

Minutes of the April 25, 2013 Commissioners Meeting

1. Meeting was called to order at 6:35 P.M.
2. Pledge of allegiance was recited
3. Quorum present, Commissioners McLellan, Shoppach, Ames, Gelasco and Hambric.
4. Presentations: County Commissioner Vince Perez was in attendance. He was introduced to each member of the Board, the Fire Chief, the Fire Marshal and legal.
5. Motion to approve minutes of March, 2013 meeting made by Commissioner Ames and 2nd by Commissioner Hambric. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Motion to approve financial report from March, 2013 made by Commissioner Ames and 2nd by Commissioner Hambric. Motion carried unanimously.
7. Tax income and investment incomes were reviewed.
8. Accounts payable for March, 2013 were reviewed.
9. Motion made by Commissioner Hambric to approve expenditures for Horizon Regional M.U.D. for \$4100.00 for the service hook up for the new station. Motion seconded by Commissioner Gelasco. Motion carried unanimously.
10. Chief Keys reports calls in 122 March and 456 calls year to date. Chief Keys and Fire Marshal Guillen met with S.I.S.D. and other agencies from the area. It was to discuss a fire that occurred at Eastlake High School which we were not called to until 2 hours after the fire was out. The explanation was that the Socorro School District monitors their (S.I.S.D. Police) system which is why we were not called out initially. When we were finally called Chief Keys spoke with the principal as to why we weren't called which is what spawned the meeting. Table top planning was done at the meeting as to incidents that could possibly occur. These will become regular meetings with all agencies concerned including fire department. Mr. Guillen also stated that the S.I.S.D. system is not programmed to call 911 in the case of fire alarm activation. Commissioner Hambric stated that a few people from S.I.S.D. operations would be helpful in the meetings as well. WE had a false alarm call to one of the pallet factories in the Colonia Revolucion area. Chief Keys and Fire Marshal Guillen rode around the area to check on the various companies. According to Chief Keys the situation out there is worse than the last two years in which we have had major fires in that area. Fire Marshal Guillen, District #2 Fire Marshal Roger Esparza, and Attorney Richard Contreras have had meetings with County Attorney JoAnne Bernal regarding these businesses and how to bring them into compliance of the fire code. No maintenance issues to report. Training going well with good turnout. We are currently working on interior search and RIT training. We will be teaching a Heartsaver CPR course on May 4th in the morning. The American Red Cross in conjunction with Prices Creameries contacted us about putting on free Red Cross "Compression only" CPR at our station on the afternoon of the 4th.

They are teaching now before the summer swim season at 8 different stations throughout the county and we were asked to be one of them. Classes will be taught at 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, and 4:30. They will bring us a banner to put up on the station and will bring all supplies necessary. They will also have snacks, water and door prizes for participants. We have one firefighter in Socorro, New Mexico at rope training, and two other are in Ruidoso at the New Mexico EMS Conference. Commissioner McLellan asked how new member recruitment is going. Right now we have 3 members going through probation and 4 others that recently passed the background check. Motion to approve Chief's report made by Commissioner Hambric and seconded by Commissioner Gelasco. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Fire Marshal's report: (see attachment on agenda for complete report) Fire Marshal Guillen reports we have a new Chinese restaurant that recently opened. He met last week with owners of property regarding fire hydrants in the Colonia Revolucion area. He also addressed some items that he wishes to be added to the web site. He is currently researching the salary range for the addition of a Deputy Fire Marshal due to the rapid growth and increasing businesses coming into the area. Commissioner McLellan asked if we had resolved the concerns raised by S.I.S.D. as to the fire codes we are enforcing. Richard is currently researching this. Richard also spoke at a meeting between Fire Marshals for both districts and County Attorney JoAnn Bernal regarding policies and procedures along with citations. Richard stated that we continue to work with various agencies to have a meeting with the pallet yards. Fire Marshal Guillen is attending TECLEOSE training with the city to keep his license current. He also discussed various meetings he had attended throughout the month.
12. Commissioner Ames presented information for the Board to consider letting the Fire Marshal carry his weapon. Commissioner Gelasco stated that he was against this policy due to liability concerns. Commissioner McLellan spoke as to intimidation and customer service with the Fire Marshal carrying a weapon. Unanimous opinion from the Board that Frank is doing a good job and is very level headed but for now would like to see him use other techniques to diffuse situations. Commissioner Hambric stated that he agrees that some situations in the county are scary but that having a firearm is not the answer at this time. If necessary he should call for law enforcement back-up before going. Commissioner Ames stated that there is liability in everything that we do, and that should not be the only reason as to not allow the policy. Attorney Richard Contreras said he would also be against this policy. Richard has spoken with El Paso County Sheriff Richard Wiles who is not in favor of us carrying weapons. Commissioner Shoppach stated that he would not be against the District carrying his TECLEOSE license. Fire Marshal Guillen arrived to the meeting late and was advised by Commissioner Gelasco as to the discussions had by the Board regarding this issue and advised him to utilize law enforcement in difficult situations. Discussions item only, no action taken.

