

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 13, 2018 MEETING OF THE
BRAZORIA COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 3

A meeting was duly called of the **BRAZORIA COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 3**, which was held on **August 13, 2018**, at the District's Manvel EMS Station, 6931 Masters Road, Manvel, Texas 77578.

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 P.M. by **DARRELL VALUSEK**, District President. Those commissioners present were **DARRELL VALUSEK, MIKE JONES, FRANK HAGDORN, MATT GLAVES, AND ROY BEKEN**. Also present were District Executive Director Dave Ferguson, District bookkeeper Lori Buckner of Myrtle Cruz, Inc., District legal counsel John Peeler of Coveler & Peeler, PC, chiefs, directors, and member of the District's fire and emergency medical service providers, and members of the public. Mr. **VALUSEK** also welcomed several elected officials including County Commissioner for Precinct 3 Stacy Adams, County Commissioner for Precinct 4 David Linder, State Representative Ed Thompson, and officials from several cities located within the District.

The Board then opened the floor for public comment under item 2 of the agenda. The Board received comment from several people, including the following:

County Commissioner Linder spoke broadly about the growth in the County, the need for the District to be responsible and responsive to the needs of the citizens. He advised the District to be more proactive in communication with the public, including through having better information available on the website before District meetings, and asked all people involved with the District to make efforts to put aside their differences and work for better results in the District.

Sharon Akery questioned the board about the amount of administrative staff working for the District.

Josh Morris, Liverpool VFD Chief, expressed concern over the contract that he received. He advised that his membership does not want it. He also stated that his department has fire trucks that are 15 years old and asked for information on how the District decides to provide capital equipment.

Liverpool Mayor Bill Strickland expressed concern about what the District does with the tax revenue and what the impact would be if all the fire fighters stood down.

Troy Smith, Assistant Chief Liverpool VFD showed concern about trying to contact someone with the District since Thursday. He also is concerned about the new developments coming into the area of Liverpool and not having the proper equipment to respond to emergencies.

Shawn Crockett stated he has worked in several ESDs in East Texas. He stated we need to stand together and there is no reason to take over everything. He suggested there be an emergency fund for each department.

Janice DelBello expressed concern about not being able to obtain information that she has requested. Also, concerned about the lack of openness and respect, everything is done behind closed doors. She stated the people need information so they can understand where the money is being spent. Mrs. DelBello believes the District is top heavy in the administration and that needs to be taken care of immediately. She also implored everyone involved to attempt to get along better than they have over the last several years.

Representative Ed Thompson stated he received calls from citizens. He expressed concern that the District needs to be prepared for the growth coming into Brazoria County and to meet the expectations of citizens relocating from cities that provide emergency services directly. He advised the District to deal with its problems before the Legislature has to address them.

Jessica Robeldo expressed concern about the attitude of some of the board members based upon her vast experience interpreting body language. She said the citizens deserve respect.

The Board then addressed item 3, to receive reports from District providers. Steve DelBello, Chief of the Marvel Volunteer Fire Department provided the following: Total runs for 2017 was 501 with an average increase of 60 calls per year over last four years with an increase of 54% over the four-year period. Approximately 52% of all calls are to the Northwest area of the territory with an average 10-minute response time. There are 29 structure fires and 9 extrications. There are two new members, 12 volunteers, 16 paid fire fighters with 3 staff members on duty seven days a week. Received a forestry grant for bunker gear for \$14,954. The new truck was placed in service on July 23, 2018. One fire fighter was sent to Texas A & M and one fire fighter sent to SFF for training.

Chief Joe Stepchinski provided an update for the Rosharon Volunteer Fire Department: total calls as of July 31, 2018 was 95, 92 of those were within the district with 13 mutual aids given and one mutual aid received. The high water rescue truck is in the process of being fitted with a skid unit.

The Board then addressed item 4, to review and approve the consent agenda. Mr. **HAGDORN** made a motion, seconded by Mr. **JONES**, to approve then consent agenda. The motion carried by a vote of 5 to 0.

The Board then addressed item 5, the Non-Consent Agenda, items removed from the Consent Agenda. No action was taken

The Board then addressed agenda item 6, approval of sales of properties held in trust by Brazoria County Tax Office. No action was taken as no property files were received from the County.

