

Comal County Emergency Services District #6

MINUTES

Minutes of regular meeting held on April 13, 2009 at the Bracken Volunteer Fire Department Central Station.

Commissioners Present: Wittler, Stegman, Fleming and Loehman
BVFD Chief Donald Zipp, BVFD President Schroeder

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

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

Stegman read the treasurer report. As of March 31, the cash balance was \$444,052.70. Waechter placed \$200,000 in a CD at 1.25% with Corresponding banks of American Bank. This will keep our checking account under \$250,000. Loehman made a motion to accept the report and Fleming second. Motion carried.

Stegman reported there were no outstanding bills.

Wittler and Fleming attended Commissioners Court on March 19. They presented a report of the current status of ESD #6. Commissioners Court is required to get these reports annually.

Fleming presented his ideas on the contractual obligations we have with our taxpayers and our contractors. We will discuss these items over the next few meetings and try to implement these and/or others. The report is attached.

Chief Zipp reported the dry conditions were keeping them busy as well as an increase in medical calls. He reminded us of their spring fund raiser to be held on May 2nd at the Community Center. Copies of his Five Year Plan were given to commissioners. We will review this plan in a future meeting.

The next regular meeting will be at 7:00 PM on May 11, 2009 at the Bracken Volunteer Fire Department Central Station.

Loehman made a motion to adjourn at 7:46 PM and Stegman second. Motion carried.

Robert Fleming
Secretary

State of ESD District #6 April 2009

Report: Things seem to be doing OK based on the information we have.

The DISTRICT is responsible to the tax payers:

- Citizens deserve to know that their tax money is being used properly
- What services are offered within the district
- How are the services provided through our contractors and mutual aid
- Number of personnel
- Equipment used

There has been a question raised by the BVFD Board about how the district could raise the ad-valorem tax and had the district considered raising taxes. Information supported by data would have to convince tax payers that the increase is required

Reports given by other districts included long range projections and improved performance data:

Decide what is needed, who will do it, and how it will be presented

District needs to be proactive rather than reactive. We should be making decisions for our district based on long range planning and not wait for short term fixes. Moneys paid to our contractors should be supported by budgets with enough detail to determine if the charge is appropriate.

BVFD has responded to our request by giving us an amount of funding required and the time frame required

BVFD's funding should maintain operations as defined in our contract

BVFD will also have emergency funding needs due to unforeseen circumstances which the district will have to fund if the departments surplus is not adequate

District should retain 10%-15% of its revenue each year to support future purchases (such as trucks)

BVFD should give monthly reports to the district. Such information might include total calls, type of calls, unusual situations, and other information to be determined to aid the district in planning. Example: Only 3 personnel available for a structure fire.