

MONTGOMERY COUNTY ESD 1
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, TEXAS

The Board of Commissioners of Montgomery County ESD 1, convened in session on February 16, 2022, with the following Board Members to-wit:

Members Present: J. Steven Weisinger, President
 Chuck Frank, Vice President -Virtual
 David Cooper, Assistant Treasurer
 Tom Rozier, Secretary
 Sharene Carr, Treasurer

Members Absent: None

The meeting of Montgomery County ESD 1 was called to order on February 16, 2022, at 6:11 P.M. by President J. Steven Weisinger. All board members were present, therefore constituting a quorum. Also present were Fire Chief Jason Oliphant, Assistant Chief Shane Houser, Office Administrator Crystal LaCaze, Administrative Assistants Andrea Meek & Kayla Gibson, Deputy Chief – Logistic Eric Rodriguez, Logistics Fleet Manager Juan Cervantes, Deputy Chief – Training Kirk Bailey, Battalion Chief Jeff McDonald, Captain Albert Martinez, several Fire Fighters and District Legal Counsel John Peeler.

No Public Comments were offered.

Addressing item 3 of the agenda, Chief Oliphant announced the retirement of Captain Albert Martinez. Chief Oliphant and Chief Houser presented Captain Albert Martinez with a retirement gift in appreciation to 27 years of service to the Department. Chief McDonald presented Captain Martinez with another gift of appreciation for his time from his co-workers.

Addressing item 4 of the agenda regarding minutes from the prior meeting, the Board took action on the following: Upon a motion made by Commissioner Frank and seconded by Commissioner Rozier, the Board voted unanimously to accept and approve the minutes as presented of the regular board meeting held on January 19, 2022.

Addressing item 5 of the agenda, the Board took action on the following: Upon a motion made by Commissioner Carr and seconded by Commissioner Cooper, the Board voted unanimously to accept the bookkeepers report as presented by Office Administrator Crystal LaCaze and approve payment of the district monthly bills.

Addressing item 6 of the agenda, Chief Oliphant informed the board that he and Chief Houser met with L'Squared regarding Station 97 Concrete Rehab project and all work has been completed.

Chief Oliphant also informed the board that they made a few minors changes to the future Logistics building that will located on the Station 95 property and that L'Squared is now ready to go out for bid by the end of the month using the competitive sealed proposal process. He then informed the board that Levi Love with L'Squared received very minor comments from Texas Department of Transportation regarding future Station 99 which have all been cleared up. And finally, Chief Oliphant informed the board that the building committee met with Caldwell Development which will be further discussed in closed session.

Addressing item 7 of the agenda, Commissioner Weisinger informed the board about the donated property in Republic Grande Ranch. He stated that District Legal Counsel John Peeler worked diligently in resolving the issues with the title commitment and was able to close on the property in a timely manner without exceeding the closing cost allowance.

Addressing item 8 of the agenda, Crystal informed the board as discussed previously the funeral home had canceled their billboard lease as of 12/31. She informed the board that she had a new pending lease and artwork with All Season's ACE Hardware that she would like for the board to consider approving. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Frank and seconded by Commissioner Carr, the Board voted unanimously to accept the billboard lease and artwork with All Season's ACE Hardware effective March 1, 2022.

Addressing item 9-14 of the agenda, no action was taken.

Addressing item 15 of the agenda, Office Administrator Crystal LaCaze and District Legal Counsel John Peeler presented the 2022 Request for Verification of Exemption Information sent by the Montgomery County Central Appraisal District to the district. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Cooper and seconded by Commissioner Frank the board voted unanimously to adopt the 2022 tax exemptions to reflect the same exemptions as the 2021 tax year.

Addressing item 16 of the agenda, District Legal Counsel John Peeler presented the review of the District Investment Policy and suggested no changes needed for the 2022 Investment Policy. Commissioner Frank volunteered to remain as the District's Investment Officer. Upon a Motion made by Commissioner Frank and seconded by Commissioner Rozier, the Board voted unanimously to accept the review of District's Investment Policy as presented for 2022.

Addressing item 17 of the agenda, Commissioner Frank stated that the Finance Committee has been reviewing the districts legal bills and services to see if we can reduce some expenses. Commissioner Frank and District Legal Counsel John Peeler discussed some services being provided to see if there were some items that could be brought in house for staff to handle. Commissioner Frank also requested that Mr. Peeler's office send out future legal rate increases before the district has finalized the annual budget, Mr. Peeler apologized and agreed that his firm would work to do that in the future.

Addressing item 18-19 of the agenda, no action was taken.

Addressing items 20-22 of the agenda, under Government Code sections 551.071, 551.072, 551.074 and 551.087 related to closed sessions, the Board convened into Closed Session at 7:15 PM.

Under item 23 of the agenda, The Board reconvened into Open Session at 8:25 PM.

Addressing item 24 of the agenda, no action was taken.

Addressing items 25 of the agenda, Chief Oliphant presented the call volume report and informed the board that the district was at 806 calls for the month of January. He also informed the board that we have crews on deployment right now assisting in San Angelo and surrounding areas. Finally, he informed the board that this month we will possibly have an opportunity to do some Wildland Training with an aerial firefighting airplane.

There being no further business, upon a motion made by Commissioner Rozier and seconded by Commissioner Cooper, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:29 PM.

Crystal LaCaze
District Office Manager and Administrative Secretary
Montgomery County ESD 1