

Minutes of the September 24, 2015 Commissioners Meeting

1. Meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M.
2. Pledge of allegiance was recited.
3. Quorum present: Commissioners' McLellan, Sanchez, Gelasco and Montoya. Commissioners Shoppach not in attendance. Also present Fire Marshal Frank Guillen, Captain Daniel Ames, Attorney Richard Contreras, Administrator Ron Larson and Administrative Accountant Katherine Ames
4. Presentations: Henry Gonzalez from Hakes Brothers builders introduced himself to the Board and told them about future developments in the Eastlake/Rojas area and said they were here to work with us should we need anything.
5. Motion made by Commissioner Gelasco to accept the Counties recommendation of using the effective tax rate of 0.099959 consisting of an M & O tax rate of 0.072845 and I & S tax rate of 0.027114 per one hundred dollars of property valuation. Motion seconded by Commissioner Sanchez. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Minutes were reviewed.
7. We are reallocating funds to make end of year purchases. We received \$3,419.75 in grant income from Texas Forest Service for insurance reimbursement.
8. Tax income: nothing to report
9. Accounts payable reviewed.
10. No expenditures to report.
11. Chief's report: Chief Menendez out of town. Report given by Captain Ames. He reports 2,122 calls year to date and 217 calls in August. The last two months have been hard on trucks. Tanker #401 is out of service and is having the pump completely rebuilt at a cost of \$33,000 so far, and the truck is not done yet. Quint#401 is out of service because of cable guides on the ladder being broken but should be back up and running next week. Cost on that truck is \$2,700. P403 is out of service with an oil leak that should be fixed next week. R405 is still in service but needs a new wiring harness which should be in next week and is covered under warranty. We have 4 new people we brought on last week with 2 more awaiting clearance on background checks. Motion to accept Chief's report made by Commissioner Gelasco and seconded by Commissioner McLellan. Motion carried unanimously.
12. Fire Marshal's report: 195 permits issued so far this year. Church's Chicken just submitted plans for a new restaurant in our area. The new hospital should also be breaking ground soon. Murphy's gas has submitted plans for a gas station in the Wal Mart parking lot. Motion to accept Fire Marshal's report made by Commissioner McLellan and seconded by Commissioner Sanchez. Motion carried unanimously.
13. EMS report: Captain Ames has been meeting with Dr. Berumen on ongoing improvements. Dr. Berumen happy with improvement on reports. He will be

teaching a C.E. class next week. Motion to accept EMS report made by Commissioner Gelasco and seconded by Commissioner Sanchez. Motion carried unanimously.

14. Communications: No one to speak on communications.
Items 15, 16, 17 and 21 moved to Executive Session.
18. Richard spoke to the Board about possibly hiring a Public Information Officer. This person would be a liaison for correspondence with the County on issues, could be on large scenes meeting with the press etc. Commissioner Montoya stated that he did not feel that it was necessary at this time unless we can find someone to do it on a voluntary basis. Motion to authorize voluntary position made by Commissioner Montoya and seconded by Commissioner Sanchez. Motion carried unanimously.
19. Motion to accept the SOP on Cost of Living Adjustments (Cola's) made by Commissioner Montoya and seconded by Commissioner Sanchez. Motion carried unanimously.
20. Motion made by Commissioner Montoya to accept the education Reimbursement policy with the following changes:
Pass the class with an "A" = 100% reimbursement
Pass the class with a "B" = 90% reimbursement
Pass the class with a "C" = 80% reimbursement
Pass or not with a "D", "F" or an incomplete will NOT be reimbursed.
Firefighters will only be reimbursed for out of pocket expense minus any scholarship, grant etc.
Motion seconded by Commissioner McLellan. Motion carried unanimously.
22. Captain Ames presented information to the Board on the need for new air bottles for the Cascade System. Ours have rust and our air samples that we send off for evaluation are failing the tests. We need some new ASME bottles at a cost of \$12,358. Commissioner McLellan asked why we couldn't use DOT approved cylinders? Captain Ames explained that ASME tanks are heavier construction so therefore do not have to be "hydro-tested" every 4-5 years which would be another expense. Commissioner McLellan would like for the Fire Department to do a little more homework and check on possibly leasing the tanks. Motion to table made by Commissioner Montoya and seconded by Commissioner McLellan. Item tabled.
23. Fire Marshal Guillen asked the Board's permission to host a "Youth Fire Prevention Program here at the station. The class will be a week long and encompass Level I and Level II training through the State Fireman's and Fire Marshal's Association. We will open the training to all the fire in the area including EPFD which has said they may send as many as 12 of their people to the class so we should have a good turnout. As host all we have to provide is the classroom. Motion to approve made by Commissioner McLellan and seconded by Commissioner Gelasco. Motion carried unanimously.
24. Motion to declare Titan 8000 Generator s/n TMG0034, Titan 8500 generator s/n RCG002953, Titan Air Compressor and Hurst Omni 24 "Jaws of Life" as surplus. The generators and air compressor will be sold to Horizon City Public

