

March 31, 2025

The Rusk County Emergency Services District #1 met on this date at 5:38 p.m. for a Special Called meeting with Board President David Burks presiding. Board Members present were Brian Bathke, Gloria Dooley, Jiffy Dukes and Wayne Griffith. The meeting was opened with a prayer from Chief Sammy Nichols followed by the pledge to the American flag.

The first item on the agenda was to consider, discuss and possibly approve assignment of the first production engine to a department as well as any add-ons/changes to the unit. The Board discussed the 3 departments eligible for an engine (New London, New Salem and Overton VFDs) and agreed that since this would be the shortest of the units on order, it should be assigned to the New London VFD. On a motion made by Board Member Jiffy Dukes, and duly seconded by Board Member Gloria Dooley, the Board approve the engine being assigned to the New London VFD. Board Member Brian Bathke abstained as he is a member of the department. The Board then discussed what we could add on that would fit the department's needs. After discussion a motion was made by Board Member Jiffy Dukes, and duly seconded by Board Member Gloria Dooley, to add on a backup camera, foam system, Evac horn button, 2 LED manual light poles and a 2nd antenna site with power connections. The motion passed with a majority vote with Board Member Brian Bathke abstaining. The department chief, Sammy Nichols, requested that the Board not order any ISO equipment at this time as the department would use equipment from their current out of commission engine and the city of New London would purchase any other items.

The next agenda item was to consider, discuss and possibly approve annual cyber security software. The Board reviewed 3 quotes and a motion to approve the quote from Mobility Global, LLC, on the recommendation of IT Consultant Michael Searcy, was made by Board Member Jiffy Dukes, and duly seconded by Board Member Brian Bathke. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Board.

The last item on the agenda was to consider, discuss and possibly approve erosion control solutions for the building grounds. Board Member Jiffy Dukes reported that he had met with several people regarding matting, seeding and sodding the areas. He had also met with Jeff Harmon and he would be coming back to rework the areas as it had rained heavily within 24 hours after he had completed the dirt work and some areas would have to be redone before any erosion methods were used. The Board discussed all of the possible methods that could be used and the benefits and disadvantages of each particular method presented and the cost involved for each of these options. Everyone agreed that during this time of the year we could anticipate additional heavy rain for at least the next six to eight weeks which limited the choices. While matting and seeding was the least costly of the choices, it was felt that we would be redoing various areas due to heavy rainfall and end up spending more

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than sodding the areas. A motion to sod the areas not to exceed \$38,000.00 was made by Board Member Gloria Dooley, and duly seconded by Board Member Brian Bathke. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Board.

Under public comments Board Member Gloria Dooley reported that the new drain work had come in under budget at a savings of \$1,872.00; that the Post office required a letter of authorization before she could initiate a change of address to prevent mail being delivered at the building and that Board President David Burks had signed the letter so this could be handled; and requested permission to replace the plants in the front of the building which the Board agreed upon.

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 6:18 p.m.

Secretary

President