

HARRIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICE DISTRICT NO. 47

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

August 20, 2020

The Board of Directors of Harris County Emergency Service District No. 47 (“the District”) met in regular session, open to the public, on the 20th day of August 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at the Westlake Fire Department, 19636 Saums Rd., Houston, TX 77084, a designated meeting place of the Board and via telephone conference due to the current COVID-19 pandemic. The Commissioners and members of the general public may participate in the meeting via Zoom video conference (using the video provisions of Section 551.127 of the Texas Government Code). The designated and primary method for participation is by telephone conference call pursuant to Chapter 551.125 of the Texas Government Code. The roll was called of the duly constituted members of the Board, to-wit:

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| Brian Havran | President |
| John P. Blanke | Vice-President |
| Sonia Yost | Treasurer |
| Gilberto Porras | Secretary and Records Retention Officer |
| Mitchell Copeland | Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer |

Commissioner Havran and Commissioner Copeland were present at the Fire Station. Commissioner Yost, Commissioner Porras and Commissioner Blanke were present via electronic device. The meeting was recorded via zoom.

Also present at the fire station were W.A. “Butch” Callegari, Jr. of Callegari Law Firm, PC, Attorney for the District (“Attorney”); Brian Desilets and Santos Acuna of Precision Utility, LLC, the District’s Bookkeeper (“Bookkeeper”); and Ginny Valls, Fire Department bookkeeper (“bookkeeper”).

Commissioner Havran called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m., and the following business was transacted.

Attorney Callegari confirmed that COVID emergency still exists and explained the protocol for electronic meetings and in person meetings.

Public comment was deferred.

The approval of prior minutes was then given consideration. The minutes from the June 28, 2020 meeting were reviewed. **Comm. Porras made a motion to accept the minutes from the June 28, 2020 meeting. Comm. Copeland seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously accepted by the District.** The minutes from the July 16, 2020 meeting were reviewed. **Comm. Yost made a motion to accept the minutes from the July Regular meeting. Comm. Blanke seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously accepted by the District.**

Commissioner Havran recognized the report from Sales Revenue Inc. for discussion. The report was emailed to the commissioners. It was then reviewed and discussed by the District. Attorney Callegari emailed Mr. Fortner regarding the contract for services but has not heard back from his as of yet. The District will continue to pay the old amount until we hear back from Mr. Fortner. **Comm. Copeland made**

a motion to accept the report sent by Mr. Fortner. Comm. Porrás seconded the motion and the motion carries.

Commissioner Havran then recognized Brian Desilets and Santos Acura for consideration of the Bookkeeper's report for the month of July. The report was emailed prior to the meeting. The report was reviewed by the commissioners. Mr. Acura and Mr. Desilets will do some research to see if they can get a list of the accounts under protest. There were no other questions for the bookkeeper.

After review, Comm. Yost's motion, seconded by Comm. Copeland to approve the Bookkeeper's report, the District's Financial Report, the Investment Report and payment of the bills as presented, received unanimous consent of the Board.

Commissioner Havran recognized Ginny Valls for consideration of the Fire Department report for the month of July. Chief Palmer emailed the written monthly report detailing the number of calls by category and the overall response times. Commissioner Havran asked how Chief Palmer was preparing for the hurricane. Ms. Valls stated that Chief Palmer will staff as needed and that Westlake would respond as needed to call that arise due to the hurricane. She stated both boats and the HW 41 were ready to respond. **Upon motion by Comm. Porrás and seconded by Comm. Blanke, the Board unanimously approved the Fire Department report.**

The rescue boat was taken care of last month and a check has been signed to reimburse the fire department.

2020 tax levy was discussed. In the past the District has not received the information early. With the new rules the timeline has been moved up. Large counties have likely been delayed due to COVID 19. The amounts for no new revenue, voter approval and voter election were discussed and reviewed. The current rate is \$0.085 per \$100.00 valuation. Commissioner Copeland is in favor of the no new revenue rate. Commissioner Havran suggested \$0.084. Commissioners Yost, Blanke, and Porrás all agree with Comm. Havran. The District will need to have a hearing as the amount is over the no new revenue amount. We will post it on the website and in the newspaper. **After discussion, Commissioner Yost moved that the District adopt a tax rate of \$0.084 per valuation. Commissioner Havran seconded the motion. The vote of this order was accomplished via roll call and record vote as required by and in compliance with all applicable laws governing the setting of tax rates, with the Commissioners voting as follows: Brian Havran – For, Sonia Yost – For, Gilberto Porrás – For, Mitchell Copeland – Against, John Blanke – For.**

The District's proposed budget was deferred.

Safety Fest 2020 was discussed. They are holding the event online. The District will pay for the video. Comm. Havran will get with Chief Palmer.

Amending the budget was deferred.

Attorney Callegari discussed the training hours needed for the commissioners. Comm. Copeland needs three. Comm. Yost needs three. Comm. Blanke needs six. Comm. Porrás needs three and Comm. Havran needs no new hours. The website is up and running. HCESD47.com. The next meeting is September 17, 2020. The District discussed prior actions taken at meetings this year. **After discussion, Commissioner Porrás made a motion to ratify all prior actions taken in the 2020 meetings. Commissioner Blanke seconded the motion, which received the Board's unanimous consent.**

THERE BEING NO FURTHER DISTRICT BUSINESS TO CONDUCT, Comm. Yost's motioned for adjournment at 7:57 p.m. Comm. Porras seconded the motion, which received the Board's unanimous consent.

Passed and approved (date)

Gilberto Porras, Secretary