works for the sum of \$1.00 with the agreement that if the department needs them for any reason we may borrow them. The Hurst tool we have a department in Mexico that says they can repair them and are interested in them. Motion made by Commissioner Montoya and seconded by Commissioner Sanchez. Motion carried unanimously.

25. Captain Ames a quote for 4 each "Dual Band" radios at a cost of \$18,158. These radios would be carried by officers and are necessary to be able to communicate with ESD#2 when on mutual aid calls as they do not use the same type of radios that we do. Commissioner McLellan said communication on a fire scene is critical. Motion to approve made by Commissioner Gelasco and seconded by Commissioner Sanchez. Motion carried unanimously.
26. Motion to delete canopy made by Commissioner McLellan and seconded by Commissioner Sanchez. Item deleted.
27. Motion to table new computer made by Commissioner Montoya. He stated that the Chief may look at a docking station for his desk top or wait until later in the budget year. Motion seconded by Commissioner Sanchez. Item tabled.
28. Motion to delete medical made by Commissioner McLellan and seconded by Commissioner Montoya. Item deleted.
29. Motion to delete END Conference made by Commissioner McLellan and seconded by Commissioner Montoya. Item deleted.
30. Motion to approve TEEX Training M.O.U. made by Commissioner McLellan and seconded by Commissioner Gelasco. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board moved into Executive Session at 7:35 P.M.

15. Blair-Hall settlement discussed
16. BRW Architects and station final discussed.
17. Possible lawsuit discussed.
21. SISD fees for school inspection and lawsuit discussed.
31. Lieutenant Ivan Ruiz discussed.

The Board of Commissioners returned from Executive Session at 8:37 P.M.
No action taken.

15. & 16. Motion made by Commissioner Montoya to have Administrator Larson fly to College Station and try to get final settlement figures from BRW. Once we get the final figures from them we will be able to make an offer to Blair-Hall for final closeout of the station. Motion seconded by Commissioner McLellan. Motion carried unanimously.
18. Attorney Contreras explained that ESD#2 is going to file a lawsuit to clarify the Counties authority over our tax rate and budget. He asked if we would like to be a party to the lawsuit. The consensus of the Board was to not get involved at this time. Motion to table made by Commissioner McLellan and seconded by Commissioner Montoya. Commissioners Montoya, McLellan and Sanchez voted yeah, while Commissioner Gelasco abstained from this vote. Motion carried.

21. We are moving forward with the lawsuit with SISD over inspection fees that have not been paid. They were to have asked for an Attorney General's opinion on our authority but have never done so. We have waited and worked with them for 2 years with no result. The arbitration hearing will be in December with hearing set for February. Information only. Motion to delete made by Commissioner McLellan and seconded by Commissioner Montoya. Item deleted.
32. Administrator Larson took information regarding Ivan Ruiz to the Sheriff's Department who declined to pursue the matter. They said it was not cost effective and when we cashed the reimbursement check he gave us we basically accepted his proposal. Motion to delete made by Commissioner Montoya and seconded by Commissioner McLellan. Item deleted.
33. Good of the District: The County will accept our budget Monday morning In Commissioners Court. Someone from our District should be there.
34. Next meeting scheduled for October 22, 2015 at 6:30 P.M.
35. Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner McLellan. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 P.M.