

NOTICE

CALLED BOARD MEETING

PALO PINTO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #1 MINUTES

Palo Pinto County Emergency Services District # 1 Board meet on the 7th day of March 2023 at 5:30pm in the Possum Kingdom ESD Building, 55 South FM 2353, Graford, Texas 76449.

The following subjects were discussed, considered, passed, or adopted to-wit.

- Call to order and establish quorum. Vice-President Brent Nance called the meeting to Order at 5:32pm. Commissioners present were Tye Jackson, Brent Nance, Rodney Hall, and Carolyn Land. Emergency Management Coordinator Mistie Garland was also in attendance. Mike Henderson did not attend.
- Public Comments and Announcements- Carolyn reported on Legislative Updates from Austin. About 40 ESD's attended the 3rd Tuesday meeting at the State Capitol. All ESD's represented were encouraged to find their Representative and Senator and discuss Bills that might affect ESD's. The last day to file Bills for this session will be March 10,2023. Carolyn "Thanked" Volunteers on recent efforts with a structure fire at Lone Camp.
- Approve/Amend/Discuss Minutes of previous meeting-Land- Minutes February 7, 2023, February 13, 2023, & February 17. 2023 Rodney made a motion to approve the Minutes as presented. Tye second. Motion passed 4-0.
- Treasures report – Mistie provided financial reports. ESD Commissioners reviewed invoices, accounts payable for all accounts and bank statements and check books.
- Treasures report – Mistie
 - Consider approve accounts payable-Tye made a motion to approve accounts payable on all 4 accounts as presented. Rodney second. Motion passed 4-0.
 - Reconciliation of bank statements- Tye made a motion to approve the reconciliation of the bank statements on all 4 accounts. Rodney second. Motion passed 4-0.
- Report 2022 Audit efforts- Mistie reported that the Audit Quick book records are at the CPA's office. A date will be scheduled to carry the Audit to Wichita Falls.
- Review Annual Report meeting and funding for Departments- No Departments have returned their Annual Reports. No action was required.
- Report Order Authorizing Fees for Certain Emergency, Fire and Rescue Services- There has been no information from the Carlton Law Firm provided at this time. There was discussion about a demand letter being written.
- Consider/Approve amending ESD Policies- No policies were submitted.
- Approve/Report Radio install/programing/performance FireNet Tower operations – Mike Simpson reported Sacred Cross handheld radios are not getting tones off of these radios. Fire Southwest seems to be the tower with issues. Kay Granger on the Congressional Appropriations Committee had a conversation with Mike Simpson regarding Communication in Rural Texas. Mike ask that Volunteer Departments be reminded of radio self- programming issues.
- Discuss/ Approve efforts with Palo Pinto County Sheriff's office regarding reports with dispatch- Conversation with Sheriff McGuire have restored ESD's ability to make request for "Call Sheets". No action was required.
- Approve /Reject bids from Fire Departments for equipment purchased in access of \$50,000.00 dollars. No bids were submitted.
- Review 911 Call Sheets/Sacred Cross- Dustin provided a handout. – February Call Sheets numbers were presented. Dustin provided information about expansion of Sacred Cross into Coleman County and possibly Brown County. Tye made a motion to purchase 2 radios up to \$2,200. Rodney second. Motion passed 4-0. Mike agreed to work on finding 2 radios.

- Report Operational Group- Chief Eric Flavin reported approximately 30 fires in the County for the month of February. Several training sessions this past month. Two extraction classes were held at Palo Pinto VFD. Approximately 30 attended each class. Sheriff office Dispatch coordinator gave a presentation on radio etiquette. TFS Air tankers training was held at Mineral Wells airport. Brazos VFD reports work on their new building is beginning.
- Consider/ Approve Application CWPP Grant match 25/75%- Tye reported they have been working on this County Wildfire Protection Plan for over a year. Each grant can be up to 10 million dollars. This five-year plan was signed into effect by the County Judge Shane Long. Palo Pinto will be the twenty-fourth County to be involved in this program. Mistie reported that contractors can be used with this grant. The 25% will be the land owner's responsibility. Fire shelters, PPE, hoses and reels are all eligible. Mistie thought all County VFD need to get together and put in for a large grant. The Grant period is currently not open. Volunteers agreed shelters seem to be the desired item for the grant list. It was suggested that 2 shelters for each brush truck and one for each tanker in the County. Carolyn made the motion to approve applying for the grant. Rodney second. Motion passed 4-0.
- Discuss status Special Election to raise ESD #1 tax cap- Articles in both the Weatherford Democrat and Palo Pinto News from Commissioners Court provided information on upcoming efforts to raise the ESD #1 Cap from .03 cents to .08 cents. Details for the election and information in both newspapers was discussed. Both papers plan on doing a story regarding details of the election. The current tax rate is .0266. Senate Bill 2 will only allow a revenue increase of .03 ½%. Ballot language was shared with everyone in attendance. The Ballot reads like ESD tax rate will go to .08cents next year which is not the case. Education will be key for the election on May 6, 2023.
- Discuss/Approve Election CAP Notice to be placed in the Weatherford Democrat- A Notice of Election will be posted in the Weatherford Democrat April 15, 2023 and on the District website.
- Discuss/Consider report for ESD PK Building 55 S FM2353, Gordon EMS Building & Graford VFD Building
- Set date for next meeting- The next meeting was scheduled for April 10, 2023 at 5:30pm at the PK Building.
- Adjourn-The meeting adjourned at 7:30pm

Dated this the 17 Day of March 2023

By Carolyn Land Carolyn Land, Secretary

Any member of the public who desires to address the Board regarding a specific item on the Agenda will have the opportunity to address the ESD Board when that Agenda item is discussed. Comments of the public are limited to 3 minutes unless the speaker requires the assistance of a translator, in which case the speaker is limited to 6 minutes. Individual Board members will also have the right to question the public on Agenda items.

The Palo Pinto County Emergency Services District #1 Board reserves the right to adjourn into executive session at any time during the course of the meeting to discuss any of the item listed above, as authorized by Texas Government Code Section 551.073 [Consultation with Attorney], 551.072 [Deliberations about Real Property], 551.073 [Deliberations about gifts and donations], 551.074 [Personnel matters], 551.076 [Deliberations about security devices], and 551.086 [Economic development]. Before any closed meeting is convened, the Presiding Officer will publicly identify the section or sections of the Act authorizing the closed meeting. All final votes, actions or decisions will be taken in open meeting.