

HARRIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 48

A meeting was duly called of Harris County Emergency Services District No. 48, held at the District Administration Building located at 21201 Morton Road, Katy, Texas 77449, on August 7, 2024.

1 & 2. Call meeting to order by Chairman Scott Strait roll call taken and a quorum established at 5:02 p.m.

Scott Strait	President	Present
Patti Creel	Vice President	Present
Don Pannell	Treasurer	Present
Sam Henderson	Secretary	Present
Mike Fleming	Assistant Secretary-Treasurer	Present

Also present:

George McAteer	Fire Chief
Eric Bank	Assistant Chief of EMS
Ray Sidwell	Assistant Chief of Administration
Robin Brian	Assistant Office Manager
David Manley	Coveler & Peeler

3. To receive public comment.

No public comment was made.

4. To propose the District 2025 Budget.

Discussion was had on the proposed budget. Commissioner Creel made a motion to propose the budget for 2025 as presented. Commissioner Fleming seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

5. To propose the District 2024 Tax Rate.

David Manley presented various tax rate scenarios for consideration. Discussion followed. Commissioner Creel made a motion to propose a 2024 tax rate of .099562%. Commissioner Henderson seconded the motion. The motion was passed 5-0.

6. To schedule a public hearing regarding the District's 2024 tax rate and the date of the meeting to adopt.

The meeting was tentatively scheduled for August 21, 2024, depending on newspaper publishing dates. No action was taken.

7. To authorize District counsel to publish the necessary 2024 Tax Rate setting notices.

Commissioner Creel made a motion to authorize Coveler & Peeler to publish the necessary 2024 Tax Rate notices. Commissioner Henderson seconded the motion. The motion was passed 5-0.

8. To review and take action on matters relating to an election to be held on November 5, 2024:

a. Approve an Order of Election under Texas Tax Code Section 26.07

b. To review and take action to hold an election jointly with other jurisdictions.

No action.

9. To pay the District's invoices and expenses including the approval of any ACH payments.

Robin Brian presented the District's invoices in the amount of \$498,151.99 for approval by the board. Commissioner Creel made a motion to approve the District's bills related to expenses incurred by the District for \$498,151.99. Commissioner Pannell seconded the motion. The motion was passed 5-0.

10. To review, discuss, and act on the transfer of District Funds from Texas Class and TexPool to Stellar Bank.

Chief Sidwell requested the transfer of funds from Texas Class to Stellar Bank in the amount of \$1,500,000.00 to cover operating expenses. Commissioner Creel made a motion to approve the transfer of \$1,500,000.00 from Texas Class to Stellar Bank. Commissioner Pannell seconded the motion. The motion was passed 5-0.

11. To review, discuss, and take action to alter authorizations for District financial accounts and asset holdings, including the removal of former signers and the addition of new authorized signers to any such accounts.

Commissioner Pannell reported on the status of the Trustmark CD the District holds. It is collateral for the Station 3 loan. Commissioner Creel made a motion for all accounts with Trustmark and Stellar Banks to be changed to the current Board members and to remove all other signers. Coveler and Peeler is authorized to draw up a resolution for signature stating such. Commissioner Pannell seconded the motion. The motion was passed 5-0.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Strait, seconded by Commissioner Pannell to authorize all Commissioners to be given access to all of the District's financial and asset accounts. After discussion, the Motion passed 5-0 .

12. To review and act on surplus and salvage equipment.

Nothing for this line item.

13. To review, discuss, and take action regarding an MOU with Homeland Security.

Chief Bank presented a Memorandum of Understanding with Homeland Security for cross-training and tactical response. Discussion followed. Commissioner Creel made a motion to accept the Memorandum of Understanding. Commissioner Strait seconded the motion. The motion was passed 5-0.

14. To review, discuss, and take action regarding matters related to the construction of new stations.

Chief Sidwell presented that MUD 449 has the capacity for water and sewer to Porter Road, but we will have to pay to bring the lines from Clay Road. Discussion followed. No action was taken.

15. To review, discuss, and take action regarding any pay applications related to Fire Station No.3.

Chief Sidwell presented the Pay Application for Construction Masters for the slab repairs at Station 3 in the amount of \$89,750.00. Commissioner Creel made a motion to pay Construction Masters \$89,750.00 for the repairs to the Station 3 slab. Commissioner Fleming seconded the motion. The motion was passed 5-0.

16. To review, discuss, and take action regarding the Porter Road property.

David Manley reported that the easement calculations are being finalized for the retention pond on Porter Road. He will keep the Board updated. No action was taken.

17. To review, discuss, and take action regarding Cypress Run property.

David Manley reported that the language for the contract to release the deed restriction is still being negotiated. Discussion followed. Commissioner Henderson made a motion to move \$3,247,000.00 back into Texas Class until the language in the contract for Cypress Run property is finalized. Commissioner Fleming seconded the motion. The motion was passed 5-0.

18. To meet in Closed Session pursuant to Government Code §551.071 to consult with legal counsel regarding pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offers, or matters that require confidentiality under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar.

No action.

19. **To meet in Closed Session pursuant to Government Code §551.072 to deliberate regarding real estate matters.**

No action.

20. **To meet in Closed Session pursuant to Government Code §551.074 to discuss personnel matters.**

No action.

21. **To review, discuss, and act regarding items discussed in closed session.**

No action


22. **Adjournment.**

There being no further business, a Motion was made by Commissioner Henderson, seconded by Commissioner Fleming to adjourn the meeting. The Motion passed by a vote of 5 to 0.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

The foregoing minutes were passed and approved by the District Board of Commissioners on August 21, 2024.

HARRIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 48

By: 
Secretary of the Board