

Meeting Minutes
Harris County Emergency Services District No. 7

The Board of Commissioners of HARRIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 7 held a meeting on July 21, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. at the following location in the District, Spring Fire Department Administration Building, 656 East Louetta Road, Spring, Texas 77373.

Melanie Gander	President	(Present)
Gayle Fuller	Vice-President	(Present)
Todd Anderson	Treasurer	(Absent)
Keith Willingham	Secretary	(Present)
David Mills	Asst. Treasurer	(Present)

Also in attendance:

Scott Seifert, Fire Chief, Spring Fire Department - **(Present Via Tele-Conference)**
Robert Logan, Assistant Fire Chief, Spring FD
Jerod Davenport, Spring FD Deputy Chief - **(Present Via Tele-Conference)**
Scott Schoonover, Spring FD Deputy Chief
Joel Crenshaw, Spring FD District Chief, Volunteers - **(Present Via Tele-Conference)**
John Peeler, Coveler & Peeler, District Legal Counsel
Renee Butler, McLennan & Associates, District Bookkeeper - **(Present Via Tele-Conference)**
Tommy Abercrombie - Abercrombie Planning + Design
Steve Schoonover, Spring FD Sr. Captain - **(Present Via Tele-Conference)**
Donald May, Spring FD Facilities Manager
Tracee Evans, Spring FD Communications Director
Carlos Martinez, Spring FD Technology Support Specialist
Damaris Rolon - Spring FD Administrative Support Specialist
Shannon Taylor, HCESD7 Administrator

Call meeting to order.

Commissioner Melanie Gander called the meeting to **ORDER** at 6:30 p.m.

2. Roll call and establish a quorum.

All Harris County Emergency Services District No. 7 Board of Commissioners were present, except for Todd Anderson, Treasurer, who was absent from the meeting.

3. To receive public comment.

No public comment was made.

4. To propose the District 2023 Budget.

Fire Chief Scott Seifert presented in detail:

The 2023 Proposed Operations Expense Budget for the District. The Board noticed increases in gas/diesel, Quartermaster supplies and Workers Compensation insurance. Rising health care costs and inflation will continue. Legal counsel, John Peeler explained the Legislative Consulting expense to the Board. The budget includes hiring three new firefighters and a Deputy Chief of Training.

The 2023 Proposed Capital Budget - \$100,000.00 for new District 70 vehicle replacement, includes outfitting the vehicle with equipment.

The 2023 Proposed District Budget - \$29,024,980.01

Commissioner Gander moved to approve the 2023 District Budgets as presented. Second by Commissioner Fuller. Motion approved 4-0.

5. To propose the District 2022 Tax Rate.

Legal counsel John Peeler discussed the effective tax rate, no new revenue and the voter approval rate, reviewing the statutory definitions of each rate, but noting that information has not been received from Harris Central Appraisal District at this time. He noted that last year's voter approval rate was .097587 / \$100, and the District adopted .0975 / \$100. Mr. Peeler suggested waiting until an August meeting to propose the 2022 Tax Rate, as HCAD will provide the necessary information for the Tax Office to calculate the rates by early August. The Board set a date of August 9, 2022 at 6:30 for a special meeting.

6. To schedule a public hearing regarding the District's 2022 tax rate and the date of the meeting to adopt.

The Board took no action, noting they will set the hearing date at the special meeting on August 9th.

7. To authorize District counsel to publish the necessary 2022 Tax Rate setting notices.

Mr. Peeler explained that a review of the Houston Chronicle publication procedures has lead his office to advise that the District should publish its tax notices in the full-city edition rather than using a local insert. He noted that this will increase the price, but that it will also reach more of the District's taxpayers. Commissioner Gander moved to authorize District legal counsel John Peeler, to publish necessary notices regarding the 2022 Tax Rate setting in the Houston Chronicle. Second by Commissioner Fuller. Motion approved 4-0.

8. To review and take action on matters relating to an election to be held on November 8, 2022:

- 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 Harris 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.**

The Board took no action on item 8, noting it would be included on the special meeting agenda.

There being no further business brought before the Board, or any further public comment. Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Gander. The meeting was adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

District Secretary

Shannon Taylor

Shannon Taylor, Preparer