VAN ZANDT COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICE DISTRICT #4

MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 17, 2023

**Present:** Commissioners: Scott Davenport, Jerry Hill, Greg Preston, Ray Thomason 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 6:01 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 to speak.
4. **Recognition of ESD/VFD Volunteers;** There were no recognitions.
5. **Approval of 2023 Tax Roll**; Scott Davenport shared the information provided by Van Zandt County Appraisal District. The 2023 Tax Levy for VZESD 4 is $879,963.74. Greg Preston moved to approve the 2023 Tax Roll. Teresa Byrd seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
6. **Status of new Brush Truck;** The truck is here at the station. Chief Leipply is waiting to receive the MSO and then it can be registered and have tags. What to do with the old truck will need to be decided at the November meeting. It is a 2005 F350 with approximately 70,000 miles that was part of a grant from the Forestry Service. It currently consists of a cab and chassis only.
7. **Status of new Fire Engine;** The new engine is in production. The Siddons Martin website updates the progress every Monday at 5 PM. It will be approximately 60 days before someone will need to go and do the final inspection in Wisconsin.
8. **Number of years and cost of purchasing PM”s, take action as necessary;** The cost per year for PM’s on the new engine are $4285.00. Chief Leipply said he has not received an answer to his question about what happens to the PM’s in case of catastrophic failure. He shared an example: if the new engine were to burn up in some kind of fire within a year or two, what happens to the pre-purchased PM”s. Would they be refunded or applied to a replacement engine. He is waiting to hear. Siddons Martin told him that was a great question, but not one that had been asked before. Before purchase of the PM”s, the board would like an answer to the question in writing. The number of years to purchase was discussed. The board considered what the increase would be if they only purchased 5 years and had to pay out of pocket for another 5. After discussion, Jerry Hill moved to purchase 10 years of PM’s while pursuing the answer would the PM’s be refunded or applied to a replacement in the event of catastrophic failure. Ray Thomason seconded the motion. The 10 years will total $42,850.00. The motion passed unanimously. Scott said this would be paid from the operating account.
9. **Discuss funds from FY 2022-23 and how much to pay towards loans – new engine or station, take action as necessary;** Scott stated he would like to pay an additional $150,000.00 towards the new engine and then finance the remainder. This item was tabled until November, when a better idea of funds and final cost will be available.

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

a) The Operating account balance is $223,657.28, the ESD Asset Allocation fund balance is $588,055.86, and the Emergency fund balance is $23,374.18 with $300,000 of the Emergency fund being in CD’s. The CD’s have currently accrued $3,345.19 in interest.

b) Monthly Budget Report: Kristie provided a current Balance Sheet dated October 1, 2023 through October 17, 2023 and copies of the bank statements. There were no questions.

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

a) Current status of equipment: All the equipment that is at the station is currently working. They are just waiting on the plates for the new brush truck and then it will be put into service.

b) Monthly Run Report: Chief Leipply reported 101 calls for September. The calls included 3 Structure Fires, 20 Grass/Brush Fires, 3 Vehicle Fires, 11 Motor Vehicle Accidents, 46 EMS, and 18 Other type calls.

c) Monthly Budget Report including 2023/2024 Budget: Chief Leipply submitted his financial report and annual budget report for October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023. He reported the VFD has adjusted their budget this year. He returned unused funds from last year’s budget to the ESD. Jerry Hill will deposit those to the operating account.

12. **Consent agenda;**

a) Reading (if requested) and approval of the September 19, 2023 Meeting Minutes; Ray Thomason moved to approve the minutes from September 19, 2023. The motion was seconded by Greg Preston. The motion passed unanimously.

13. **Agenda items for the next meeting on November 21, 2023;** The agenda will include excess money from FY 2022-23 to use towards paying on new engine and disposition of the 2005 F350.

14. **Adjourn;** Ray Thomason moved to adjourn at 6:45 PM. The motion was seconded by Teresa Byrd. The motion passed unanimously.

By: Kristie Jones

Clerk, Van Zandt Emergency Service District 4