

Meeting Minutes -Montgomery County Emergency Services District No. 6

The Montgomery County Emergency Services District No. 6 Board of Commissioners held its regular meeting at the Porter Fire Department Station 121 on March 23, 2021.

The meeting was called to order by David Miller, District Board President.

Commissioners present: David Miller, Donnie Click, and Larry Trout.

Also attending: District Fire Chief Carter Johnson, Assistant Chief Charles Martin, District Office Manager Jessica Black, District Legal Counsel John Peeler of Coveler & Peeler, PC (remotely), Ricardo Martinez of Martinez Architects, and District Bookkeeper Maria Felder of Municipal Accounts & Consulting, LP.

Commissioners not present: Therlyn Cook, John Kelley

Public attendees: none

- The Board convened and the meeting was called to order by Commissioner Miller at 12:27 PM.
- The Board conducted roll call with a quorum present. The Board of Commissioners attended the meeting in person, and consultants appeared either in person or via teleconference.
- The Board opened the floor for public comment though none was offered.
- The Board then addressed item 3 of the agenda, minutes of prior meetings. The minutes were reviewed for the February 23, 2021 regular meeting. Motion by Commissioner Click and second by Commissioner Trout to approve the minutes as presented by Counsel. **After discussion the motion was approved 3 to 0.**
- The Board then addressed item 4 of the agenda: financial report, investments, and bills. Maria Felder of Municipal Accounts and Consulting presented a report on the financial status of the District for review and action, and she provided a verbal summary of the monthly report and bills for payment. Ms. Felder stated that 93% of property taxes had been collected. Chief Johnson noted that BBVA local representatives were not helpful and asked that Municipal Accounts' government accounts contacts be used for working with the Districts accounts at BBVA. Ms. Felder also presented the quarterly investment report. Motion by Commissioner Click and second by Commissioner Trout to accept the report and approve the investments and bills as presented. **After discussion the motion was approved 3 to 0.**
- The Board then addressed item 5, granting exemptions for 2021. Motion was made by Commissioner Click and second by Commissioner Miller to keep the exemptions the same as those for 2020: Homestead, \$-0-; Over 65, \$40,000; and Disability, \$-0-. **After discussion the motion was approved 3 to 0.**
- The Board then addressed agenda item 6, amendments/revisions to District budget(s). No action taken.
- The Board next addressed agenda item 7, District employee retirement accounts, including changing management company. No action taken.
- The Board then addressed agenda item 8, to review and act on items related to construction, improvements, repairs, renovations, and equipment purchases for District facilities, including selection/engagement of contractor(s), architectural, testing or other services. Ricardo Martinez and Chief Johnson summarized Station 122 construction activities relaying anticipation of move-in in May. Draw Request #10 in the amount of \$330,974.17 was previously approved with payment of the District bills. No action taken.
- The Board took no action on agenda item 9, disposition of surplus and/or salvage property.
- The Board next addressed item 10 of the agenda, acquisition and financing of capital equipment and vehicles. Chief Johnson shared that he was looking at a pickup for use by the quartermaster and to haul boats and requested approval for cooperative purchasing supplier, not to exceed \$69,000. Motion by

Commissioner Trout and second by Commissioner Click to approve the purchase of a utility truck as presented, not to exceed \$69,000. **After discussion, the motion was approved 3 to 0.**

- The Board addressed agenda item 11 regarding real estate matters. Counsel and the Board discussed the need to prepare a contract for review in order to begin the process to purchase land discussed previously. It was noted that the seller seems to have no representation. Chief Johnson also notes his work on the second parcel of land near Friendswood. Discussion ensued generally regarding coverage, dispatch and mutual aid issues for the area as well.
- The Board addressed item 12 of the agenda, to receive a report from the Fire Department. Chief Johnson presented a report by call type noting the following: call volume very busy; Riverwalk area structure fire; vaccines administered; Hazmat on freeway responses; TIFMAS is mobilizing Fire Departments to do vaccinations; the District's Department is managing approximately 85 people in the vaccine program though only one of our firefighters is on assignment for the TIFMAS vaccination program; still sending several firefighters in County programs; ISO audit coming soon; new hire academy to commence soon; participated in recent meeting on infrastructure in Area Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs; hose testing in progress; response chart presented.
- The Board then addressed item 13, matters related to first responder status and activities with Montgomery County Hospital. Chief Johnson relayed his meeting with the Montgomery County Hospital District on the new response protocols and MCHD wanting fire departments to carry more of the load. The Board generally noted MCHD's historic refusal to keep the tax rate high enough to deal with the growth of the area though depending more on the fire departments. No action taken.
- The Board next addressed item 14 of the agenda, matters related to COVID-19. No action taken.
- The Board took no action on agenda item 15, records management issues.
- The Board did not exercise the option to enter Closed Session under item 16, to consult with legal counsel.
- The Board did not exercise the option to enter Closed Session under item 17, deliberation of real estate matters.
- The Board did not exercise the option to enter Closed Session under item 18, discussion of personnel matters.
- The Board took no action on item 19, personnel matters.
- There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting adjourned at 1:31 P.M.