MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 23, 2021 MEETING OF THE HARRIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICE DISTRICT NO.17

A meeting for **February 23, 2021** was duly called of the **HARRIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 17**, which was held at the District's Administration Building located at 10410 Airline Drive, Houston, Texas.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by **BILL BLASDELL**. Those commissioners present when the meeting was called to order were **ROBIN HAYSLIP**, **BILL BLASDELL**, **KENNETH ADCOCK**, and **EVERETT GRIFFIN**. Commissioner **DON GUILKEY** was unable to attend the meeting. Also present were the District's Administrative Assistant Becky Cox, District legal counsel David Manley of Coveler & Peeler, P.C., Carol Morrison of Municipal Accounts and Consulting, David Slattery of Slattery Tackett Architects, Amanda Coveler of RIT Management Group, Interim Chief Gary Morrison, James Cone, Sean Richardson, Steven Tusing, Todd Smith and James Roberts, with the Fire Department.

The Board opened the meeting to public comment, but no members of the public were present.

There were minutes prepared and presented by Ms. Cox and Mr. Manley for the following meetings: January 26, 2021 and February 5, 2021. A motion to accept the minutes as prepared and presented was made by MR. Blasdell and seconded by MR. HAYSLIP. The motion carried by a vote of 4 to 0.

The Board addressed item 4 of the agenda, to receive and approve the Financial Report, action on investments, Investment Policy, action regarding District depository accounts and pay District bills. The financial report was presented by Carol Morrison. A Motion was made by MR. BLASDELL and seconded by MR. HAYSLIP to accept the financial report as presented, approve payment of bills included therein and approve investment actions included therein. After review and consideration, the Motion carried by a vote of 4 to 0.

The Board took no action on items 5, 6 and 7 of the agenda.

The Board did discuss item 8 and decided that to pay off the existing loan on Station 83 would result in a significant financial penalty, so this amount will not be added to the new loan. No action required.

The Board then addressed item 9, Fire Chief's report on Fire Department activity. Interim Chief Morrison made a verbal and multi-media report. He explained some problems that occurred

during the bad weather last week with two of the generators. This problem is being referred to the manufacturer for a resolution. He also explained an accident with Engine 88. No action required.

There was no action on item 10 concerning COVID-19.

The Board then addressed item 11 concerning projects for Station 83 and the training field. Mr. Slattery informed the Board that the bid meeting for the Station 83 renovation that was scheduled for last week was postponed due to bad weather. The meeting will be this Thursday February 25, 2021 at 3:00 PM. There are six general contractors expressing interest in this project. He reported they did have the pre-bid conference before the storm. He stated he would be able to complete his review of the bids by next Tuesday and should be able to provide an opinion as to the best contractor for the job. After discussion the Board agreed to schedule a special meeting on Thursday March 4 at 9:30 AM. He informed the Board the permits from civil plans should be approved this week or next. He sees no issues with the plans that will delay the permits. He then advised the Board he has qualifications from two material testing companies that he has reviewed. He recommends engaging Alpha Testing to perform the materials testing of the Station 83 project. This is the company that performed the same job for Station 81 construction. A Motion to accept Alpha Testing for the Station 83 project was made by MR. HAPYSLIP and seconded by MR. **ADCOCK**. Mr. Slattery has resubmitted the water application to the City of Houston for Station 81 and it has been approved for supplying water to the station only. The Administration Building and Training Field will continue to utilize the existing well at this time. He hopes they can be added to the City Water supply at a later date. He hopes to present a rendering of the flag plaza for Station 82 by the March meeting. No action taken.

The Board next addressed Agenda item 12. Ms. Coveler reported she is working on the changes for the volunteers.

Agenda item 13 will be discussed during the Closed Session meeting.

There was no action on item 14.

The Board then discussed items concerning the dispatch and communications issues. Interim Chief Morrison stated he and the other assistant Chiefs have been researching several scenarios for dispatch. The current system will no longer be available after September 1, 2021. He stated that EComm and CyFair are not interested in providing dispatch to other departments. He provided several scenarios in his presentation. The recommendation to the Board is to utilize HCEC due to the cost and stability this system offers. Chief Richardson agrees with this

recommendation. The start date will be July 1, 2021. **MR. BLASDELL** made a motion to approve up to \$150,000 to change the dispatch to HCEC by July 1, 2021 pending legal review and seconded by **MR. HAYSLIP**. Motion carried by a vote of 4 to 0.

The Board then went into closed session at 10:21 AM. to discuss personnel matters. The Board came out of executive session at 12:04 PM.

The Board reconvened the general meeting at 12:05 PM.

The next meeting will be on March 30, 2021 at 9:30 AM.

There being no further business brought before the Board for the February 23, 2021 meeting, the meeting adjourned at 12:06 PM.

Secretary of the Board