

Minutes (Draft)
Harris County Council of Fire Chiefs
Meeting held July 2, 2020

In Attendance

Fire Departments

Antioch – none	Pine Mountain – Thomas Scott
Cataula – none	Pine Mountain Valley – Jack McClung
Ellerslie – Skip Wyatt	Shiloh – Nick Terry
Hamilton – Charlie Geter	Waverly Hall – Alex Lawski
Hopewell – Roger Duke	West Point – Mitt Smith
Northwest Harris – Curt Pechloff	Secretary – Andy Kober

Visitors

Kelly Pechloff – NWH FD

Called to order at 1936 hours

- 3) Minutes - Minutes from June 4, 2020 meeting unanimously approved.
- 4) Treasurer's Report – Previous balance \$18,199.91. Deposit of \$2,100. No expenditures. Current balance \$20,299.91.
Duke reported on continuing problems with Wells Fargo Bank. McClung to go by bank with minutes recording Duke as Treasurer of organization. Recommendation still on table to switch account to First Peoples Bank once account made accessible.
- 5) A) Training
Wyatt requested dates for bus extrication class. Scott reported on being present for training officer's meeting, but that chair of that group and no other training officers were present. No training date set.
Pechloff noted 15 attended Support Class with 7 having graduated and 4 needing more hours. Looking at 11 completing class. Offered appreciation for assistance provided by other departments during the class.

B) Training Center
McClung reported that wood leftover in dumpster had been removed and put on ground. Smith mentioned possibility of digging pit for disposal of leftover wood.
Scott reported SCBA system serviced and requested input on frequency of testing. Lawski recommended yearly, approved by consensus.

C) Communications
Smith asked about pre-disaster hazard mitigation plan that is about to be updated. Referenced receiving email regarding the project, but apparently none of the other fire chiefs had received email about the effort. Lawski discussed some provisions of the prior plan.
McClung asked what would happen if radio system went offline as there is no backup for communications. Both amateur (ham) radio and citizens band radio were mentioned.

Smith mentioned updated Covid-19 testing schedule.

6) Old Business

McClung reported having talked with Commission Chair Becky Langston regarding contract and issues previously noted by Antioch Fire Chief Richard McKinney and that she recommended worksession with commissioners.

McClung said there was no updated report on funds being distributed from SPLOST revenue which was followed by discussion on funding. He added county receives about \$1 million in insurance refund from state while budget for fire service is less than \$500,000.

7) New Business

None

8) Round Robin

Ellerslie – Recent fire fatality

Hamilton – Highlighted lack of volunteers and expressed appreciation to neighboring departments for help when needed. Explained efforts to renovate box truck into service/support unit.

Hopewell – Noted wreck on Hamilton-Pleasant Grove Road as a result of which person was trapped in wreckage for about 19 hours

Northwest Harris – Support firefighter class nearly complete

Pine Mountain – Also noted support firefighter class and called for starting structural firefighter class. Highlighted recent water shuttle class that maintained flow of 250 gpm and future class with goal of 500 gpm.

Waverly Hall – no report

West Point – no report