

WALLER-HARRIS EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO.200

Minutes of the special meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the **WALLER-HARRIS EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 200** was held on **August 23, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.** at the District office located at **40644 Business Highway 290, Waller, Texas 77484.**

In attendance were: Commissioners: Tommy Davis, Darwin Hargrave, Gary Ferguson, Tommy Albert and Hollis Ulbricht; Gundersons Bookkeeping, the District Bookkeeper; and Mr. Weinman, ESD Director.

1. **Call Meeting to order, pledge of allegiance, and invocation.** The meeting was called to order at: 7:00 p.m. by *Mr. Tommy Davis*. *Mr. Tommy Davis* led the pledge of allegiance and *Mr. Tommy Albert* led the invocation.

2. **To receive public comment.** Brad Laskowski with Gant Industries introduced his company to the Board of Commissioners. Brad stated that he is based out of Cypress and Tomball and has a long history in the commercial industry. Brad also stated that he has done work for Texas A&M, Cy-Fair ISD, ESD #9, Harris County, and San Jacinto College just to name a few. Brad also let the Commissioners know that he is available for any projects now or in the future. *Mr. Tommy Davis* told Brad that he has a particular project right now that is behind the ball and would like for him to stick around after the meeting and get with Barry Weinman for the specifics. Brad kindly agreed to stay until after the meeting.

3. **To review and take action on the District FY 2019 Budget.** *Mr. Albert* presented the draft budget which he indicated is based upon tax revenues of approximately \$6,240,000. *Mr. Tommy Davis* asked if the draft budget would require a tax rate in excess of the Effective Tax Rate and therefore require hearings, and *Mr. Tommy Albert* stated that yes it would require hearings in order to stay at the same tax rate of \$0.0995/\$100. He said this is based upon the tax collection scenarios provided by Coveler & Peeler, PC. *Mr. Tommy Davis* asked if there were any other comments and *Mr. Tommy Albert* stated that they need to hold off until the providers information is put in. *Mr. Tommy Albert* asked Gundersons Bookkeeping if all the providers have turned in their budgets and they stated yes. *Mr. Gary Ferguson* questioned the Item – Sheriff Dispatcher budget going from \$10,0000 to \$60,0000. *Mr. Tommy Davis* stated that it is proposed figures. *Mr. Tommy Davis* also stated that he met with the judge and the ESD Director about the matter and the Waller County citizens feel like they shouldn't have to pay for dispatch in Harris County. They are asking us to pay for one Harris County dispatching employee. *Mr. Tommy Davis* also stated that he was just given some information that EMS has been running all the ambulance calls to the Sheriff Dept. for free, which they ran 197 calls last year. When brought up to the Judge it fell on deaf ears, which stated basically they are strapped for cash. *Mr. Gary Ferguson* asked what % calls we made and *Mr. Tommy Davis* stated 30%. He didn't know about Harris County. *Mr. Gary Ferguson* stated that the tax payers are paying for this service through the Sheriff's Dept. already and wouldn't that be double dipping, *Mr. Tommy Davis* stated no because

Harris County isn't paying for it. *Mr. Tommy Davis* also stated that they also dispatch for Brookshire, City of Hempstead, Waller PD, and Prairie View. They aren't going to the cities and asking for money, they are coming to WHESD because their budget looks better. *Mr. Gene Schmidt* stated that that is part of what the tax dollars go towards from the City. He also stated that if you really want to get down to the business at hand, the city pays the majority of the county taxes and we don't get anything out of it. *Mr. Tommy Albert* stated that they are asking for \$60,000 and it comes down to do you want the dispatch or not. We cannot afford a half-million dollars a year to set up a dispatching system. *Mr. Tommy Albert* moved to approve the proposed 2019 budget he submitted, subject to review after tax hearings and *Mr. Darwin Hargrave 2nd* the motion, which passed 5-0.

4. **To review and take action on the 2018 tax rate, including review appraisal values, action to propose or adopt the rate, scheduling public hearings and authorizing newspaper publications.** *Mr. Tommy Davis* stated that they briefly hit on that in item 3 and asked if there was any more discussion on the matter. *Mr. Hollis Ulbricht* moved to propose a 2018 maintenance tax rate of \$0.0995/\$100 and to schedule the public hearings as required by the Tax Code and on the schedule submitted by Coveler & Peeler. *Mr. Tommy Albert 2nd* the motion, which passed 5-0. *Mr. Davis* noted the following schedule for the Tax Hearings and that the required notices would be published in the local papers: public hearing 1 on September 6 at 7:00 PM at the District office at 40644 Business 290 and public hearing 2 on September 11 at 7:00 PM at Prairie View City Hall immediately before the next regular meeting.
5. **To meet in Closed Session under Government Code 551.074 to deliberate regarding personnel matters.** Board left for executive session at 7:30 pm and returned from executive session at 7:45 pm.
6. **Adjourn.** *Mr. Tommy Albert* stated the meeting for August 24, 2018 @ 9:00 a.m. is cancelled due to getting the information from Harris County. *Mr. Darwin Hargrave* made a motion to adjourn. *Mr. Tommy Albert 2nd* the motion, which passed 5-0.

Tommy Albert, Secretary/Treasurer