



## Board of Directors Meeting Update

Last night Elm Ridge WCID held its December Board of Directors meeting. Here is a summary of some of the actions taken and information discussed:

1. Elm Ridge Directors conducted responses related to “Ask the Board” feature on the website.
2. Minutes from Board of Directors meeting of November 21 & December 1, 2023, Tax Assessor report, Developers report, and Bookkeeper’s report were approved.
3. The Project Manager updated residents and the board of directors on the progress of the Municipal Complex and Police Department building:
  - On December 1st, a safety/work zone was created and the curblines and parking spaces adjacent to the worksite have been cordoned off.
  - On December 4th, Crossland began demolition at the building site. Sidewalks and vegetation were removed to level the site and prepare for soil removal to a depth of 6 feet.
  - On December 6th, Crossland began excavation of the site. During excavation, piers from the old model homes were found and some were located at depths of 12 feet or more. These piers must be removed to ensure that no complications arise during boring. There will be 110 piers drilled on the site.
  - Crossland is on-site daily and the superintendent, Andrew Outland, has moved into an office in the 724 building.
  - Elm Ridge staff recently learned that Huffines Communities is preparing to sell their parcel of land adjacent to US 380 for commercial development and their pond would be filled in. Elm Ridge staff quickly identified a cost saving measure to have all the soil excavated from our building site to be moved and staged near the Huffines pond. In the interim, the Huffines reached an agreement with Crossland to take the fill dirt from the Elm Ridge site to use to partially fill their pond. This measure resulted in a project savings to the District estimated at around \$20,000.00 as Elm Ridge would have paid to have excavated dirt hauled away.
  - Despite the District’s best efforts to educate residents, there continues to be chatter and false information being spread around on social media about this project and specifically about it being over-budget. As a reminder to our BOD and residents, RPGA, the architect selected to perform the needs study and design, first proposed an estimate of \$11,151,885 in September of 2022. After reducing the square footage and working with RPGA and Crossland for many months to find cost saving alternatives, the BOD approved the Guaranteed Maximum Price of \$10,425,667.00 in September of 2023. This is a decrease of \$726,218.00.



4. Received monthly report from Engineering Dept. on engineering design projects for new Artesia Water line and new ground storage tank.
5. Received monthly operator's report for Artesia Utility System.
6. Received General Manager's report on the daily management of the District. Some of the items covered were: 1 of the District parcels of land along Harper Road for sale went under contract at District's asking price of \$180,000; 2023-2024 Road repairs are being assessed for bidding; Presented bids for removal of asphalt walking trail along FM 1385 and Fishtrap, Board approved lowest bid for removal; Presented bids for installation of 3 ft wide concrete walking trail along Fishtrap, Board approved lowest bidder; Board approved some repair work, drainage repair and retaining wall along creek and tunnel underneath Magnolia Blvd; Management attended Upper Trinity Water Conservation conference on November 28 and was informed May 1, 2024 Upper Trinity and its customers (includes Elm Ridge) will go to a permanent Stage 1 water restrictions (the same restrictions in place this past summer); Trash service update on Rhino was given; GM is still working with legal counsel to request Denton ISD to allocate State Funding for SRO's to Elm Ridge to offset costs for Savannah Elementary SRO.
7. The Board received a report from Triton Communications on monthly website activity and improvements. Residents urged to use "report a problem" tab and sign up for the text alert system.
8. Consideration of a request to lease land from Elm Ridge for use of a Fireworks stand, Board of Directors unanimously did not approve.
9. Update on Elm Ridge and Savannah HOA land trade; transactions complete, deed have been recorded.
10. Report to Texas Comptroller on Eminent Domain was approved.
11. Board approved filing of annual Financial & Operating report as required by SEC Rule 15c2-12.
12. Police Department report from Chief Kennedy and some of the updates were: Meeting with Judge Oglesby (JP5) on 11/28 to discuss District Regulations. Discussion regarding court of venue accepting these cases and Standard Operating Procedures for enforcement. Adjustments requested to current approved regulations as well as fine schedule "not to exceed" amount; state law for Class C is maximum \$500; Officer Holland submitted a proposal for new Tasers. Current Tasers are four generations old. New Tasers allow for better control as they have an evidence library which allows for better supervision as well as reporting uses to decrease liability and increase transparency for use of force incidents. Funds from the equipment reserve line used to purchase over a five-year period, old Tasers purchased back by Axon. This decision places our Tasers on a replacement plan for every five years; Vehicle replacement plan created. The new plan allows for better order timing, fund allocation, and budget expenditure transparency. Five-year patrol vehicle replacement, seven-year CID,



SRO, and Command; Defensive Tactics and Building Search/Entry as well as the new Taser platform training scheduled for the department for January 2 & 4; Mentors assigned for new Recruits- Det. Ferguson and Ofc. Dilawar; Total calls for service from the {Police Dept in the month of November 2023) were 2,211; 253 traffic stops of which 86% were issued warnings; School Resource Officer report as well Police Activity report for November were presented; updates on police department vehicles were given; report of crime statistics was given to the Board; update on Explorer Program was given; As of the end of November the PD has completed 19,179 calls for service.

13. Monthly report on calls from Aubrey Fire Department and Prosper Fire Department was given.

For a COMPLETE review of all actions taken and discussions, please visit our website to view the Minutes of all Board meetings. Minutes are uploaded once approved by the Board at the next month's meeting.

Please join us for our next Board meeting January 18, 2024 to see how your Board of Directors are working for you.

ELM RIDGE WCID BOARD OF DIRECTORS