VAN ZANDT COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICE DISTRICT #4

MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 20, 2024

**Present:** Commissioners: Scott Davenport, Jerry Hill, and Teresa Byrd

Absent: Ray Thomason

WPVFD: Ed Leipply

Guest: Robert Tisdale

1. **Call meeting to order.** President Scott Davenport declared a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.** Scott Davenport led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Invocation.
3. **Public Comment: Citizens to be heard.** Robert Tisdale attended the meeting but did not have a comment at this time.
4. **Recognition of ESD/VFD Volunteers.** Ed Leipply reported the department has completed the new ISO grading. They will have 45 days to review it and send it to the State. It usually takes the State about 6 months to complete the new grading. Ed said the stipend being paid to firefighters for day coverage will help the grading. He hopes the department receives a 3 or 4. Currently the city has a 6 and the county areas are a 9. Once the new grading is in place, it will be up to individuals to contact their insurance agent to report the new grading before they renew their coverage.
5. **Resignation of Greg Preston**. Scott Davenport reported that Greg Preston is resigning as a Commissioner for VZESD 4. He told Scott his business responsibilities have increased and he just doesn’t feel he can serve any longer. Robert Tisdale is willing to serve and has spoken with Scott and County Commissioner Keith Pearson. Scott will notify Van Zandt County so this item can be added to the agenda for the County Commissioners.
6. **Status of new Fire Engine.** The engine has been fully paid for and it is expected to arrive in Wills Point any day. Ed Leipply will contact Ken Byrd about a press release for the new engine and to let citizens know about the coming change in the ISO grading.
7. **Discuss options for heating the South Station, take action if necessary.** Ray Thomason is looking into options for heat. With the weather warming up, it is not necessary right now, but will need to be in place by next winter.

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

a) The Operating account balance is $536,967.53, the ESD Asset Allocation fund balance is $70,935.40, and the Emergency fund balance is $23,389.94 with $300,000 of the Emergency fund being in CD’s. One of the CD’s is coming up for renewal. Jerry Hill moved to renew this CD for 13 months. Teresa Byrd seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Jerry will notify the bank to renew the CD. This will leave the ESD with a CD renewing every 6-7 months.

b) Monthly Budget Report: Kristie provided a current Balance Sheet dated October 1, 2023 through February 20, 2024 and copies of the bank statements. There were no questions.

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

a) Current status of equipment: All the trucks are currently in service. Brush 2 will be sent to Wildfire for some maintenance and repairs. Siddons gave the department $1000 in PM for the use of one of their trucks for licensing a driver.

b) Monthly Run Report: Chief Leipply reported 59 calls for January. The calls included 6 Structure Fires, 1 Grass/Brush Fire, 1 Vehicle Fire, 3 Motor Vehicle Accidents, 46 EMS, and 2 Other type calls. Ed stated there had been an increase in Flu and Covid calls during January.

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

10. **Consent agenda;**

a) Reading (if requested) and approval of the January 16, 2024 Meeting Minutes; Teresa Byrd moved to approve the minutes from January 16, 2024 with one correction. Ed Leipply stated the amount listed in item 9(a) was $20,000 not $19,000. The motion was seconded by Jerry Hill. The motion passed unanimously.

11. **Agenda items for the next meeting on March 19, 2024;** New engine arrival, Water Tender purchase, and potential land purchase or lease for a sub-station on 47 North towards the State Park.

12. **Adjourn;** Jerry Hill moved to adjourn at 6:36 PM. The motion was seconded by Teresa Byrd. The motion passed unanimously.

By: Kristie Jones

Clerk, Van Zandt Emergency Service District 4