



BURNET COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #2
P.O. BOX 249
BUCHANAN DAM, TEXAS 78609-0249

Minutes – February 5, 2020

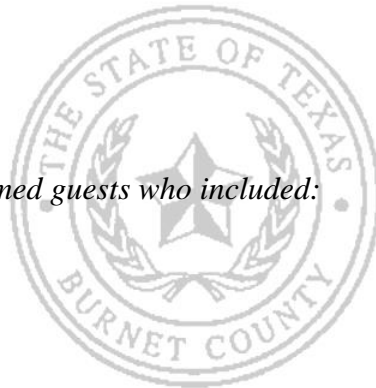
On February 5, 2020, at 6:32 p.m., the Special Meeting of the Board of Emergency Service Commissioners of Burnet County Emergency Services District #2 was called to order at the Cassie Volunteer Fire Department, 3900 RR 690, Burnet, Texas 78611 by Commissioner Schneider. Notice of this meeting (Enclosure 1) had been previously posted at the Burnet County Courthouse and the Cassie Community Center in compliance with the provisions of Chapter 551, Texas Government Code

Commissioner Schneider confirmed a quorum was present. Board members in attendance were:

*Ben Schneider
Dick Bremer
Ed Schaefer
Sharon Barclay*

Commissioner Schneider welcomed guests who included:

*Robbie Cheatham
Derrick Curtis
Chuck Schoenfeld
Marnie Schoenfeld
Donna Kiley
Laura Schneider*



The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States was rendered with appropriate honors.

The Invocation was offered by Commissioner Bremer

Commissioner Schneider discussed the purpose of the Special Meeting -to discuss, evaluate the need, and to develop a plan for the recovery of up to 2% of the Texas state sales tax funds that are not currently claimed within the ESD #2's Fire District. In Texas, the state tax on covered items cannot exceed 8.25%. Of that, 6.25% goes to the State of Texas. The remaining 2% is available to eligible local jurisdictions, such as Emergency Service Districts.

Commissioner Schneider explained that looking forward, the necessity of the additional revenue for continuance of sound operations would support the tax payers of ESD #2. In order to keep

equipment up-to-date, particularly the Fire and EMS Vehicles, it will be necessary for ESD #2 to find a means to gain additional revenue. The funds received from a source that would not create additional taxes, but bring in additional income would help in supporting the services for ESD residents.

Commissioner Schneider stated that in order to receive this revenue it will have to go to election. There will be costs associated with the election and there will be considerable planning and implementation for a successful outcome. Commissioner Schneider provided a handout (Enclosure 2) to organize our process for this meeting.

The first item that was addressed was, “what tax rate should be targeted going forward?”. The discussion was open for general discussion. There was much discussion concerning the fact that the tax is already being collected and that the key is good communication so that the voters will understand that they are not voting for an additional sales tax, just allowing their ESD to receive the existing unclaimed funds.

The Commissioners agreed unanimously by consensus to pursue the 2% goal; this will be brought on the February 27, 2020 agenda for vote.

The next item discussed was the election date to pursue. Placing it on the November ballot would necessitate the filing by August 17. Prior the filing the Proposal, the Commissioners and VFD Members can be advocates, but after filing the role must be only informational.

There was much discussion regarding contacting POA's in the district via mailers and websites for education of the voters. Commissioner Schneider provided a list of communities in the District (Enclosure 3); Only 6 have POA's. Some do not have active information, such as Rocky Ridge. Chief Curtis stated that Little Midland has no voters, that all live in Midland but have property in the District.

Commissioner Schneider provided a copy of the “ESD 2 Sales Tax Action Plan” (Enclosure 4) that defined specific objectives. Providing mailers and attending Picnic's and POA Meetings were discussed.

Discussion again centered around the date to place the proposal on the ballot – November 2020 or May 2021. Again, discussion centered on voter education. Pro's and con's related to different dates were discussed. In November, the election will be at the Cassie Community Center which may be a more advantageous polling place. The consensus decision was to strive for the November 2020 ballot with the goal of filing by August 1, 2020.

Discussion related to listing the individuals to be involved centered primarily on effort to contact POA's. Commissioner Barclay stated that Buena Vista will have their POA Meeting on Saturday, March 7, Chief Curtis stated that perhaps having a short informational PowerPoint or discussion would be good. Commissioner Schneider stated that individuals' roles would be addressed at another meeting. Commissioner Schaefer brought forth the idea of creating a

document explaining current funds and projected needs; this can be used at any time for educational purposes.

Commissioner Schneider opened discussion for addressing roadblocks. Some of the potential objections that will need to be considered are the need for the funds, what is going to be done with funds now, what is the tax payer getting out of it. Also, addressing that these funds are not taking away from another fund such as education.

Chief Curtis discussed the other areas in Burnet County that already receive the Sales Tax fund – Oakalla, Bertram, Spicewood in particular; all of these areas receive a significant portion of revenue from Sales Tax reimbursement. East Lake is on the ballot for this March and Chief Curtis stated that he is actively following their procedures. Commissioner Schneider stated that with Bertram, the first attempt failed due to poor communication, but then passed on the second attempt after proactive education.

Commissioner Bremer discussed the necessity of amending the ESD Budget to cover costs associated with the election. This will be examined and discussed at a later meeting.

