief Bill Bollinger for his years of service. Lieutenant Taylor gave the Board a brief summary of his background. Chief Bollinger stated that he will continue to serve the HLFD for a few years as communications coordinator.

Review and consider approval of prior minutes

The minutes for October were considered and approved. The motion was moved and seconded.

The November minutes were considered. The addition was made that a $55.00 reimbursement was for Safe D ESD training for Commissioner Mullinax. President Horn moved to accept the minutes and Commission Mullinax seconded the motion.

Present, review, and consider approval of Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Mullinax reviewed the December 18, 2023 report. Beginning balance was $114,167.52 with disbursements of $26,803.27, interest of $33.87 and deposits of $1,138.55, resulting in an ending balance of $88,536.97. Commissioner Edwards moved to approve the report, and Commissioner Mullinax seconded.

Present, review, and consider approval for Payment of Accounts due
No accounts were due in December.

ESD #1 Board to receive for review and consider approval for payment of sworn billing and any submitted requests of contractual amounts by Holly Lake Volunteer Fire Department (HLVFD)

A HLVFD request for $12,124.61 from October 12 – November 20, 2023 was paid. A deposit of $19,355.49 was received from the Wood County Tax Assessor-Collector. This deposit, when added to the ending balance of $88,536.97, resulted in an ending balance of $107,892.46.

HLVD Captain Cheryl Thomas submitted a request from November 16 – December 18 for $17,063.38. This request will be considered at the January 2024 meeting.

Activity Report including any training time from HLVFD and Christus EMS.

Structure fires – 3

Grass fires – 0

Medical calls – 23

Landing Zones – 2

Motor vehicle collisions – 3

Public assists – 4

Total – 35

Training hours – 150

No Christus EMS representative was present to report.

There was a brief discussion about the house fire at Holly Lake Ranch. Chief Bollinger reported that Hawkins and Hainesville Fire Departments responded in addition to HLVFD. Approximately 40,000 to 50,000 gallons of water was used to extinguish the fire. Response time for HLVFD was 4 minutes.

Old Business:

1. Report by Board President on delivery to the office of the Wood County Commissioner's Court of the executed Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for FY 2024 Ad Valorem Tax Collection between Wood County and Wood County Emergency Services District #1.

Commissioner Mullinax deliver the tax agreement to Wood County Commissioner's Court, and it will be approved on December 27, 2023.

2. Any other old business still pending.

Commissioner Bahr asked Chief Bollinger about the status of the new fire truck. He replied that it is still on track to arrive near the end of January 2024. It will arrive from Wisconsin, and the manufacturer will be responsible for it until it arrives at HLVFD.

HLVFD Captain Thomas reported that the water bill has risen to over $100 a month beginning in August. There was a discussion about several issues pertaining to working with Liberty Water. Chief Bollinger reported that he has left three messages at Liberty with no response to date. Both Commissioner Bahr and Commissioner Edwards volunteered to contact Liberty.

New Business:

1. Welcome Cindy Treece to Wood County ESD #1 Board of Directors.

President Horn called for a vote to approve the appointment of Cindy Treece as a new Commissioner on the Board. Commissioner Bahr moved to approve, and Commissioner Edwards seconded.

2. Report by Treasurer on status of Wood County ESD#1 annual report to Texas Division of Emergency Management due January 1, 2024.

Commissioner Mullinax reported that he is working on the annual report, and it will be complete by January 1, 2024.

3. Discuss any planned public events involving Wood County ESD #1, HLVFD, or Christus EMS for remainder of 2023 and any upcoming 2024 events.

There are no additional events in December 2023 planned by HLVFD, Christus or ESD #1. President Horn asked about the success of Christmas in the Pines on December 2, 2023 at Holly Lake Ranch, and Chief Bollinger replied that it went very well.

4. Any other new business.

Commissioner Mullinax stated that he has placed the annual ad for ESD #1's address in the paper, and we will receive a bill for it.

Commissioner Mullinax stated that many citizens are paying property taxes this month, and that will create an influx of funds for ESD #1. He projects tax revenue (at a tax rate of .0447) for 2024 of $200,000 to $250,000.

President Horn asked if this influx of funds could create issues for ESD #1 as C&B Bank only insures deposits up to $250,000. Commissioner Mullinax agreed to speak with Tina Beall, Branch President and Assistant Vice President at C&B, about this.

Close Meeting

President Horn moved to adjourn the meeting, and Commissioner Bahr seconded the motion to close at 10:02 a.m.

By_____*Cynthia Treece*_____

Prepared by Cynthia Treece, Board Secretary, January 13, 2024