

RUSK COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 1

DETAILED REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

1515 Whippoorwill Ave., Henderson, Texas | May 21, 2026 – 7:00 p.m.

The Rusk County Emergency Services District No. 1 met in regular session on Thursday, May 21, 2026, at the above address at 7 p.m. with Board Member Jiffy Dukes presiding. Board Members present were Gloria Dooley, Wayne Griffith and Curt Collins. Board Members absent were David Burks.

The invocation was delivered by Shawn Salter followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

Departments present were recorded as follows: Carlisle, Church Hill, Crims Chapel, Eastside, Elderville, Henderson, Kilgore, Kilgore Rescue, Laneville, Mt. Enterprise, New London, New Salem, Overton , Reklaw, Rusk Co. Rescue and Tatum. Departments recorded as absent were: Texas Forest Service and Garrison

Board Member Jiffy Dukes congratulated Christus EMS on being awarded the county EMS contract. Discussion followed regarding anticipated service improvements including an additional ambulance and quick response vehicle. Board Member Gloria Dooley congratulated the Mt. Enterprise VFD for receiving a Tender grant and the Taum VFD for receiving a Brush Truck grant.

5. Minutes of Previous Meetings

Motion by Curt Collins, second by Wayne Griffith, to approve the minutes as emailed. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Monthly Financial Reports

Administrative Assistant Dawn Taylor presented the monthly financial reports. The District checking account had a beginning balance in the amount of \$674,630.62 and an ending balance in the amount of \$545,188.55; the Sales Tax account had a beginning balance in the amount of \$5,799,170.46 with interest earned in the amount of \$10,592.10, for an ending balance in the amount of \$6,883,688.18; the Obligations account had a beginning balance in the amount of \$310,469.57 with interest earned in the amount of \$510.36, for an ending balance in the amount of \$310,979.93; and the Money Market account had a beginning balance in the amount of \$1,834,047.73, with interest earned in the amount of \$3,014.88, for an ending balance in the amount of \$1,837,062.61. Included with the report was a current budget, department breakdowns and a profit versus actual reports. Motion by Wayne Griffith, second by Curt Collins, to approve the reports. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Monthly Payment of Bills

The Board reviewed the detailed check register and monthly bills previously distributed electronically. Motion by Gloria Dooley, second by Wayne Griffith, to approve payment of bills. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Revenue Transfers Among District Accounts

Board Member Gloria Dooley reported one transfer during April 2026 consisting of moving \$1,073,925.62 in sales tax revenue from the operating account into the money market account. Motion by Curt Collins, second by Wayne Griffith, to approve the transfer report. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Monthly Financial Reports from District VFDs

The Board reviewed departmental financial summaries and supporting bank statements distributed to Board members. Motion by Wayne Griffith, second by Gloria Dooley, to approve the departmental financial reports. Motion carried unanimously.

10. New Salem VFD Station Project

An update was provided regarding the New Salem VFD station project. Concrete work had been completed and metal materials were expected within one to two weeks with erection work anticipated shortly thereafter. No action was taken.

11. Communications / Technology Improvements and Repairs

The Board discussed the proposed Carlisle tower site and concerns regarding long-term lease costs, infrastructure investment, and lack of ownership. Motion by Gloria Dooley, second by Curt Collins, to reject the proposed arrangement. Motion carried unanimously. Discussion was also held regarding a video matrix system for the conference room to improve display capabilities and support future technology upgrades. Motion by Gloria Dooley, second by Curt Collins, to approve the purchase at not to exceed \$750. Motion carried unanimously. Michael Searcy requested authorization to attend a Public Information Officer course in Lufkin with use of the ESD vehicle and meal reimbursement. Motion by Gloria Dooley, second by Curt Collins, to approve the request. Motion carried unanimously. Additional discussion was held regarding replacement of the Training room sound amplifier. Motion by Wayne Griffith, second by Curt Collins, approving purchase not to exceed \$750. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Interlocal Agreement with Gregg County ESD #1

The Board considered an Interlocal Agreement with Gregg County ESD #1 regarding a shared brush truck project in the amount of \$114,000. Motion by Curt Collins, second by Wayne Griffith, to approve the agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

13. Estimated Tax Values for 2027

Board Member Gloria Dooley presented estimated 2027 tax values received from the Rusk County Appraisal District and discussed projected revenues. Motion by Wayne Griffith, second by Curt Collins, to accept the estimated values. Motion carried unanimously.

