

Minutes of the November 19, 2015 Commissioners Meeting

1. Meeting was called to order at 6:33 P.M.
2. Pledge of allegiance was recited.
3. Quorum present: Commissioners Shoppach, Gelasco and Sanchez. Commissioners McLellan and Montoya not in attendance. Also present; Attorney Richard Contreras, Chief Kris Menendez, Administrator Ron Larson and Administrative accountant Katherine Ames.
4. Presentations: Administrator Larson advised the Board that the audit still ongoing and the auditors have had numerous suggestions on policies and procedures that we can incorporate to do things better. We will be writing Sop's accordingly.
5. Minutes of last meeting were reviewed.
6. Financial report to be discussed in item 14.
7. Tax income and investments were reviewed.
8. We are \$624 short in the workman's compensation account, however we will leave this alone until we receive the grant money we normally get for this from Texas Forest Service Grant.
9. No Expenditures to report. Motion to accept consent agenda made by Commissioner Gelasco and seconded by Commissioner Sanchez. Motion carried unanimously.
10. Chief Menendez reports 200 calls and 2538 year to date. Stipend for October was \$12000. Chief Menendez just conducted training with the communications people on some ongoing issues we have had and on our terminology. There was a power outage the other day that brought up a problem with communications. When the power goes out there is a 6 second delay before the generator kicks in causing missed communications. They are looking into a battery back-up but each department will share in the expense. We have two people currently attending inspector class in Socorro, New Mexico. We had three vehicles that sustained hail damage in the severe storm earlier this month. The quote for repairs is approximately \$2500 per vehicle. The adjuster will be out next week to look at them. We will probably only repair two of the vehicles as one is on the replacement list. We had the ISO representative and the consultant in last week. The evaluation went very well. They will take all the information they gathered back and come up with our final rating. From what we were told our ISO rating will change from a 5/9 to a 3/5 or possibly 2/5 depending on how the information is imputed. We will be approaching the City of El Paso Fire Department regarding an automatic aid agreement for the area around the SAC to receive the same ISO rating as with-in Horizon City limits. It will take 4-6 months before we will be advised of our rating. One of their recommendations is another station in the Eastlake area which Administrator Larson is already working on. We were called out to a mountain rescue in the Hueco Mountains. Victim was 7 miles in on top of a mountain with an open leg fracture. Our people hiked in and using our rope rescue equipment were able to extricate the patient. All equipment necessary for this rescue was on our

new Rescue 405. Today our department responded to mile marker b63 on highway 62/180 for a truck vs bus traffic accident. There were 2 people dead on scene and 12 patients transported including 7 that went by Life Flight helicopter. Motion to accept Chief's report made by Commissioner Gelasco and seconded by Commissioner Sanchez. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Fire Marshal Guillen reports 220 permits issued so far this year. Three large projects starting up in the District. The new hospital has brought in plans and are breaking ground, there is a new Neighborhood Walmart beginning construction at Darrington and Eastlake and a new shopping center will be starting up soon at Peyton and Eastlake. Fire Marshal met with Horizon City officials, (code enforcement, permits, plans etc.) to better enforce both their and our codes. They apparently have never been paid by some of the same businesses that have given us trouble. The plan is to create a task force of City Officials, Fire Marshal, Health Department and possibly law enforcement to go out and enforce code and collect fees. Will be holding informational meetings for daycare centers on codes and enforcement. Fire Marshal and his deputy both attended the State Fireman's and Fire Marshal's conference and said it was a good conference with a lot of informative information. Motion to accept fire Marshal's report made by Commissioner Gelasco and seconded by Commissioner Sanchez. Motion carried unanimously.
12. EMS report: We have given Life Assist an open P.O. for \$8,000 for future purchases of medical products. Motion to delete item made by Commissioner Shoppach and seconded by Commissioner Gelasco. Item deleted.
13. Communications report: No one from communications in attendance. Motion to delete report made by commissioner Gelasco and seconded by Commissioner Sanchez. Item deleted.
14. Investment report: Administrative accountant Ames reports we now have \$1,258,500.50 in reserve. Motion to accept report made by Commissioner Gelasco and seconded by Commissioner Sanchez. Motion carried unanimously.
15. Fire Marshal Guillen presented information to the Board on the firearms policy that he was asked to write before being allowed to carry his weapon if necessary. The Board had given permission to allow him to carry contingent upon the SOP's. Attorney Contreras reminded the Board that regardless of their decision every of age person in Texas will be allowed "open carry" as of January 1, 2016. Motion to accept SOP's as presented made by Commissioner Shoppach and seconded by Commissioner Sanchez. Vote as follows: Commissioners Shoppach and Sanchez voted "yea" while Commissioner Gelasco "abstained". Motion carried.
16. Block party resolution: Fire Marshal Guillen presented information on a block party at a new housing development that he happened to drive up on. The party had no permit from us and there were numerous fire and health hazards present so the Fire Marshal shut down the party. We need to pass a block party resolution similar to the City of Horizons' and set fee limits. Motion to table made by Commissioner Shoppach and seconded by Commissioner Gelasco. Item tabled.

