

February 15, 2024

The Rusk County Emergency Services District #1 met on this date at 7:18 p.m. with Board President David Burks presiding. Board Members present were Brian Bathke, Jiffy Dukes, Wayne Griffith and Gloria Dooley. The meeting was opened with a prayer from Chaplain Stacie Horne followed by the pledge to the American flag.

A roll call of departments present was recorded as follows: Carlise, Church Hill, Crims Chapel, Eastside, Elderville, Garrison, Henderson, Rusk County Rescue, Laneville, New London, New Salem, Overton, Reklaw and Tatum. Departments recorded as absent were: Texas Forest Service, Kilgore, Kilgore Rescue, and Mt. Enterprise.

The minutes of the previous meetings were then presented to the Board for their consideration and approval as emailed. On a motion made by Board Member Jiffy Dukes, and duly seconded by Board Member Wayne Griffith, the minutes were approved with a unanimous vote.

The next item on the agenda was to consider and possibly approve the financial reports for December and January as presented by Association Administrative Assistant Jeanine Rounsavall. For the month of December 2023 she reported a beginning balance in the construction fund in the amount of 0.00 with one deposit in the amount of \$178,415.70 and one disbursement in the same amount, for an ending balance in the amount of 0.00; the District's checking account showed a beginning balance in the amount of \$223,843.02 and after disbursements and deposits, an ending balance in the amount of \$522,286.99; the General Money Market account showed a beginning balance in the amount of \$1,624,332.65 with one transfer out in the amount of \$350,000.00 and interest earned in the amount of \$3,649.67, for an ending balance in the amount of \$1,277,982.32; the Reserve Money Market account showed a beginning balance in the amount of \$33,557.56, with interest earned in the amount of \$85.50, for an ending balance in the amount of \$33,643.06; and the Obligations Money Market account showed a beginning balance in the amount \$701,969.61, with interest earned in the amount of \$1,788.58, for an ending balance in the amount of \$703,758.19. Also included with the report was a budget versus actual; profit and loss versus actual; departments breakdowns, reconciliations on all account, and yearly department totals. January 2024 she reported a beginning total in the construction account in the amount of \$178,415.70 with deposits in the amount of \$205,485.00 and disbursements in the amount of \$178,415.70 and \$205,485.00, for an ending balance in the amount of 0.00; the District's checking account showed a beginning balance in the amount of \$570,037.53 and after deposits and disbursements, an ending balance in the amount of \$359,255.00; the General Money Market account showed a beginning balance in the amount of \$1,277.982.32, with one transfer to Obligations in the amount of \$36,584.61 and interest earned in the amount of \$3,232.17, for an ending balance in the amount of \$1,244,629.88; the Reserve Money Market account showed a beginning balance in the amount of \$33,643.06, with interest earned in the amount of \$85.72, for an ending balance in the amount of \$33,728.78; and the Obligations Money Market account showed a beginning balance in the amount of \$703,758.19, with one deposit in the amount of \$36,584.61 and interest

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earned in the amount of \$1,817.19, for an ending balance in the amount of \$742,159.99. Also included with the report were the same reports as referenced in December with the addition of a run analysis. A motion to approve both the December 2023 and January 2024 financial reports was made by Board Member Wayne Griffith, and duly seconded by Board Member Brian Bathe. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Board.

The payment of bills for the month of December 2023 and January 2024 was then presented to the Board for their consideration and approval by Board Administrative Assistant Jeanine Rounsavall. She read aloud all check written during both months and there were no questions or discussions. On a motion made by Board Member Jiffy Dukes, and duly seconded by Board Member Brian Bathke, the payment of bills was approved as presented by a unanimous vote.

The first item under Old Business was to consider, discuss and possibly approve any pending items regarding the remodel of the training facility. Board Member Gloria Dooley reported the cost to add the adhesive to the flooring that had already been approved by the Board ; she presented a quote for adding 7 crape myrtle trees to the front of the building and river rock from the north side around the front to the south side of the building at a cost of \$15,750.00; and presented two quotes for extractor washing machines. She noted that none of these items needed action at this time but would give the Board a general idea of the cost to add these items after completion of the building. She also informed the Board that she would be ordering a pallet jack for the building and they all agreed that this would be a very useful item for the facility.

The next item under Old Business was to consider and possibly approve a cost share with the Garrison VFD on the purchase of a new pumper/engine. Chief Colle reported that they were able to secure much cheaper financing with a local bank and would not be doing the lease purchase at a higher rate. After a discussion on the number of annual runs done in Rusk County, it was determined that a one time payment against their note at time of execution would be the best choice. A motion was made by Board Member Brian Bathke, and duly seconded by Board Member Jiffy Dukes, to do a cost share of \$40,000.00 to the department. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Board. Chief Colle will notify Secretary Gloria Dooley when the engine is to be received and the funds will be released at that time.

