VAN ZANDT COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICE DISTRICT #4

MINUTES FROM MARCH 16, 2024

**Present:** Commissioners: Scott Davenport, Jerry Hill, and Robert Tisdale

Absent: Ray Thomason and 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 the Invocation.
3. **Public Comment: Citizens to be heard.** No one was present to speak.
4. **Recognition of ESD/VFD Volunteers.** No volunteers were recognized.
5. **Information on purchasing a Water Tender Truck, take action if necessary**. Scott Davenport reported he spoke to someone at the Safe-d Conference about a water tender. They cost about $500,000 and currently have a 2-3 year wait time. This item will remain on the agenda to be discussed next month. A truck could be ordered now and then would be paid for at the time of delivery.
6. **Arrival of new Fire Engine.** The engine has arrived. Training on the new engine will take place before it is put into service.
7. **Discuss moving money to pay down loan, take action if necessary.** After discussing the funds needed to finish this fiscal year, Jerry Hill moved to pay $250,000 towards the principal of the fire station loan. Robert Tisdale seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Kristie will get a check to Jerry for him to take to the bank.
8. **Any information on land for a North Sub-station**. No new information is available at this time. This item will remain on the agenda.
9. **Discuss options for heating the South Station, take action if necessary.** Some options have been looked at but no decision has been made. There is time to purchase and install something before winter. Robert Tisdale asked about the location of this station and Scott told him where it was and the hope that once the old engine is housed there and the fire department receives the new ISO rating, residents will benefit with lower insurance rates.

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

a) The Operating account balance is $597,267.04, the ESD Asset Allocation fund balance is $70,946.67, and the Emergency fund balance is $23,393.65 with $300,000 of the Emergency fund being in CD’s.

b) Monthly Budget Report: Kristie provided a current Balance Sheet dated October 1, 2023 through March 19, 2024, report for deposited tax funds YTD, and copies of the bank statements. There were no questions.

9. **Report from VFD Chief Ed Leipply on current status of the VFD including:** Ed was not in attendance but left his reports.

a) Current status of equipment: All the trucks are currently in service. The new engine will be put into service as soon as training is complete.

b) Monthly Run Report: Chief Leipply reported 74 calls for February. The calls included 1 Structure Fire, 7 Grass/Brush Fires, 10 Motor Vehicle Accidents, 52 EMS, and 4 Other type calls. Robert Tisdale asked about the EMS calls. Scott explained and also said he was going to talk to Ed about filing on individuals insurance when they answer a call on the highway (individuals that do not pay tax for ESD4).

c) Monthly Budget Report including 2023/2024 Budget: Chief Leipply submitted his financial report and annual budget report for October 1, 2023 through February 29, 2024. Robert Tisdale asked a few questions about how the department was given funds and their budget. Scott and Jerry explained Ed submits a detailed budget report each month and he would find answers by examining it. The department is currently given $42,000 each quarter. Scott told Robert about the unused funds being returned to the ESD at the end of each fiscal year.

10. **Consent agenda;**

a) Reading (if requested) and approval of the February 20, 2024 Meeting Minutes; Jerry Hill moved to approve the minutes from February 20, 2024. The motion was seconded by Robert Tisdale. The motion passed unanimously.

11. **Agenda items for the next meeting on April 16, 2024;** New engine, Water Tender purchase, and potential land purchase or lease for a sub-station on 47 North towards the State Park.

12. **Adjourn;** Jerry Hill moved to adjourn at 6:38 PM. The motion was seconded by Robert Tisdale. The motion passed unanimously.

By: Kristie Jones

Clerk, Van Zandt Emergency Service District 4