VAN ZANDT COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICE DISTRICT #4

MINUTES FROM MAY 16, 2023

**Present:** Commissioners: Scott Davenport, Ray Thomason, Jerry Hill, Teresa Byrd and Greg Preston

WPVFD: Ed Leipply

1. **Call meeting to order;** President Scott Davenport declared a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation;** Scott Davenport led the Pledge of Allegiance and Greg Preston led the Invocation.
3. **Public Comment: Citizens to be heard;** No one was present.
4. **Recognition of ESD/VFD Volunteers;** Chief Leipply reported that Jace Daniels, previous volunteer, had completed training at Kilgore and would be returning as a volunteer.
5. **Discuss funds to pay towards new engine and estimate for new engine equipment, take action if necessary;** Ray Thomason and Ed Leipply will be meeting with 2-3 vendors about the equipment needed to complete the new engine. Those items will be drop shipped to the fire station and then the fire department will load it the way they want. The cost to purchase the equipment will be approximately $100,000 to $150,000. Jerry Hill moved to pay $450,000.00 cash from the asset allocation fund for the engine when we receive it and finance the additional $225,000.00. The funds for the additional equipment will be paid from the operating account. Teresa Byrd seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
6. **Status of new Brush Truck;** The truck has been delivered to WildFire. Ed reported Don told him there are 3 or 4 trucks ahead of ours. It will take 3 to 4 weeks to build out the new truck. Hopefully, it will be in Wills Point by the end of August.
7. **Discuss FM 47 bridge replacement and how emergency services will be handled;** Scott reported he has talked with Virgil Melton and Virgil is also talking to TX-Dot. Scott has not talked with the county judge yet and he also plans to speak with Lance Gooden. Scott feels the only way to make any progress is to have pressure from the higher officials. Everyone agrees an upgrade is needed but how they are completing the upgrades is concerning. Ed reported the VFD will not set up their contingency emergency plan until they have a start date.

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

a) The Operating account balance is 407,272.03, the ESD Asset Allocation fund balance is $587,563.11 and the Emergency fund balance is $323,221.48.

b) Monthly Budget Report: Kristie provided a current Balance Sheet dated October 1, 2022 through May 16, 2023.

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

a) Current status of equipment: all equipment is in service.

b) Monthly Run Report: WPVFD reported 61 calls for April. The calls included 2 Structure Fires, 1 Grass/Brush Fire, 1 Vehicle Fire, 11 Motor Vehicle Accidents, 31 EMS, and 15 Other type calls.

c) Monthly Budget Report including 2022/2023 Budget: The annual budget was presented showing expenditures through May 1, 2023. Ed said based on current expenditures he thought they would be fine for the rest of the year but they may not be able to return as many funds to the ESD as in the past.

The commissioners discussed the VFD audit and how often they needed to require one.

10. **Consent agenda;**

a) Reading (if requested) and approval of the April 18, 2023 Meeting Minutes; Jerry Hill moved to approve the minutes from April 18, 2023. Ray Thomason seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The tower that was presented last month is now not happening at the Fire Department location. The county has purchased a location across from the Industrial Park to use for the tower.

There was a short discussion about collecting sales tax. Teresa Byrd was given the okay to research collecting $0.02 sales tax in the county.

11. **Agenda items for the next meeting on May 16, 2023;** Items will be added if needed. For now it will be the normal agenda items.

12. **Adjourn;** Teresa Byrd moved to adjourn at 6:38 PM. The motion was seconded by Greg Preston. The motion passed unanimously.

By: Kristie Jones

Clerk, Van Zandt Emergency Service District 4