



BLANCO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #2
P.O. BOX 972, BLANCO, TX 78606

**Minutes Regular Session
Board of Commissioners
July 21, 2020**

1. **Call to Order / Announcements** - Establish a quorum. **Meeting called to order at 3:00 pm. Quorum present. Ann Hall (AH), Mike Rieken (MR), Lynne McKirdy (LM) and Steve Scheffe (SS) present via audio conferencing. Carl Struck (CS) not in attendance. See below for other attendees.**
2. **Public Comment** - No action may be taken on these items unless on agenda. Please limit comments to 2 minutes per person. **No public comment.**
3. **Consent Agenda** – Items will be approved with a single vote. Items can be removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion. **Motion by SS to approve consent agenda. Second by LM. Motion approved.**
 - a. Approval of the June 16, 2020 regular Meeting Minutes
 - b. Financial Report as of 6/30/2020
 - i. Monthly Financials:
 1. Texas Regional \$1,418,402.05
 2. CD #714430 \$128,651.10
 3. Lone Star Money Market \$237,797.03
4. **Fire & EMS Auxiliary Report by Theresa Turner. Discussed grant application to Giving Goddesses due in Sep for approx. \$7000. Community awareness: emails and Facebook posts re Free Covid Testing available at ESD. Ben updated on Lab Masks: have been received, now doing validation to prove accuracy, closeout by end of fiscal year**
 - a. Consider requests / actions submitted to ESD
 - b. 3rd Quarter Report due to ESD
5. **Chiefs' Report**
 - a. COVID-19 Update **Ben reported as of yesterday 81 cases in Blanco County, new cases rising rapidly, 11 recovered. Most EMS responses are for infectious disease, incredibly sick people. Average daily volume of testing is approx. 10, only 7 today, 17 yesterday. Recovery numbers were discussed. Recovery times averaging 16 days for light/minor cases and 35-36 days for more severe cases.**
 - b. Operations Reports Fire & EMS. **Written reports submitted for both. Matt reported they are still working with the insurance adjuster to get a better estimate on repairs to Engine 81. Latest estimate is still \$30,000.**
 - i. **Wildland Fire Questions – Steve. Texas Forest Service predicts severe wildfire season. Matt has provided written response to questions regarding our preparedness and explaining our participation in a county wide wildland fire task force. Matt will start an email chain with SS and Caroline to discuss ways to raise public awareness and mitigate risk.**
6. **Finance Matters**
 - a. **FY2021 Budget**

- i. Consider Approval of FY2021 Compensation Rates. Discussion regarding whether approval of budget items constitutes authorization proceed with implementation. **Motion by MR to approve FY2021 Compensation rates. Second by LM. Motion approved**
 - ii. Review proposed FY2021 Budget and consideration of amendments. **No amendments offered to Version 5. Ben clarified that the budget item for the retirement plan is based on a change from 30 years to 20 years. Discussion regarding the “net effect” line item, and the potential for variables in income that could affect the budget and the long term plan. Discussion of managing budget and long term plan in relation to changes in revenue and making major purchases.**
 - iii. Consider Approval of the FY2021 Budget. **Motion by MR to approve budget as presented, which is Version 5. Second by LM. Motion approved. Ben clarified that from this point forward this will be referred to as FY2021 Budget and any changes will be as amendments to that budget.**
 - iv. Consider Approval of Interlocal Agreement with Blanco County ESD No. 1 for shared expenses for EMS Chief. **Discussion regarding Ben as employee or independent contractor. This new version of agreement identifies Ben as employee. Motion to approve agreement by SS. Second by MR. Motion approved. Agreement will need to be signed by President (AH) and Secretary (SS).**
 - b. **Information item: August 11, 2020 Special Meeting / (Public Hearing if required)** to adopt a tax rate. Examine the critical timeline for adopting a tax rate. Notice of Tax Rate in paper (Aug. 5 or 12) & website, Aug.7th. IF Tax Assessor had populated the data base. Notice must be at least 5 days after population of the database. Adoption of tax rate must be not later than the 7th day after the public hearing or at the public hearing.
 - c. **Review Vehicle Insurance Policy & Discuss Follow up Action if Warranted** – Ben was given this task. **Ben has sent request to VFIS for alternate proposals. No response yet.**
7. **Station Update:**
- a. Project Closeout / Final Retainage / Final Amortization Schedule – Mike Rieken. **All done. Project closeout is complete.**
 - b. Examine station loan refinance possibilities – Lynne Lynne **has obtained a new refinancing proposal from Government Capital at a rate of 2.88% (or possibly lower), locked-in rate, no prepayment penalty. No other closing costs. Our monthly payment would lowered by \$1970.50. Lone Star Bank has offered to reduce current rate to 4%. Gov Cap offer good for 14 days from July 16. Motion by MR to authorize LM to pursue refinancing with the Government Capital loan. Second by SS. Motion approved. Additional discussion regarding whether this loan and other indebtedness of the district should be treated in our tax calculations as debt or as part of M & O. Last year it was treated as debt. AH will have an answer to this question for the Aug 11 meeting.**
8. **Miscellaneous Updates**
- a. Review ‘District Property Accounting System’ Policy – DEFERRED TO SEPT MEETING
 - b. Revisions to ‘Monthly Actions’ – Ann Hall. **Leave alone until we have more time to discuss.**
9. **Executive Session** - Discuss personnel matters on this agenda as authorized by Texas Government Code. **No executive session was held.**
10. **Return to Open Session:** Discuss and consider action on matters discussed in Executive Session
11. **Adjourn:** Next meetings will be **Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at noon and Tuesday, August 18 at 3:00 PM.** The decision about how the meeting will be held will depend on the State and County Orders and recommendations from Chief Oakley. At this time they will be Zoom meetings.

Other attendees:

Ben Oakley
Matt McMMain

Teresa Turner
Matt Herden
Ken Welch

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Scheffe, Secretary