

**TRAVIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 17**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**AUGUST 8, 2024**

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The Board of Commissioners of Travis County Emergency Services District No. 17 held a meeting on Thursday, August 8, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. at the Travis County Emergency Services District No. 17 Headquarters located at 201 East Pecan Street, Pflugerville, Texas, for the following purposes.

Commissioners who attended:

Mike Howe

Vicky Linsalata

Charles Pleasant

Mitchell Jones

Angela Orth

The following persons were also in attendance:

Nick Perkins

Jessica Frazier

Sequina Allen

Mark Moellenberg Ryan Ricke

Howard Katz

1. THE MEETING was called to order by President Howe at 4:00 p.m. and the minutes were recorded by mechanical means. The meeting was held pursuant to a formal Notice of Meeting, which had been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act at the Travis County Clerk's Office and in the offices of the Travis County Emergency Services District No. 17 Headquarters.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

2. PUBLIC COMMENT: *NO PUBLIC COMMENT WAS MADE.*

**CONSENT ITEMS**

3. APPROVE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FROM THE JULY 11, 2024 REGULAR MEETING;
4. APPROVE INVOICE PAYMENT TO TRAVIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 2 FOR PROVISION OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FOR SEPTEMBER 2024;  
*Commissioner Linsalata moved and Commissioner Jones seconded to approve the consent items. The motion passed unanimously..*

**REPORTS**

5. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS, RESPONSES TO INQUIRIES;  
*No report.*

6. RECEIVE REPORT FROM TREASURER AND CONSIDER TAKING RELATED ACTION;  
*Ms. Frazier went over the monthly financials and lowering valuations. She noted property valuations were dropping and they needed to issue a check for a tax refund.*  
*Commissioner Orth and Commissioner Jones seconded to approve the treasurer's report. The motion passed unanimously.*
7. RECEIVE MONTHLY REPORT FROM THE TRAVIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 2 FIRE CHIEF REGARDING EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES OPERATIONS, RESPONSE TIMES, CALL VOLUME, TRAINING, MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES AND PERSONNEL;  
*Chief Perkin discussed the loss of tax action and discussed the impacts such as program losses and lack of reliability for ambulances. He discussed the call processing delay process and the Austin EMS overlay with no funding going to Travis County.*
8. RECEIVE MONTHLY REPORT FROM THE DISTRICT'S LEGAL COUNSEL REGARDING CONTRACT ISSUES, AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS TO INCLUDE THE CASE OF THE CITY OF PFLUGERVILLE, ET AL. V. TRAVIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 17, ET. AL, AND CONSIDER TAKING ACTION AS MAY BE NECESSARY;  
*Mr. Katz had no report and no further actions*

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

9. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER THE PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2025 BUDGET AND TAKE ANY RELATED ACTION;  
*Ms. Frazier discussed the property tax rate. \$735,000 is the expected ending balance. .0199 is the minimum tax rate they need to continue operations.*  
*Commissioner Orth mentioned she wanted to come up with a tax rate that will later hit the no new revenue rate.*  
*Commissioner Howe discussed the politics surrounding raising the tax rate.*  
*Commissioner Jones suggests having two plans for a no new revenue rate and a plan if the election doesn't go well.*  
*Ms. Frazier discussed writing the policy in terms of having a years' worth reserve. Mr. Katz said this was good financial planning.*

10. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER TAKING RELATED ACTION REGARDING THE 2024 TAX RATE INCLUDING:

- ESTABLISHING THE PROPOSED TAX RATE BY TAKING A RECORD VOTE;
- SCHEDULING A PUBLIC HEARING AND A MEETING TO VOTE TO ADOPT TAX RATE;
- AUTHORIZING THE PUBLICATION OF “NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE” IN THE AUSTIN AMERICAN-STATESMAN; AND
- ACKNOWLEDGING AND APPROVING THE POSTING OF TAX RATE NOTICE AND “NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE” TO THE HOMEPAGE OF THE DISTRICT WEBSITE

*Ms. Frazier discussed the lowering of property values throughout the area and taxes with a homestead exemption. She discussed the voter approval rate and compared it to the full voter approval rate that includes any unused increment. The voter approval rate (just under 3%) ended it with 1.9 million in reserves. Commissioner Howe shared that currently, homeowners are paying about \$6 a month, but if they went with the voter approval rate, the tax rate will be around \$11 a month.*

*Commissioner Howe discussed hitting the proposed tax rate.*

*Commissioner Jones moved and Commissioner Linsalata seconded to adopt the .0370 tax rate (variable rate).*

*Commissioner Pleasant: Aye*

*Commissioner Linsalata: Aye*

*Commissioner Orth: Aye*

*Commissioner Jones: Aye*

*Commissioner Howe: Aye*

*Ms. Frazier shared that they will have to hold a public hearing since the rate is above the no new revenue rate; the week of September 9th. Commissioner Howe suggested meeting Tuesday, September 10th at 6 PM at the community center.*

*Commissioner Jones moved and Commissioner Pleasanton seconded to have the proposed meeting Sept 10th and have the ESD board meeting then and the public hearing and authorizing the publicization notice and other notices as needed. The motion passed unanimously.*

11. REVIEW AND TAKE ACTION ON TRAVIS COUNTY PLAN TO HIRE A CONSULTANT TO STUDY EMERGENCY SERVICES IN TRAVIS COUNTY;

*No action.*

President Howe adjourned the meeting at 4:55 p.m.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for September 10th, 2024

Respectfully Submitted By:

Sequina Allen

Board Recorder