17. Fire Marshal Guillen presented a short video of the hazards of food trucks when things go bad. We are starting to see more and more food trucks setting up in our area. We need to write a resolution regarding code enforcement on these trucks and set a fee rate. Motion to table made by Commissioner Gelasco and seconded by Commissioner Sanchez. Item tabled.
18. Motion to accept quote from Caldwell Country Chevrolet through HGAC buying program of \$44,510 for the purchase of a new Chevrolet Tahoe to replace FM402. Motion made by Commissioner Shoppach and seconded by Commissioner Gelasco. Motion carried unanimously.
19. Administrator Larson presented the Board with the financial package from the Lawrence Financial Group for the purchase of the two new pick-ups approved last month and the Fire Marshal Tahoe just approved. Motion to accept made by Commissioner Shoppach and seconded by Commissioner Sanchez. Motion carried unanimously.
20. BRW Architects; we finally received the letter we have been asking for from Ray Halliday explaining their position on substantial completion. We will be meeting with Commissioners, Architect, Blair-hall and their attorney to try and finalize the station before we have to go to arbitration. Whatever offer is made will be brought back to the Board for approval. Motion to accept made by Commissioner Shoppach and seconded by Commissioner Gelasco. Motion carried unanimously.
21. Blair-Hall- See above. Motion to delete made by Commissioner Shoppach and seconded by Commissioner Gelasco. Item deleted.
22. SISD lawsuit is set for mediation on December 1, 2015 at 9:00 A.M. We will have to pay a fee of \$575 for the arbitrator. Motion to accept made by Commissioner Gelasco and seconded by Commissioner Sanchez. Motion carried unanimously.
23. CAD lawsuit; Richard is working with the City's auditors. Central Appraisal District is not being very responsive to requests. We should have some figures by next month. Motion to table made by Commissioner Shoppach and seconded by Commissioner Gelasco. Item tabled.
24. We need to have a mutual aid agreement with the City of El Paso for Station 37 to be able to respond to the area around the SAC. This would only be for fire related calls and the El Paso Fire Department would be released as soon as we get to the scene. If we can get this agreement the houses in the area around the SAC will get the same ISO rating as houses inside the city limits of Horizon. Motion to allow Chief Menendez to approach the City made by Commissioner Sanchez and seconded by Commissioner Gelasco. Motion carried unanimously.
25. Motion made by Commissioner Sanchez to allow \$6,375 for the purchase of a fire hydrant cutaway for training purposes and for points on our ISO rating. Fire Marshal Guillen offered to pay for half out of the Fire Marshal's account as he will be able to use this for training purposes also. Motion seconded by Commissioner Gelasco. Motion carried unanimously.
26. Chief Menendez presented a quote to the Board for uniforms at a cost of \$4,901.75. The Chief wants the firefighters to look more professional and they

will be wearing button up dress shirts and badges. Motion to accept made by Commissioner Shoppach and seconded by Commissioner Gelasco. Motion carried unanimously.

27. Motion to allow \$28,295.19 for equipment for the new vehicles including lighting and slide outs made by Commissioner Sanchez and seconded by Commissioner Gelasco. Motion carried unanimously.
28. Motion to allow \$1,981 for the purchase of fire extinguishers for the trucks. Some will be for the new trucks, while the rest will be for replacement of old or missing extinguishers. Motion made by Commissioner Gelasco and seconded by Commissioner Sanchez. Motion carried unanimously.
29. Motion to allow \$10,000 for the Christmas banquet made by Commissioner Shoppach and seconded by Commissioner Gelasco. Banquet will be held December 19 at 6:30 P.M. Motion carried unanimously.
30. The contract between the ESD and Horizon Fire will be presented next month. Motion to table made by Commissioner Gelasco and seconded by Commissioner Sanchez. Item tabled.
31. Motion to table SOP's made by Commissioner Gelasco and seconded by commissioner Shoppach. Item tabled.
32. Motion to delete SAFE-D made by Commissioner Shoppach and seconded by Commissioner Gelasco. Item deleted.
33. Motion made by Commissioner Shoppach and seconded by Commissioner Gelasco to hold a strategic planning meeting on Saturday, January 23 at 9:00 A.M. Motion carried unanimously.
34. Good of the District: Nothing
35. Next meeting scheduled for December 19, 2015. It is one week early because of Christmas.
36. Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Shoppach. Meeting adjourned at 9:10 P.M.