

Burnet County ESD 8

Minutes from May 25, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 6:50pm by President, Roberta Elmore. Commissioners Ewart, and Eaton were present as well. Approximately 12 community members were in attendance which included members of the Oakalla VFD. After a quorum was established, a prayer and pledge to the American and Texas flag were given.

At 6:52pm, Executive session was entered into. At 7:01pm executive session ended. No motions were made during this period.

Items on the agenda:

No public comments on or off Agenda items were needed.

Issues during this Covid period. We have not had a meeting since February. We have paid contracted and regular bills during this time and we will address those later in this agenda.

Minutes were review for February 2020 meeting. Approved/Seconded (Ewart/Elmore) after discussion the motion passed.

Treasury report was given. (Ewart) Summary of several months (March and April). Property tax deposit was \$7,460.39. Sales tax deposit was \$45,943.85. For May our property tax deposit was \$662.63, and our Sales tax deposit was \$26,056.69. Our Bank balance for the end of April was \$243,473.47 and our current bank balance as of today (5/25/2020) is \$271,203.82. Our contingency account has a balance at the end of April was \$216,484.78. (Elmore/Eaton) After discussion about the sales tax deposit, the motioned passed.

Audit of the 2019 books are complete but haven gotten the final report. We were supposed to give the final report to the county auditor by the end of May, but because of the Situation we are currently in (Covid 19) that will be delayed.

Tabled the annual report.

Review activity report for February, March and April for OVFD. Average respond time for the months presented were 10 minutes for March, was 9 minutes for April and 10 minutes for May.

Reviewed the financials for the OVFD for the combined months. No questions were asked.

Fire Chiefs report: Weeks- Firefly fire on April 21<sup>st</sup>. The department didn't know what was in the Storage unit in regard to chemicals or other flammable materials. 6 sets of bunker gear were involved in this incident. Since the OVFD didn't know what was contain in the storage unit. State Fire marshal office was contacted and they (OVFD) were informed that the bunker gear would need to be cleaned. After reviewing the gear, 4 sets of gear could be cleaned, and 2 sets would need to be replaced. The

OVFD insurance was contacted and the claim started. Firefly would not provide their insurance so that a claim could be made. Firefly could not give complete information about what hazard materials were involved. OVFD has worked with Firefly to get complete MSDS. They have provided some but not a complete list of materials. The cost of the replacement bunker gear and cleaning of the other gear is around \$11,000. OVFD has received loaner bunker gear until the cleaned gear can be returned and the new gear purchased. Now all firefighter has been instructed that should another call from Firefly come in our firefighters will respond to the front gate and not enter the facility. At that time, the Fire Chief will determine how to proceed with the information they currently have and what Firefly will provide. They have not been able to provide to the OVFD what is on sight at the time of the fires. So, sending volunteers in would be unwise. They (OVFD) will respond to the gate and should the fire come outside the premises, the OVFD will contain the fire on Firefly's property. County Commissioner has been notified of this situation and if the County Commissioners disagree, they can send Burnet Paid firefighters over to entered. So moving forward the OVFD will respond to the gate and Firefly will be required to turnover all paperwork of the building that is involved and what is contained inside said building before the OVFD will come on-sight to fight the fire. The fire department has the sole discretion as to how to proceed concerning issues with Firefly. Ewart asked if the fire department thought that the ESD should send a letter to Firefly explaining the situation. And Chief said that would be a good idea. We will start that process of gathering information. Fire Chief has said that should another incident arise, evacuation will be a one-mile radius around the property. Along with that State Highway 183 will be shutdown within that radius. Eaton asked if we could send the residence within that one-mile radius a letter and get their contact information so that they would be notified. Fire department and the ESD will work together to get the information together so that the next meeting we can vote and send this letter in May. Letter should go to County Commissioners, County Judge, Sherriff, State Fire Marshall as well as Firefly. ESD, in this letter should direct the Fire Chief to do the above-mentioned direction so that the heat is taken off the fire department. Radius can be determined by a drone from each corner of their facility. Other fires in our area that have been happening recently are being determined to be arson, so we need to start thinking about getting equipment that can push more water. The department will start looking at the cost of a new pumper. The department pumped over 100,000 gallons of water on the auction barn fire. The chief understand that we have the building coming along in Briggs, but he did say that moving more water is very important. Subdivision are coming in so moving more water will be become even more of an issue. Our ESD covers 283 Sq. miles. Fire department is handling all the calls but with the auction barn fire it has become apparent that a pumper should be looked at. A radio was lost during the auction fire. The department could file on their insurance, but with the prior claim this claim could raise their rates. We asked if the ESD could pay for the radio if we could get an invoice. The department will provide the ESD with an invoice so that it can be voted on to approve to be paid the next meeting.

We approved the payment for the Post office box (\$56.) and the BCAD (\$814.96) and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Qrtly payment to OVFD (\$68,000.) (Elmore/Eaton) after discussion, the motion passed.

We approved to pay the attorney bills for the past months of \$2,078.50 and \$3,852. (Elmore/Eaton) after discussion the motion passed. This month attorney bill is \$360. (Elmore/Eaton) after discussion the motion passed.

The Oakalla and the ESD audit review. We will have Charity on the agenda for next month to present both audits.

Discuss the annual review of investments. We do not have any investments so there is no review.

Discuss resolution establishing record management program and electing record management officer and establishing public information coordinator. Our secretary will be in charge of the record manager and general council of the district will be the public information coordinator. (Elmore/Ewart) after discussion the motion passed.

Discussion of the Briggs Firehall. Nothing really has happened. TXdot requirements have been moving forward for the entrance and culvert in and water drainage. We will get the biggest entrance we can get. Soil test has been done so the slab will need to be engineered. Specification for everything that will be done so that we know what we will need and if we will need a general contractor or not. Retention pond will need to be done for TXdot so that the entrance can be completed. Fire department can do a smaller loan for just the building and not the extra's (like water storages, septic, water, etc.) no voted needed.

Litigation with BCCI and the old BVFD and the three individuals. We have been offered to settle by the insurance for the old BVFD and the three individuals. The insurance the old BVFD had will be paying the ESD \$5,000 and we will be releasing the BVFD and the three individuals. The suit against BCCI is still ongoing. The tanks that are on the property currently owned by the BCCI are owned by the district and BCCI want us to either pay a high amount of rent or remove the tanks. With everything that is going on in the area we really need that water.

Next meeting is June 22, 2020 at the Oakalla firehall

Being there is no other items to discuss or vote upon. (Ewart/Elmore) no discussion, motion passed. We adjourned at 7:58pm.

Approved June 22, 2020



Roberta Elmore

President ESD 8