The Board then addressed agenda item 7, to review and take action on 2018 review of the District Investment Policy. Counsel reported that changes were made to the District Investment Policy relating to changes to the Public Funds Investment Act and other relevant statutes. Currently, the treasurer is the investment officer. Motion made by Mr. **BEKEN** and seconded by Mr. **JONES** to approve the Investment Policy as presented by counsel and keep the investment officer the same. After discussion, the motion was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

The Board then addressed agenda item 8 and agenda item 9, to review, discuss and take action on the proposed District 2019 budget and to review and take action on the 2018 Tax Rate. These items were tabled to be discussed at the end of the town hall meeting set on August 21, 2018.

The Board then addressed agenda item 10, to review and take action to modify District administrative procedures. Mr. Ferguson reported the District's new website was approximately 75% complete. Mr. Ferguson requests a change in the District's administrative policy to update the website with as much information as possible. Mr. Ferguson requests approval to post agendas, minutes, once they have been reviewed, approved and signed by the board, financial documents pre-meeting, as well as annual audits for the District as a whole, and allow staff to add additional documents, as appropriate. Motion made by Mr. **BEKEN** and second by Mr. **GLAVES** to follow the recommendation of Mr. Ferguson on updating the website with documentation. After discussion, the motion was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

The Board then addressed agenda items 12 and 13, to review, discuss, and take action to approve a contract for emergency medical services billing and to review, discuss and take action to approve a contract for an electronic patient care reporting system. Mr. Ferguson presented to the board the contracts from Intermedix and ESO. Intermedix and ESO has honored

the terms of the Manvel EMS contract therefore there will be no changes in pricing or terms. Mr. Ferguson noted both contracts have been reviewed by counsel. Motion made by Mr. **BEKEN** and second by Mr. **GLAVES** to approve both contracts. After discussion, the motion was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

The Board then addressed agenda item 14, to review, discuss, and take action to approve the creation of a 457(b) deferred compensation account for District employees. This agenda item was tabled to the next meeting.

The Board then addressed agenda item 18, to review and take action to authorize the Executive Director to request that the Texas Commission on Fire Protection recognize the District as a regulated fire department. This agenda item was tabled to the next meeting.

The Board then addressed agenda item 19, to review, discuss, and take action regarding the acquisition of real estate for the development of fire and/or EMS facilities, including, but not limited to, receiving information and engaging professional services related to the selection of real property for emergency services facilities. The Board unanimously agreed to hold this agenda item until after closed session if any action is required.

The Board then addressed agenda item 21, to review and take action to revise emergency services provider funding including, but not limited to, additional operations funding, funding for grant matches, and capital advances. No action was taken.

The Board then addressed agenda item 22, to review and take action on emergency requests from providers for funds for, but not limited to, urgent repairs or replacement of equipment necessary to insure safety to providers and the public. No action was taken.

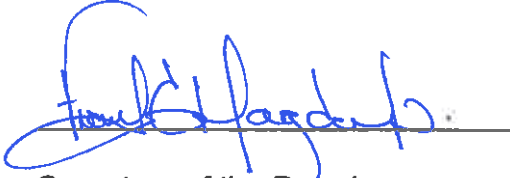
The Board then addressed items 15 through 17, Closed Session. The Board entered Close Session to consult with legal counsel, to discuss items related to potential real estate transactions and to deliberate regarding personnel at 7:29 P.M. and returned to Open Session at 7:53 P.M.

The Board then addressed agenda item 11, to review and take action on interlocal agreements with neighboring political subdivisions regard the provision of emergency services and/or funding for same. Mr. Peeler recommended since the MUDs are currently in a contract with the City of Pearland and for the board not get in the middle of the fight between the MUDs and the City of Pearland. Motion made by Mr. **GLAVES** and second by Mr. **JONES** that is not

appropriate for the District board to take any action. After discussion and review, motion was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

The Board then addressed agenda item 20, to review and take action to approve the settlement agreement for any pending lawsuit against Holiday Lakes VFD. Mr. Peeler recommend the board approve the remediation request as advised in close session and work to move forward with negotiating a new service contract to bring HLVFD back as a District service provider. Motion made by Mr. **BEKEN** and second by Mr. **JONES** to approve the recommendation made by Mr. Peeler. After discussion and review, motion was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

There being no further business brought before the Board, nor any further public comment, upon Motion made, the meeting adjourned at 7:56 P.M.



Secretary of the Board