



Montgomery County ESD No. 10

Magnolia Fire Department

18215 Buddy Riley ♦ Magnolia, Texas 77354

Office (281) 356-3288 ♦ Facsimile (281) 356-1572

www.magnoliafire.org ♦ www.magnoliaesd.org ♦ mvfd@magnoliafire.org



DATE: August 10, 2023

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 10 (the "District") met in a regular session, open to the public, at the Magnolia Fire Department, Station 181, 18215 Buddy Riley Blvd, Magnolia, Texas 77354 on Thursday, August 10, 2023, at 3:30 p.m. inside the boundaries of the District.

AGENDA ITEM:

1. Call meeting to order.

At 3:30 pm., Commissioner McDonald Called to order the Regular Meeting of the Montgomery County Emergency Services District #10 (the "District") and the roll was called of the duly appointed officer's to-wit:

2. Roll Call, Pledge of Allegiance, Pledge of Texas and Invocation.

Charles McDonald	Vice President	Present
Jeffrey Cunningham	Assistant Secretary/Treasurer	Present
Kelly Violette	Secretary/Treasurer	Present
Laurie Clifton	Board Member	Present

4 Commissioners were present, thus constituting a quorum.

Also present were Fire Chief Jeffrey Hevey; Business Manager Eloise Roberson; Assistant Chief of Operations Gary Pangarakis; Assistant Chief of Administration Chuck Grant; Division Chief of Training Jason Herrman; Training Battalion Chief Chris Thornton; Battalion Chief Jeffrey Jackson; Office Manager Rhonda Reinholz; Assistant Office Manager Joanna Padilla; District Legal counsel John Peeler of Coveler & Peeler, PC; Dennis and Ross Winker of Winkler Public Relations; Angela Zacharias from Organizology LLC; Ryan Fortner of Revenue Management Services; Joe Mark Robinson of Robinson Group Realtors; Eric Huddleston and Margie Dowdy from abip accounting firm; Montgomery County Constable Deputy Eric Gray; and other Department Officers and Staff.

Commissioner McDonald led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag.

Commissioner McDonald led the Pledge to the Texas Flag.

Battalion Chief Mark Akers gave the Invocation.

3. To receive Public Comment. Texas law and District policy establish that members of the public may offer comments on any subject of concern to the public. District policy establishes time limits to address the Board: 3 minutes for items on the agenda; 2 minutes for items not on the agenda; or 1 minute if the person has spoken on the same topic at any of the two preceding meetings. Anyone who interrupts the meeting intending to prevent or disrupt the Board from conducting the meeting by interjecting comments after the Public Comment item has concluded are subject to removal from the meeting and premises under Texas law after receiving reasonable warning from the presiding officer.

No Public Comments Received.

4. To Propose the District 2024 Budget.

Staff presented the District's 2024 draft Budget to the Board of Commissioners. The Board was informed of being able to make changes or to accept the budget as presented by staff.

Eloise Roberson informed the Board of certain line items that may require revision in later versions of the Budget:

- Health insurance rates will not be made available until October or November, but an increase is expected.
- To re-examine the pay scale previously approved by the Board for Magnolia Volunteer Fire Department (MVFD) "legacy firefighters" hired by the District in January 2022, compared to the Magnolia Fire Department (MFD) pay scale for firefighters not previously employed by MVFD who were hired after the District became the direct employer.
 - The Board asked staff to present a detailed breakdown of those scales at a later date for consideration of increased Cost of Living Adjustments.
- The contribution rate for TCDRS matching is also expected to be increased during the 2024 Budget Year.

The Commissioners also asked about several items, including:

- An increase of \$30,000.00 for the Apparatus Maintenance line item. Chief Hevey informed the Board that the District has an aging fleet; the majority of the district's fleet is between 18-19 years old. Currently, three (3) Engines are in need of repairs and are out of service.
- There are plans to purchase an aerial unit in the next 3 years and 2 engines within the next 2 years. Also discussed, either money will be set aside for such large purchases, or a loan will be taken out. The aerial ladder will most likely be included in the 2026 budget.
- The line item for Mileage *Training & Travel being low. Eloise Roberson used this year's current budget on the said line item to come up with next year's amount but advised that the amount has not been set yet

The Debt Service portion of the Budget was also discussed, clarifying pledged "Debt" from older loans which are not considered "Debt" for calculating the District's Debt Tax Rate. The current amount borrowed for apparatus, station construction, and real estate totals \$17,437,005.52. Current yearly payments due total \$2,045,829.65.

Commissioner Cunningham moved to approve the District's 2024 Budget as submitted, seconded by Commissioner Violette. The motion was approved by a vote of 4 to 0.

5. To Propose the District 2023 Tax Rate.

The Board discussed the tax setting process and available revenue at different potential rates, noting which rates would require elections, and noting the requirement to adopt the Debt Rate necessary to service the District's annual pledged Debt. The Board noted that the proposed Budget would require a proposed a tax rate of \$0.0879 per \$100, noting that rate would not exceed the diminimus rate. Commissioner Violette moved to propose a total tax rate of \$0.0879 per \$100 with \$0.0073 per \$100 being the Debt Rate. Commissioner Clifton seconded. The motion was approved 4 to 0 with a record vote of Commissioners McDonald, Violette, Cunningham and Clifton voting in FAVOR, and noting that Commissioner Smith is ABSENT.

6. To schedule a public hearing regarding the District's 2023 tax rate and the date of the meeting to adopt.

The Board unanimously approved a public hearing to adopt the District's 2023 proposed tax rate be held on August 24, 2023, at 3:30PM at the Magnolia Fire Station 181, 18215 Buddy Riley Blvd., Magnolia, TX 77354.

Mr. Peeler reported that he will immediately provide the proposed rate and hearing information to the Tax Office so that the Tax Office staff can prepare the Notice of Public Hearing for newspaper and website publication.

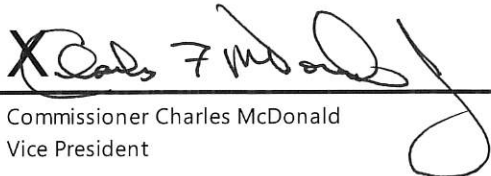
7. To review and take action on matters relating to an election to be held on November 7, 2023:

- 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.
- c. To review and take action to contract with Montgomery County Elections Office for election services.
- d. To consider and take action on such other Orders, Resolutions and related matters as required or appropriate to call for the District election.


No further action was taken, as the proposed rate does not require a tax approval election.

8. Adjournment.

With no further business to come before the Board, the Board unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting at 4:10 pm



 Commissioner Charles McDonald
 Vice President



 Commissioner Kelly Violette
 Secretary/Treasurer
President