14. FY2025 Audit Extension

Discussion was held regarding requesting an extension for submission of the FY2025 audit to the Rusk County Commissioners Court. Motion by Gloria Dooley, second by Wayne Griffith, to approve the extension request. Motion carried unanimously.

15. Resolution on Public Participation

The Board reviewed the Resolution on Public Participation at Open Meetings and discussed revising language to clarify that non-agenda public comments would occur at the beginning of meetings. Motion by Gloria Dooley, second by Curt Collins, to approve the revision. Motion carried unanimously.

16. Laneville VFD SCBA Request

The Board discussed a request from Laneville VFD for SCBAs, facepieces, and cylinders in the amount of \$20,260.00. Discussion included combined department purchasing opportunities for improved pricing and compatibility. Motion by Gloria Dooley, second by Wayne Griffith, to table the item until the next meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

17. Reimbursement to New Salem VFD

The Board considered reimbursement to New Salem VFD in the amount of \$2,017.50 for replacement hose damaged during service operations. Motion by Gloria Dooley, second by Wayne Griffith, to approve reimbursement. Motion carried unanimously.

18. 2027 Budget Workshop

After discussion among department representatives and Board members, June 27, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. was selected for the departmental budget workshop. Motion by Gloria Dooley, second by Wayne Griffith, to approve the date and time. Motion carried unanimously.

19. Carlisle Fire/Rescue Reimbursement

The Board considered reimbursement to Carlisle Fire/Rescue in the amount of \$2,061.05 for Engine 2 repairs including dump valve replacement and plumbing repairs. Motion by Wayne Griffith, second by Curt Collins, to approve reimbursement. Motion carried unanimously.

20. Church Hill VFD Bunker Gear Purchase

The Board considered a request from Church Hill VFD for two sets of bunker gear totaling \$9,379.06 plus freight. Motion by Curt Collins, second by Wayne Griffith, to approve the purchase. Motion carried unanimously.

21. Henderson Fire Department Signage Reimbursement

The Board considered reimbursement to Henderson Fire Department in the amount of \$950 for apparatus signage. Motion by Wayne Griffith, second by Curt Collins, to approve reimbursement. Motion carried unanimously.

22. Church Hill VFD SCBA Cylinder Purchase

The Board discussed purchase of eight replacement SCBA cylinders for Church Hill VFD in the amount of \$11,520.00 and possible districtwide purchasing opportunities. Motion by Gloria Dooley, second by Wayne Griffith, to table the item until the next meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

23. Change of Meeting Times

The Board considered moving RCFFA meetings to 5:30 p.m. and ESD meetings to 6:30 p.m. beginning in June 2026. Motion by Curt Collins, second by Gloria Dooley, to approve the schedule changes. Motion carried unanimously.

24. Release of Fire Hydrants

The Board considered donation of two fire hydrants to the Minden-Brachfield Water Supply for installation and maintenance. Motion by Gloria Dooley, second by Wayne Griffith, to approve the donation. Motion carried unanimously.

25. Eastside VFD Bunker Gear Reimbursement

The Board considered reimbursement to Eastside VFD in the amount of \$3,685 for bunker gear purchased for a firefighter attending academy training. Motion by Wayne Griffith, second by Curt Collins, to approve reimbursement. Motion carried unanimously.

26. Eastside VFD SCBA Purchase Request

The Board discussed an SCBA purchase request from Eastside VFD in the amount of \$20,260.00 and possible combined department purchasing opportunities. Motion by Gloria Dooley, second by Wayne Griffith, to table the item until the next meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

27. Texas Eastern 9-1-1 Use of Conference Room

The Board considered allowing the Texas Eastern 9-1-1 Network Board to utilize the ESD conference room for monthly meetings on the second Tuesday monthly Motion by Curt Collins, second by Wayne Griffith, to approve the request. Motion carried unanimously.

28. New London VFD Fire Academy Request

The Board considered paying upfront costs for two New London VFD members to attend Fire Academy 4 with reimbursement to the ESD upon receipt of grant funding. Motion by Gloria Dooley, second by Curt Collins, to approve the request. Motion carried unanimously.

Additional Discussion

Discussion was held regarding HB471 insurance requirements. It was reported that the District's attorney advised the requirements do not apply to the District because the District does not employ paid firefighters or EMS personnel.

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, a motion to adjourn was made by Board Member Wayne Griffith, and seconded by Board Member Curt Collins. On a unanimous vote the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Secretary

President