

TRAVIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT No. 14
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, April 19, 2021, 7:00 PM
Volente FD, 15406 FM 2769, Volente, TX 78641

Due to the state of emergency and/or disaster caused by the COVID-19 Pandemic, the meeting was conducted primarily by videoconference. President Moore was at the official venue (Fire Station). Other Commissioners participated via Zoom Conference. The public was invited to participate using Zoom Meeting

ID: 810 4215 9117, Password ESD1421,

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81042159117?pwd=eUQxTGF6eFNDRGRNaIR1V2IwaWVSZz09>

They could also participate via phone: (346) 248-7799 (using above meeting ID/password).

The public was invited to submit comments to esd14comments@gmail.com. See esd14.org for information.

MINUTES

1. Call to Order and Establish a Quorum.

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. Present: Shull, Wilhelm, Schlotzhauer, Harrison. Quorum established. In President Moore's absence, Secretary Shull presided.

2. Citizen Comment.

No citizen comments.

3. Review and Approval of Minutes of the ESD 14 board meeting of 3/15/2021.

Commissioner Wilhelm moved that the minutes be approved. Schlotzhauer seconded. Minutes approved unanimously.

4. Receive and review reports from VFD Fire Chief, including a review of specific calls and response times, and any updates COVID-related matters or special needs, as well as updates on station remodeling plans.

Response Time: The Department responded to 13 calls in March. Six were medical in nature, 5 were fires, and 2 were motor vehicle accidents. Average response time for emergencies was 7 minutes, 51 seconds. Longest emergency response (12:32) was a low-priority fire call on Windy Ridge. Shortest (3:59) was a boat fire on Wharf Cove.

Fire Station Project: The Village is vacillating on their commitment. President Spurlin, Secretary Smith, and Chief Groman were scheduled to meet with Village representatives to see if they have reached a decision. If the Village reneges, VFD will resort to its original concept.

Equipment: E-1401, CM-1401, and SQ-1408 received minor repairs.

COVID19: Public access to the fire hall will continue to be restricted through the spring, in conjunction with county orders.

5. Discussion and action regarding firefighting water supplies.

VFD responded to a significant house fire at 14229 FM 2769 on 4/12/21, which demonstrated that the VFD water supply strategy worked. A tender shuttle system was established, with a fire hydrant about 3 miles away on King Monument Lane, using the VFD tender, and two Autoaid tenders from ESD1. At no time was there a shortage of water. Engines from Austin and ESD6 also responded with water.

The next-door neighbor to the above fire informed Chief Groman that he is planning to install a 20,000-gallon water tank for domestic water backup and firefighting. As reported last month, another resident on Arrowhead Drive is also working on a similar system. VFD staff is working with these residents regarding compatible connections so that these sources may be quickly deployed for firefighting when necessary.

Chief Groman has suggested to Village officials that the Lime Creek Water Depot could be a candidate for Federal stimulus grant funds.

Chief Groman also suggested that an article about the advantages of home sprinkler firefighting system could be an article in the 3rd Quarter ESD newsletter.

No action taken on this issue.

6. Discussion and action regarding possible ESD financial participation in VFD station remodeling.

No new information was available. ESD14 could consider the financial support to be a prepaid lease for meeting space over a period of years. No calculations have been attempted on this plan.

No action taken on this issue.

7. Discussion and action regarding upcoming 2nd Quarter ESD14 Newsletter and the articles and attachments included.

Commissioner Harrison believed that the leading headline about "Emergency Services Cost a Lot" may strike some readers in a negative way. Perhaps the headline could be about how efficient ESDs are and that "your Emergency Services are a bargain!"

8. Discussion and action regarding promoting the use of Knox key systems throughout the District and financial participation by ESD14 to help standardize on the county-wide key now used.

The new newsletter contains a thorough description of the Knox Entry systems.

Commissioner Schlotzhauer questioned the standardization of these systems. Chief Groman explained that all Travis County fire departments and police departments use the Knox system.

9. Receive and discuss updates and information regarding emergency services in and around the District, including but not limited to discussions and actions taken by the ESDCC, SAFE-D, other ESDs (including CPF and AFD) and Travis County.

President Moore and the ESD attorney have determined that ESD Commissioners are not required to renew cyber security training on an annual basis.

Chief Groman encouraged Commissioners to participate in SAFE-D webinars to gain required continuing education credits. Costs are reimbursable.

10. Review and approval of Treasurer's Report.

Total revenues for the previous month were \$ 71,050.68, 82% of which came from sales taxes. Sales tax revenues in March were lower than expected due to the cold weather in February.

Total expenses were \$ 78,400.57, 98% of which were paid to VFD.

Commissioner Harrison moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. Schlotzhauer seconded. Report approved unanimously.

11. Reimbursement and Payment Requests. Consideration and action on reimbursement request(s) from VFD and/or any other payment requests.

The following reimbursements were proposed:

Volente Fire Department: \$ 76,621.82, for fire and rescue services.

Lonnie Moore: \$ 126.48, for training and supplies.

Travis County Clerk: \$ 50.00, for posting meeting notices.

Commissioner Schlotzhauer moved to approve the above reimbursements. Wilhelm seconded. Reimbursements approved unanimously.

12. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Roger Shull, Secretary