13. Motion to table forms made by Commissioner Ames and seconded by Commissioner Hambric. Item tabled.
14. Motion to table annexation made by Commissioner Hambric and seconded by Commissioner Shoppach. Item tabled.
15. Motion to table maps made by Commissioner Hambric and seconded by Commissioner Shoppach. Item tabled.
16. Motion to table sales tax made by Commissioner Hambric and seconded by Commissioner Shoppach. Item tabled.
17. Commissioner Ames presented information on possibly paying Commissioners per meeting as provided under 775.038. Commissioners may be paid \$50 meeting not to exceed \$3,000 per year. Commissioner Gelasco commented on the amount of work done by Commissioner Ames and understands why she recommended that the Commissioners accept pay, but he joined the Board as a volunteer and does not feel he would want to be paid. Commissioner Hambric stated that he would rather see the firefighters being paid than Commissioners. Commissioner Shoppach also stated that he understands how much time Commissioner Ames puts in at her "2nd job" and why she would accept compensation and how the amount of time required is going up as our station project proceeds. Motion made by Commissioner Hambric to allow Commissioner Ames to write policies and procedures for this policy and it will be addressed at a future meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Shoppach. Motion carried unanimously.
18. Motion made by Commissioner Ames and seconded by Commissioner Gelasco to accept the changes for Life's apartment and the plaque for the front of the station as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
19. Motion to table surplus equipment made by Commissioner McLellan and seconded by Commissioner Ames. Item tabled.
20. Life Ambulance has signed the forms for the F.R.O. agreement. We still need the medical director's signature and a few updates. Motion to table made by Commissioner Hambric and seconded by Commissioner Ames. Item tabled.
21. Motion made by Commissioner McLellan to approve \$13,000 for the new Gear Grid lockers needed for the new station and to retrofit the ones that we have with doors. Motion seconded by Commissioner Ames. Item carried unanimously.
22. The Board discussed the revised AST Technology bid for the phone system for the new station. Commissioner Ames answered specific questions about the system and how the phone system and the provider work. Motion to approve made by Commissioner Ames and seconded by Commissioner Gelasco. Motion carried unanimously.
23. Motion made by Commissioner Hambric to send two people to the New Mexico EMS Conference in Ruidoso. Motion seconded by Commissioner McLellan. Motion carried unanimously.
24. Motion to approve the 5" supply hose and the 3: hose for the hose reel made by Commissioner Hambric and seconded by Commissioner Shoppach. Item passed unanimously.

25. Discussion of the departments need for a new pumper, a new Fire Marshal vehicle and a new first response vehicle. The vehicles we have to replace are getting up in age and would be probably be kept as reserve vehicles. We could use some of the reserve money for this rapidly developing need. The Board discussed a business plan and possible strategic planning session in the near future. Motion to delete made by Commissioner Shoppach and seconded by Commissioner Ames. Item deleted.
26. No Executive Session needed.
27. For the Good of the District: The bunker gear grant was approved. We have distributed 5 collection jars around town to collect donations for the First Responder killed in the West, Texas fertilizer plant explosion.
28. Next meeting May 23, 2013 at 6:30 P.M.
29. Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Ames. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 P.M.