

**MINUTES OF AUGUST 18, 2021, PUBLIC HEARING - SPECIAL MEETING
HARRIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 48**

A special meeting was duly called of Harris County Emergency Services District No. 48, held at the District Administration Building located at 21201 Morton Road, Katy, Texas 77449, on Wednesday, August 18, 2021.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by **Bret Fossum**, Vice-President, who announced that a quorum was present. Those Commissioners present were:

Marshall Kramer	Present
Sam Henderson	Present
Bret Fossum	Present
Russell Solomon	Present (arrived at 6:10 p.m.)
Michael Fleming	Present (via telephone)

Also present at the meeting were District Fire Chief, George McAteer, Assistant Chief of EMS, Eric Bank, Assistant Chief of Suppression, Brett Ellis, Assistant Chief of Administration, Ray Sidwell, and Office Manager, Jackie Tobar. Also, present were Ira Coveler, the District's legal counsel with the law firm of Coveler & Peeler, P.C., and Rich Majeres, the District's auditor with ABIP, P.C.

TO RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENT AND CONDUCT THE PUBLIC HEARING/OPEN FORUM TO ALLOW INTERESTED PARTIES TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND BE HEARD REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX RATE SETTING.

No public comment was made.

CONCLUDE PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE.

The Board moved to conclude the Public Hearing on Tax Increase.

TO ADOPT THE DISTRICT 2022 BUDGET.

Mr. **Henderson** made a motion to approve the District 2022 Budget as presented. Mr. **Kramer** seconded the motion. Following a review and discussion of the District's 2022 Budget, Chairman **Fossum** next called for a vote and the motion passed by a vote of 4 to 0.

TO ADOPT THE DISTRICT 2021 TAX RATE.

The Board discussed the various tax rate scenarios and the consequences of each tax rate being considered. Mr. Coveler reviewed with the Board the cost of an election and the ability of the District to conduct an education campaign about the manner in which the taxes would be used if a rate above the Voter Approval Rate and *De minimis* Tax Rate is selected. Mr. **Henderson** then made a motion to approve the District 2021 Tax Rate at \$.095234/\$100 of appraised value. Mr. **Solomon** seconded the motion. Following a review and discussion of the

District's 2021 Tax Rate Scenarios, Chairman **Fossum** next called for a vote and the motion passed by a vote of 4 to 0.

Mr. Coveler also noted for the Board that the District's Tax Rate Resolution reflected that "this tax rate will raise more taxes for maintenance and operations than last year's tax rate" and that "this tax rate will effectively be raised by 4.08 percent and will raise taxes for maintenance and operations on a \$100,000 home by approximately \$3.73." Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board asked that it be reflected in the minutes that the District adopted a lower tax rate than it did in 2020 and did NOT raise the District's tax rate for 2021.

CANCEL THE DISTRICT'S TAX RATE ELECTION:

Following the adoption of a tax rate that would not trigger an election, Mr. **Solomon** made a motion to cancel the District's 2021 tax rate election called for November 2, 2021. Mr. **Henderson** seconded the motion. Chairman **Fossum** next called for a vote and the motion passed by a vote of 4 to 0.

ADJOURNMENT.

Mr. **Henderson** made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. **Solomon** seconded the motion. Chairman **Fossum** next called for a vote and the motion passed by a vote of 4 to 0. The meeting adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

The foregoing minutes were passed and approved by the Board of Commissioners on October 20, 2021.



Russell Solomon
District Secretary