Commissioner Schaefer discussed contacting former members of the Department to educate them on current needs and enlist support.

Commissioner Schaefer discussed the potential revenue that could be expected. Due to how the Comptroller reports revenue, only monthly and quarterly tax payments are calculated, not those who pay on an annual basis. Chief Curtis stated that based solely on monthly inflow, the estimate that he has received is \$1200/mo.

Commissioner Schneider asked for comments on further planning. Commissioner Schaefer spoke on developing a calendar for tasks and projects; this will be developed at a later meeting. Chief Curtis spoke on providing Cassie VFD representation at meetings; he will get a list of events in the District.

The next Special Meeting dates are to be determined. Commissioner Schneider announced that the next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, February 27, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. at the Cassie Community Center and invited the attending guests for this meeting also.

With no further discussion, the BCESD #2 Special Meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Schneider at 7:32 p.m.

Sharon K. Barclay
Secretary
Emergency Service District 2
Burnet County
February 5, 2020

Benjamin H. Schneider
President
Emergency Service District 2
Burnet County
February 5, 2020

Enclosure 1



BURNET COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #2
P.O. BOX 249
BUCHANAN DAM, TEXAS 78609-0249

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

In compliance with the provisions of Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, notice is hereby given of a Special Meeting of the Board of Emergency Services Commissioners of Burnet County Emergency Services District #2, to be held at the Cassie Volunteer Fire Department located at 3900 RR 690, Burnet, Texas, 78611 at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, February 5, 2020. This notice is posted in the Burnet County Courthouse at the Cassie Community Center and on cassievfd.com.

PURPOSE OF MEETING

The purpose of the meeting will be for the Commissioners of Burnet County Emergency Services District #2 to develop a plan for the recovery of up to 2% of the Texas state sales tax funds that are not currently claimed within the ESD #2's Fire District. In Texas, the state tax on covered items cannot exceed 8.25%. Of that, 6.25% goes to the State of Texas. The remaining 2% is available to eligible local jurisdictions, such as Emergency Service Districts.

Benjamin H. Schneider, President

SALES TAX STRATEGY SESSION 1

1. What tax rate do we target for request?
2. Motion for ESD#2 to file and be placed on ballot for ___ % State Sales Tax Allocation.
3. What election date do we request being placed on the ballot?
4. List the individuals by name that will be involved from start to finish.
5. Determine the "pro-active start date and end date" (stage 1).
6. Determine the "non-influence/campaign start and complete date (stage 2)
7. Are there any additional objectives/activities that need to be included?
8. Identify and list objectives/activities that fall under stage 1.
9. Identify and list objectives/activities that fall under stage 2.
10. Identify tax payer road blocks/objections to our request for tax dollars.
 - Taxes too high already.
 - Not another tax request.
 - What am I getting for my money?
 - Why do you want/need it?
 - What are you doing with what we give you now?
 - Why should I vote for it or care?
 - How much money are we talking about?

The number 1 cause for Sales Tax funding failure is "lack of communication" to the voter. "As long as you can explain they're getting their bang for the buck, they (voters) generally come around." C. Avery

11. Are there any other objections we need to address?
12. Establish start and complete dates for each objective/activity.
13. Identify each person responsible for each objective/activity.

January 30, 2020

ESD2 COMMUNITIES IN DISTRICT

Buena Vista – Tim Hightower – President –timhightower.email@yahoo.com

Cassie – Kenna Bolan – President – kennabolan@gmail.com

Granit Hills – Wayne Nehring – President – wwnehring@gmail.com

Suzann - Jim Maury – President – jimmaury@ gmail.com

Willows – Pam Teich – President – pteich@lammes.com

Peninsula on Lake Buchanan – Chad Calhoun – Unknown - Unknown

Rocky Point – Robert Horan – Unknown - Unknown

Rocky Ridge – Reed Coleman – Unknown - Unknown

Clear Creek – No HOA/POA - None

Emeralds – No HOA/POA - None

Kelly Emeralds – No HOA/POA – None

Lago Vista – No HOA/POA - None

Little Midland – No HOA/POA - None

February 2, 2020

ESD 2 SALES TAX ACTION PLAN

➤ SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- Obtain a listing of all registered voters and addresses in Cassie's fire district.
 - Obtain a listing of all property owners and addresses in Cassie's fire district.
 - Obtain postage for all direct mail pieces.
 - Create direct mail piece explaining ESD2's desire to secure unclaimed Texas sales tax in the Cassie's fire district.
 - Obtain mailing stickers for mailer.
 - Professionally print direct mailer.
 - Assemble mailers, fold, stamp and mail letters to all property owners.
 - Establish a date to mail letters.
 - Issue reminder notices following first mailing.
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- Develop informational signs requesting property owners vote & support CVFD.
 - Place support signs at the entrance of each community in the Cassie fire district.
 - Set a date to place signs.
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- Identify POA Presidents and their physical locations.
 - Develop a POA presentation addressing Cassie's desire to secure unclaimed Texas State sales taxes in Cassie's fire district.
 - Presentation should be given to each Property Owners Association within the Cassie fire district.
 - A set of Cassie sales tax fact sheets should be left with each POA for further Distribution.
 - The message developed must be consistent throughout all verbal and written communication.
 - Set dates for each activity.
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- Create article and or Ad to appear in the Burnet Bulletin.