The last item under Old Business was to consider and possibly approve a cost share with the Overton VFD for bunker gear. The department had received a grant from the McMillian Foundation in the amount of \$25,000.00 toward the cost of the gear leaving a balance of \$3,053.83. Casey True with the department informed the Board that the department was withdrawing the request as they felt they could handle that amount in house. No action was taken as the request was withdrawn.

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The first item under New Business was to consider and possibly approve reimbursement to the Church Hill VFD for hose that failed certification at a cost of \$980.00 not including freight. A motion to approve the request was made by Board Member Brian Bathke, and duly seconded by Board Member Wayne Griffith. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

The next item under New Business was to consider and possibly approve a 50/50 cost share with the Laneville VFD for replacement of the old portion of their station roof at a cost of \$6,971.00. Tina Dukes presented the request and informed the Board that the roof was the original roof and beyond repairs. A motion to approve the cost share was made by Board Member Gloria Dooley, and duly seconded by Board Member Brian Bathke. The motion passed with a majority vote with Board Member Jiffy Dukes abstaining.

The next item under New Business was to consider and possibly approve reimbursement to the Church Hill VFD for a 5" ball valve not to exceed \$2,800.00. Chief Pearson presented the request and after a brief discussion a motion to approve was made by Board Member Jiffy Dukes, and duly seconded by Board Member Wayne Griffith. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Board.

The next item on the agenda was to consider and possibly approve the ESD paying for the installation of new mobile radios for all volunteer departments in the District and ordering all antennas and needed coax for the mobile radios. While the Board was in agreement to paying for the installation of the radios, they asked for quotes from Pinnacle Fleet and Bobcat on the labor cost for installation. A motion to approve the purchase of antennas, connectors and coax was made by Board Member Gloria Dooley, and duly seconded by Board Member Jiffy Dukes. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

The next item under New Business was to consider and possibly approve reimbursement to the Crims Chapel VFD for repairs to their 2001 brush truck in the amount of \$4,069.38. Chief Vinson presented the request and a motion to approve the reimbursement was made by Board Member Jiffy Dukes, and duly seconded by Board Member Brian Bathke. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

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The next item under New Business was to consider and possibly approve the purchase of a generator for the Carlisle VFD at a cost of \$12,745.48. As this item was included in their 2024 budget, a motion to approve was made by Board Member Brian Bathke, and duly seconded by Board Member Jiffy Dukes. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Board.

The next item under New Business was to consider and possibly approve purchasing some of the outdoor patio equipment at the Youth Project show at the end of February. Board Member Gloria Dooley presented the request and asked for permission to possibly get a grill or table for this area while at the same time supporting the youth in the county. After a discussion, it was decided to approve an amount not to exceed \$5,000. A motion was made by Board Member Jiffy Dukes, and duly seconded by Board Member Brian Bathke, to allow Treasurer Dooley to be in contact with Samantha Cryer at the show and allow an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00 for the purchase of items. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Board.

The next item under New Business was to consider and possibly approve year end amendments to the 2023 budget. Board Treasurer Gloria Dooley went over the amendments to the year end budget and pointed out that our original budget had been set at \$1,976,400.11 and we had ended the year at \$1,840,030.52. A motion to approve the year end budget amendments was made by Board Member Brian Bathke, and duly seconded by Board Member Wayne Griffith. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Board.

The next item under New Business was to consider and approve amending the 2024 budget. Board Treasurer Gloria Dooley reminded the Board that this was necessary to incorporate the carry overs from 2023 into the 2024 budget but did not actually affect the budget numbers. A motion to approve amending the 2024 budget was made by Board Member Brian Bathke, and duly seconded by Board Member Wayne Griffith. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Board.

The next item under New Business was to consider and possibly approve modifying the end-of-year TEXFIRS reporting requirement and changing to reports completed in the RMS. Board Member Gloria Dooley made the request as the TEXFIRS system is not updated in January to reflect reports submitted by the volunteer departments and she had for the past 3 years not been able to use this requirement with departments. A motion to change to reports completed in RMS was made by Board Member Gloria Dooley, and duly seconded by Board Member Brian Bathke. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

The last item under New Business was to consider and possibly approve a donation to the cost of a retirement gift for Henderson Chief Rusty Chote. After a brief discussion, a motion to donate

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\$500 was made by Board Member Brian Bathke, and duly seconded by Board Member Jiffy Dukes. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Board.

Under public comments, Board Member Gloria Dooley informed the Board that she would be purchasing the televisions for the training facility and shelving units for the IT room, IT storage and kitchen areas within the next few days. Scott McCoy with Christus EMS let everyone know to contact him for certification classes for CPR.

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, a motion to adjourn was made by Board Member Jiffy Dukes, and duly seconded by Board Member Brian Bathke. On a unanimous vote of the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Secretary

President