

GRIMES COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #1

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 16, 2020

1. President Tim Akers called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm at Fire Station #1
 - a. Commissioners present: Bob Leiper, Kyle Braswell, and Tim Akers. Byron Kay joined the meeting at item #7.
2. Invocation given by Braswell
3. Recognition of Citizens: Alec Pointer
4. Open forum: None
5. Minutes of the August 20 meeting were read. Motion to accept by Leiper, second by Akers. Carried 3-0.
6. The treasurer reported that we had a balance of \$208,597.16 in the ESD bank account as of 8/30/2020. There is a pending deposit and a pending payment resulting in a draft balance of \$208,833.04 on 9/14/2020. Motion to approve report by Braswell with second by Akers. Carried 3-0.
7. The ESD expressed appreciation to the IVFD for having the financial report early enough this month to review before our meeting. There were no questions on the report. The IVFD QuickBooks and bank statements now match. Bob, Sue, and Morris met previous to this meeting to discuss the IVFD financial statements, expectations to provide receipts for expenses, use of debit card, and financial accountability. The IVFD will change one of their Tuesday meetings to a work meeting to be able to provide their financials at least 7 days before the ESD meeting. After additional discussion on the debit card, it was agreed that Morris and Sue will keep their cards to allow for on-line purchases and other special situations. They must tightly control use of the card and provide some type of receipt for all purchases. On-line purchases frequently do not provide a receipt, so they must show some type of documentation describing the purchase if a receipt is not provided.

8. The Fire Chief reported that the IVFD had 15 calls during August. They currently have 15 members with 2 prospective members. One of the prospective members already has some training. The IVFD continues to focus on in-house training because of Covid 19. They will have expenditures to equip the new truck with radios, tools, nozzles, etc., and they received an insurance invoice today for something less than \$1000. The community will be using the fire station on Saturday for a special event.
9. President Akers convened a public hearing on the ESD's proposed 2020/2021 budget. The ESD treasurer reviewed the budget. There were no public comments, and the public hearing was adjourned.
10. Braswell moved to approve the 20/21 budget and second by Kay. Carried 4-0.
11. President Akers convened a public hearing on the proposed tax rate for year 2020. The ESD treasurer reviewed the proposed tax rate of \$0.026626/\$100. This tax rate is effectively a 3.5% increase and will raise taxes for maintenance and operations on a \$100,000 home by approximately \$0.12. There was no public comment, and the public hearing was adjourned.
12. The commissioners adopted a resolution setting the 2020 tax rate at \$0.026626 which is effectively a 3.5% increase and will raise taxes for Maintenance and Operations on a \$100,000 home by approximately \$0.12. Commissioners voting for the resolution were Tim Akers, Bob Leiper, Byron Kay, and Kyle Braswell.
13. Leiper presented two bills for approval. \$127 to the Navasota Examiner for publishing the tax rate notice and \$167.33 for his trip to Skeeter to pick up the new truck. Move by Akers to approve, second by Kay. Carried 4-0. Leiper moved that we pay \$46,150 to the IVFD. This is the amount to catch up on payments to them for this fiscal year minus the \$10,000 the ESD paid to Skeeter on behalf of the IVFD for the new fire truck. Move by Kay to approve and second by Braswell. Carried 4-0.
14. Motion to adjourn at 8:10 by Braswell, second by Akers. Carried 4-0.