

Comal County Emergency Services District #6

MINUTES

Minutes of regular meeting held on May 12, 2008 at the Bracken Volunteer Fire Department Central Station.

Commissioners Present: Wittler, Waechter, Fleming, Bailey, and Loehman

Guest: Chief Zipp, BVFD President Henschel

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Commissioner Wittler.

Motion to accept the minutes made by Waechter, second by Loehman. Motion carried.

Waechter read the treasurer report. As of April 30, 2008, the cash balance was \$354,165.62. He noted the Other Expense of \$1000 was for our membership in SAFE-D. Loehman made a motion to accept the report and Bailey second. Motion carried.

Waechter reported on outstanding bills. Fleming had a \$168.98 receipt from Amazon.Com for two copies of the *2006 International Fire Code*. A second bill was submitted by Chief Zipp for the Advanced AED in the amount of \$17,263.94. This expenditure was approved in 2007 when the AED was ordered. Waechter made a motion to pay both bills and Loehman second. Motion carried.

Fleming reported on an unresolved matter regarding the no-mans land taken in by the formation of ESD #7. We may still have the option of transferring this area to our district if we take the necessary steps. If we take no action the area will remain within ESD #7 and be contracted to BVFD for protection. A discussion was held pro and con on the matter. Waechter made a motion to pursue the transferring of the area to ESD #6 and Bailey second. Motion carried. Fleming will contact the necessary parties.

Bailey reported on a meeting with the ESD's on April 21 at Canyon Lake. County Assistant District Attorney Groff presented a draft of the Comal County Fire Code which would be presented to Commissioners Court on May 1. Fleming reported he attended the May 1 Commissioners Court meeting where the code was presented by the County Fire Marshal. A workshop was held after the meeting for all the ESD's to comment on the code and make any suggestions before a final document was presented to Commissioners Court on May 8. No changes were requested. On May 8, 2008, Commissioners Court approved the Fire Code that takes affect June 1, 2008.

Chief Zipp displayed the Advanced AED that had been on order for approximately six months. It will be put in service as soon as all personnel finish the training of the device from Schertz EMS. This is a large step in providing advanced life saving skills to our district. He also reported that he is able to staff the station with at least two personnel for almost 24 hours per day with the exception of just a few hours between 6 am and 8 am. He is working on the shift schedules to fill those few hours. This additional staffing was requested by the district in the fall of 2007 and funded in the 2008 contract.

Chief Zipp reported on the latest regulations effecting our department. Protective gear worn by firefighters will have an imprinted born date and must be replaced on its 10th anniversary. All gear will have to be inspected annually and replaced if found to be defective. Cleaning and repair is mandatory and have to be replaced if contaminated. He will be forced to issue two sets of gear to each firefighter so they have gear while theirs is being inspected, being cleaned, repaired, or found to be damaged. Each set now runs approximately \$1100 each. Gear taken out of service due to age cannot be handed down to less fortunate departments and must be destroyed. He has already attended a four hour class on inspection and repair of the gear. This new regulation from the NFPA is expected to take effect some time in the near future in Texas.

Henschel reported that a preliminary result from the Fireman's Festival is \$44,000. This is lower than last year. Donations and membership are still coming in and a final total won't be available until their next board meeting.

The next regular meeting will be at 7:00 PM on June 9, 2008 at the Bracken Volunteer Fire Department Central Station.

Waechter made a motion to adjourn at 8:13 PM and Loehman second. Motion carried.

Robert Fleming
Secretary