VAN ZANDT COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICE DISTRICT #4

MINUTES FROM JANUARY 16, 2024

**Present:** Commissioners: Scott Davenport, Jerry Hill, and Ray Thomason

Absent: Greg Preston and Teresa Byrd

WPVFD: Ed Leipply

1. **Call meeting to order;** President Scott Davenport declared a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 6:12 PM.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation;** Scott Davenport led the Pledge of Allegiance and Ray Thomason led the Invocation.
3. **Public Comment: Citizens to be heard;** No one was present to speak.
4. **Recognition of ESD/VFD Volunteers;** There were no recognitions.
5. **Open bids for Disposition of 2005 F350, take action as necessary**; Scott Davenport moved into Executive Session at 6:15 PM and resumed the regular meeting at 6:18 PM. Ray Thomason moved to accept the sealed bid from Jonathan Earley with Chad Ramsey being the alternate if Mr. Earley fell through. Jerry Hill seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
6. **Status of new Fire Engine;** The engine has been inspected and had a test run at the Balch Springs facility and moved to Denton to finalize the poly (plastic shelving). Everything is in place to put it into service once they are finished in Denton. Final payment will be made at that time.
7. **Approval of 2022-23 VZESD 4 Audit;** Jerry moved to accept the audit from Murrey Paschall & Caperton, PC. Ray Thomason seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Kristie will deliver the audit to the office of County Judge Andy Reese.

8. **Report from Treasurer Jerry Hill;**

a) The Operating account balance is $311,826.31, the ESD Asset Allocation fund balance is $738,385.24, and the Emergency fund balance is $23,385.96 with $300,000 of the Emergency fund being in CD’s.

b) Monthly Budget Report: Kristie provided a current Balance Sheet dated October 1, 2023 through January 16, 2024 and copies of the bank statements. There were no questions.

12. **Report from VFD Chief Ed Leipply on current status of the VFD including:**

a) Current status of equipment: Part of the radios have been delivered. The department is waiting on the rest plus the invoice. Brush 2 is being sent to Wildfire for a few repairs. They did move the equipment from the South station before the freeze. They will be purchasing $22,000 in PPE but should receive a refund for $19,000 from the Forestry Service.

b) Monthly Run Report: Chief Leipply reported 56 calls for November. The calls included 3 Structure Fires, 2 Grass/Brush Fires, 2 Vehicle Fires, 9 Motor Vehicle Accidents, 27 EMS, and 13 Other type calls. During the month of December they responded to 54 calls. The calls included 6 Structure Fires, 3 Grass Fires, 5 Motor Vehicle Accidents, 31 EMS, and 9 Other type calls.

c) Monthly Budget Report including 2023/2024 Budget: Chief Leipply submitted his financial report and annual budget report for October 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023.

13. **Consent agenda;**

a) Reading (if requested) and approval of the November 21, 2023 Meeting Minutes; Ray Thomason moved to approve the minutes from November 21, 2023. The motion was seconded by Jerry Hill. The motion passed unanimously.

14. **Agenda items for the next meeting on February 20, 2024;** Discuss heat options for the South station and future savings towards new equipment.

Ed will research water tender options for future purchase (which currently have a three year wait time). They cost $300,000 - $500,000, have a 1250-1500 pump, and hold 3000 gallons of water. Cities are ordering them now to lock in current price.

Jerry discussed future lump payment towards the building when the current 4.5% loan ends.

Scott spoke about the current tax rate of .94/$100 going down 2-3 points a year with the No-new-revenue rate and how saving towards future purchases justifies the tax rate.

15. **Adjourn;** Ray Thomason moved to adjourn at 6:45 PM. The motion was seconded by Jerry Hill. The motion passed unanimously.

By: Kristie Jones

Clerk, Van Zandt Emergency Service District 4