

Ellis County Emergency Services District #2

Meeting Minutes Regular Meeting June 16, 2025

A regular meeting of the Ellis County Emergency Services District #2 was held at 5:00 p.m. at the Larry C. Marlow Fire Annex, 105 S. Cockrell Hill, Ovilla, Texas.

Vice-President Ronnie Russell called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

Commissioners present were:

Vice-President: Ronnie Russell
Secretary: Bill Holmes
Treasurer: John Binford
Asst. Treasurer: Dorinda Sims

President: Tim Raven – Absent

I. CONSENT AGENDA:

1. The minutes of the regular meeting on May 19, 2025, were presented.
2. The May 31, 2025, financial reports and May 2025 financial transactions were presented for approval.
3. Approve June 2025 invoices for payment.

A motion was made by John Binford to approve the consent agenda items as presented and Bill Holmes seconded the motion.

VOTE: ALL IN FAVOR

II. REGULAR AGENDA:

ITEM 1. **Discussion/Action** – Discuss FY 2025-2026 budget projected taxable value and budget priorities.

The projected 2025 taxable value was presented and discussed.

NO ACTION TAKEN

ITEM 2. **Discussion/Action** – Discuss and consider adoption of the tax and budget planning calendar for 2025 and take any related action.

The tax and budget planning calendar for 2025 was received from the District's law firm that included the truth-in-taxation requirements for the 2025 budget and tax rate. After discussion John Binford made a motion to approve the calendar that included a special meeting to be held on August 4, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. at the Ovilla Fire Annex. The special meeting will be held to propose the 2025 tax rate, confirm the date of the meeting that will include the adoption of the FY 2025-2026 budget and 2025 tax rate, and the FY 2025-2026 budget will be presented for discussion. Bill Holmes second the motion.

VOTE: ALL IN FAVOR

ITEM 3. 5

After discussion, John Binford made a motion to engage T for 5 and Dorinda Sims seconded the motion.

VOTE: ALL IN FAVOR

ITEM 4. Discussion/Action – Discuss and take action regarding payment of \$8,000.00 to the City of Midlothian for reimbursement of SAFER grant writing services, for staffing at the proposed Midlothian Fire Station #4.

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The Midlothian Fire Department has requested District reimburse the City in the amount of \$8,000 for SAFER grant writing services. The SAFER grant request is to fund six (6) additional firefighter /paramedics to staff a new Medic at new station 4. After discussion, Bill Holmes made a motion to approve the payment and John Binford seconded the motion.

VOTE: ALL IN FAVOR

ITEM 5. Discussion/Action – Discussion and take action concerning a new loan in the amount of \$720,000.00, for the new Ovilla FD Medic 702, fire equipment, and real property improvements to the Larry C. Marlow Fire Annex. Approve refinancing the remaining balance from the 2023 \$260,000 loan secured by a Prosperity Bank CD, into this new loan. Approve new Board resolution to borrow \$720,000.00 from Prosperity Bank and authorize President to sign a promissory note that will be secured with ad-valorem tax as allowed by Section 775.085 of the Texas Health & Safety Code. Resolution will also include allowing the current Prosperity Bank \$260,000 CD to mature.

After a presentation and discussion, John Binford made a motion to approve a resolution that includes borrowing \$720,000.00 from Prosperity Bank and authorize President to sign a promissory note that will be secured with ad-valorem tax as allowed by Section 775.085 of the Texas Health & Safety Code. Resolution will also include allowing the current Prosperity Bank \$260,000 CD to mature and refinance of the remaining principle amount from the 2023 \$260,000 loan.

VOTE: ALL IN FAVOR

ITEM 6. Discussion/Action – Discuss and take action regarding approval of the September 30, 2024, District audit report conducted by YWRD.

The September 30, 2024, audit from District CPA firm: YWRD, P.C. was presented for approval. After discussion Dorinda Sims made a motion to approve and John Binford seconded the motion.

VOTE: ALL IN FAVOR

ITEM 7. Discussion/Action – Discuss and take action regarding approval of updated District Strategic Plan.

District Manager Tom Manning stated an update to the District Strategic Plan will be completed to include the changes since the April 2024 Strategic Plan was approved. Tom Manning requested approval to send the updated Strategic Plan to the City of Midlothian with the FY 2025-2026 contract. Dorinda Simms made a motion to approve and Bill Holmes seconded the motion.

VOTE: ALL IN FAVOR

ITEM 8. Presentation/Discussion – Receive update from Commissioner Bill Holmes regarding mechanical repairs and upgrades of the LCM Fire Annex and OFD station.

Bill Holmes gave an update on the status of the mechanical repairs and upgrades of the LCM Fire Annex and OFD station. The City of Ovilla will require an electrical engineer to provide an electrical plan for any repairs or upgrades. Bill Holmes has contacted the mechanical engineer that was the mechanical engineer of record for the 2008 construction of the LCM Fire Annex. This firm will provide the required electrical plans.
NO ACTION TAKEN

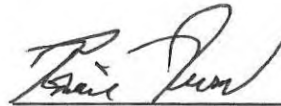
III. DISTRICT RESIDENT COMMENTS

No district residents attended the meeting.

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

No executive session was held.

Ronnie Russell adjourned the meeting at 6:36 p.m.



Ronnie Russell, VICE - PRESIDENT

ATTEST:



Bill Holmes, SECRETARY