

COMAL COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT No. 2

MINUTES

The Comal County Emergency Services District No. 2 Board of Commissioners held a **Budget Workshop on August 8th at 4:30 PM** at Canyon Lake Fire/EMS Station 51, 1074 Scissortail, Canyon Lake, TX 78133.

Present at this meeting: Tom Crossan, Ken Schein, Francesca Hays, Chief Robert Mikel, and EMS Chief Chris Clapper. Jim Whitcomb attended by live video.

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 PM by Vice President Tom Crossan

Workshop agenda:

Recognition and welcome of citizens present and citizen's comments (time limit). **Kristen Hoyt, Comal County Tax Assessor-Collector was present at our workshop.**

Presentation and discussion on the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2024. **The proposed budget for 2024 was reviewed and discussed. No changes were made. However, the need for salary increases was explained by Chief Mikel. He presented a table which provided a comparison of Canyon Lake Fire/EMS with 21 other similar fire/EMS providers in our area including ESDs and municipalities. This showed us to be only one up from the lowest paid department. The Chief explained the problem this can cause with retention, and proposed an 8% pay increase which will put the Canyon Lake Fire/EMS about in the middle of the list. This salary adjustment is consistent with the Department's master plan. Jim Whitcomb made a motion to approve this Proposed Budget for 2024. The motion passed unanimously.**

Discussion and possible action on the Proposed 2023 Tax Rate setting and need for Public Hearing Date(s) and publications necessary for the proposed tax rate. **After some discussion the 2024 tax rate was set at .059??? per \$100 of taxable value. A roll call vote was done and this tax rate was approved unanimously. The Public Hearing for this tax rate and the August regular meeting were set for August 24th, 2023.**

Commissioners' comments. **The commissioners expressed thanks to Chief Mikel for his work to address the Department's compensation adjustment need. His proposal was well justified and articulated.**

Adjourn: 5:34 PM

The Board of Commissioners is authorized by the Texas Open Meetings Act to convene in closed or executive session for certain purposes. These purposes include receiving legal advice from its attorney, discussing real property matters, discussing gifts and donations to ESD 2, discussing personnel matters, discussing security personnel or devices pursuant to sections 551.071,072, 073,074 and 076 of the Texas Government Code. If the Board decides to enter executive session regarding any item on this agenda, the Presiding Officer will announce that an executive session will be held and will identify the item to be discussed and the provision from the Open Meetings Act that authorizes the closed or executive session.

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