

HARRIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICE DISTRICT NO. 47

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING
September 6, 2022

The Board of Directors of Harris County Emergency Service District No. 47 (“the District”) met in regular session, open to the public, on the 6th day of September 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Westlake Fire Department, 19636 Saums Rd., Houston, TX 77084, a designated meeting place of the Board. The roll was called of the duly constituted members of the Board, to-wit:

Brian Havran	President and Public Information Officer
John P. Blanke	Commissioner
Gilberto Porras	Secretary and Records Retention Officer
Mitchell Copeland	Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer
Mike Miller	Treasurer and Investment Officer

All Commissioners were present at the Fire Station except Commissioner Blanke and Commissioner Porras.

Also present at the fire station were “Butch” Callegari, Jr. of Callegari Law Firm, PC, Attorney for the District (“Attorney”); Shannon Draper, Fire Chief of Westlake Fire Department; and Ginny Valls, recording secretary for the District.

Commissioner Havran called the meeting to order at 7:19 p.m., and the following business was transacted.

Attorney Callegari discussed the published tax rate information for the No New Revenue rate and the Voter Approval rate. He also discussed the process of the calculations, de minimis rate and last years rate.

There were no members of the community present for public comment, so the matter was deferred.

Comm. Havran discussed the proposed Westlake Budget. The annual allocation would be \$3,144,000.00. Comm. Havran also stated that he researched the budgets of other Harris County ESD’s and found that HCESD 47 comes in 19th on the list showing that the District has been mindful to control expenses.

The budget for the District was also discussed. The budget has increased an average of 4.9%. There was discussion on income and loss. Comm. Havran discussed that the department would be needing furniture for upstairs, a command vehicle, an ambulance, computers, and apparatus computers as per the strategic plan in 2023. Chief Draper discussed the Safer Grant. The District is looking into putting funding aside for payroll for the future since the Grant will not be awarded to the recipients until July of 2023. There was discussion on where to show it in the budget. The District could move it to the expenses as unexpected contingencies. **Upon motion by Comm. Miller and seconded by Comm. Copeland, the District unanimously approved the Harris County Emergency Services District 47 2023 budget.**

Establishing the tax levy was the next item discussed. The District discussed the options of no new revenue and the voter approval rate for levying the tax rate. Chief Draper stated that staffing is a concern as people have gotten busier. Comm. Copeland feels the voter approval rate is the way to go. There was discussion on what would need to be done if hearings were needed and the timeline to do so. **After discussion, Comm. Havran made a motion that the proposed property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a rate of \$0.080 per**

\$100 valuation which is an increase in the tax rate. Comm Miller seconded the motion. The motion received the unanimous consent of the District. Attorney Callegari will post as required. The public hearing for the tax rate will be held September 26, 2021. The District will vote on the tax rate at the September regular meeting.

Comm. Copeland did not have anything to report on the sidewalk project.

Attorney Callegari asked about the possible workshop with the Westlake Board. After discussion the District chose Saturday, September 17, 2022 at 1:00 pm for the workshop. Chief Draper asked Attorney Callegari about posting the Utility and the Tanker on the auction site as he has not received the information. Attorney Callegari stated that the two of them needed to get together to discuss and will send Chief Draper some available dates and times for them to get together. Chief Draper also mentioned that the retention pond is having some erosion issues and it will need to be addressed in the future. Chief Draper also wanted to let the District know that he received an update on the Safer Grant and that full time employees would not be able to work for Westlake due to the exemption for government agencies. If they worked for Westlake, they would not be exempt and would need to be paid overtime. Attorney Callegari stated there was a lot to review with this matter and feels the District should discuss this with the Westlake Board. Chief Draper will get more information regarding the Safer Grant to present at the regular meeting on September 15, 2022.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER DISTRICT BUSINESS TO CONDUCT, Comm. Copeland motioned for adjournment at 8:47p.m. Comm. Miller seconded the motion, which received the Board's unanimous consent.

Passed and approved (date)

Gilberto Porras, Secretary