

November 17, 2022

The Rusk County Emergency Service District #1 met on this date with Board President David Burks presiding. Board Members present were Brian Bathke, James Dukes, Wayne Griffith and Gloria Dooley. The meeting was opened with a prayer from Jeremy Bozeman followed by the pledge to the American flag.

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

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 as emailed with a unanimous vote of the Board.

The financial report was then presented to the Board for their consideration and approval by Board Administrative Assistant Jeanine Rounsavall. She reported a beginning balance in the Districts checking account in the amount of \$529,331.57 and after disbursements and deposits, an ending balance in the amount of \$403,974.26; the General Money Market account showed a beginning balance in the amount of \$1,559,664.39, with interest earned in the amount of \$2,318.13, for an ending balance in the amount of \$1,561,982.52; the Reserve Money Market account showed a beginning balance in the amount of \$32,538.15, with interest earned in the amount of \$48.36, for an ending balance in the amount of \$32,586.51; and the Obligations Money Market account showed a beginning balance in the amount of \$55,263.07, with interest earned in the amount of \$82.14, for an ending balance in the amount of \$55,345.21. Also included with the report was a budget versus actual, department breakdown, profit and loss versus actual and reconciliations on all accounts. On a motion made by Board Member Wayne Griffith, and duly seconded by Board Member Jiffy Dukes, the financial report was approved as presented with a unanimous vote.

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

Under Old Business the only item was to consider, discuss and possibly approve any pending items regarding the remodel of the training facility. Board Member Gloria Dooley reported that she had taken all necessary and requested documents to Texas Bank and had requested a loan contract for the amount of GMP plus 15%. It would take about two weeks before she heard anything back on the loan. The Board then reviewed the two fencing bids that had been received for perimeter fencing at the facility. After a review of both bids, a motion to accept

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the bid from Harris fencing was made by Board Member Gloria Dooley, and duly seconded by Board Member Jiffy Dukes. The motion was passed with a unanimous vote of the Board. The total bid amount was \$75,850.00.

The first item under New Business was to consider, discuss and approve engaging the Carlton Law Firm as special counsel to assist the District with a 2023 Sales Tax Election. Board Member Jiffy Dukes asked all of the departments there if any one had any objections to the District launching a Sales Tax election in May of 2023 and could the Board count on the departments to meet with their communities and explain what this tax was and how it was going to be used in the county for the departments. All departments present agreed that the extra income was needed and that they would help to get the information out to the residents in their areas. A motion to engage the Carlton Law Firm was made by Board Member Jiffy Dukes, and duly seconded by Board Member Gloria Dooley. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Board.

The next item under New Business was to consider and possibly approve reimbursement to the Rusk County Firefighters Association expenses for the annual Syrup Festival in the amount of \$5,003.46. A motion to approve the reimbursement 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 formation of a Specifications Committee to review and possibly revise current truck specifications. A motion to form the committee was made by Board Member Gloria Dooley, and duly seconded by Board Member Jiffy Dukes. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Board. The committee will meet in January at a time and date to be determined. Members of the committee will be Jiffy Dukes, Chairperson, Brian Bathke, Jeremy Bozeman, Marvin Vinson, Deniese Case, Chris Denison and Paul Patterson.

The last item under New Business was to consider and possibly approve reimbursement to the Reklaw VFD for repairs to their cargo brush truck. After a review of the invoices received and the additional work needed, a motion to approve reimbursement not to exceed \$4,700.00 was made by Board Member Gloria Dooley, and duly seconded by Board Member Jiffy Dukes. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Board. Invoices will be paid upon receipt from the department.

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Under public comments Chief Vinson announced that the department had received a grant for a skid unit from the Texas Forest Service that could be used with the purchase by the ESD of a new chassis for the department.

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, a motion to adjourn was made by Board Member Gloria Dooley, and duly seconded by Board Member Jiffy Dukes. On a unanimous vote of the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Secretary

President