

## Minutes of the August 16, 2023 Commissioners Meeting

1. **Call to order:** 6:33 pm
2. **Establishment of a quorum:** Commissioner Anaya, Commissioner Mayberry, Commissioner Booth, Commissioner Rankins and Commissioner Berumen present in the building.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge was recited.
4. **Public Hearing:** Commissioner Mayberry read the following statement:

A notice of public hearing was published in the newspaper and placed on our website on August 10th, 2023, informing the voters of tonight's meeting.

For today's meeting, our Public Comment section is designated for our voters to express their support for, or opposition to the proposed tax rate that will be voted on during a subsequent agenda item. At this time, I would like to open the floor for any public comments.

The public hearing was held open for ten minutes. Commissioner Mayberry stated that at this time the Public Hearing agenda item is closed. We had no members from the community attend today.

5. **Discussion and take action on the adoption of the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 budget:** Chief Menendez and Administrator Ames made a presentation. Chief Menendez spoke about the ESD and Fire Department Highlights, call volume, run time and response times. Administrator Ames spoke about the budget breakdown, the dollar changes in each category and the summary of the budget amounts and tax rates that would support the budget. Commissioners asked a few questions about revenue sources and some of the specific items that were being budgeted. Commissioner Rankins made a motion to adopt the Fiscal year 23-24 budgets as follows:

The ESD Operating budget in the amount of \$12,316,055.09

The Fire Marshal Operating budget in the amount of \$984,828.89

And the Construction Operating budget in the amount of \$163,440.42

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Anaya. Board was polled and voted as such:

IN FAVOR: Jose Berumen, Amanda Anaya, Deanne Rankins, Jeff Booth, Bill Mayberry

AGAINST the proposal: None

PRESENT and not voting: None

ABSENT: None

**6. Discussion and take action on the adoption of the tax rate for Fiscal Year 2023-2024:**

Administrator Ames stated that the No New Revenue rate is \$0.089384, and the Voter Approval rate is \$0.108948. The recommendation is to adopt a tax rate of \$0.100000 which will provide the revenue necessary to support the budget that was just adopted. Commissioner Berumen made a comment about growth in our district and that it goes hand in hand with the increase in tax rates and revenues needed to support the services we provide for our growing community. Commissioner Booth made a motion that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.100000 which is effectively an 11.79 percent increase in the tax rate. The \$0.100000 tax rate consists of an I&S rate of \$0.047326 and an M&O rate of \$0.052674.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Rankins. Board was polled and voted as such:

IN FAVOR: Jose Berumen, Amanda Anaya, Deanne Rankins, Jeff Booth, Bill Mayberry

AGAINST the proposal: None

PRESENT and not voting: None

ABSENT: None

**7. Discussion and take action on Horizon Fire Department & El Paso County**

**Emergency Services District #1 Contract:** Captain Cease reviewed the three changes made in the contract from the previously approved contract. Those changes consisted of the Stipend cost section being updated to reflect the amount budgeted, the Employee retention money statement was modified, and that the Fire Department will comply with all ESD policies. Motion to approve the contract made by Commissioner Berumen and seconded by Commissioner Anaya that will take effect October 1, 2023. Motion carried.

**8. Discussion and take action on an MOU between El Paso County Emergency**

**Services District #1 and Clint Independent School District:** Chief Menendez stated that we are only changing the terms of the MOU so that it will not expire unless either party requests termination of the agreement in writing. This will allow us to continue to work with CISD, our community partners, and not have to renew the agreement each year. Legal has reviewed the contract and had no issues with the change. Motion to approve the CISD MOU made by Commissioner Booth and seconded by Commissioner Rankins. Motion carried.

- 9. Discussion and take action on the adoption of the International Codes (2021 edition):** Chief Menendez stated that there has been some discussion between him, the Fire Marshal and legal about adopting these codes. He is requesting the item be tabled for more discussion and research with and by legal. Commissioner Booth did ask if we were putting out a Public Service announcement about the adoption of the new fire codes because we want the public and stakeholders to be aware of this change. Chief Menendez stated that we are working on a PSA that will be posted on social media and our website. Motion to table made by Commissioner Berumen and seconded by Commissioner Anaya. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – None

- 10. Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Booth, Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

Submitted by: Katherine Ames, Administrator

Reviewed by: Diana Hernandez, Administrative Assistant,