February 20, 2025

The Rusk County Emergency Services District #1 met on this date at 7:01 p.m. with Board President David Burks presiding. Board Members present were Brian Bathke, James Dukes, Gloria Dooley and Wayne Griffith. The meeting was opened with a prayer from Paul Patterson followed by the pledge to the American flag.

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

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 Treasurer Gloria Dooley. She reported a beginning balance in the Sales and Use tax account in the amount of $2,220,175.83, with one deposit of $295,682.33, one transfer out to checking in the amount of $500,000.00 and interest earned in the amount of $4,728.55, for an ending balance in the amount of $2,020,586.71; the Construction account showed a beginning balance in the amount of zero and no activity and an ending balance in the amount of zero; the General Money Market account showed a beginning balance in the amount of $808,781.08 with one transfer out to the checking account and interest earned in the amount of $1,063.76, for an ending balance in the amount of $359,844.84; the Reserve Money Market showed a beginning balance in the amount of $34,626.95, with interest earned in the amount of $69.11, for an ending balance in the amount of $34,696.06; the Obligations Money Market account showed a beginning balance in the amount of $548,433.02, with one transfer to checking in the amount of $40,000.00 and interest earned in the amount of $1,053.41, for an ending balance in the amount of $509,486.43; and the checking account showed a beginning balance in the amount of $426.466.89 and after disbursements and deposits, an ending balance in the amount of $643,355.76. Also included with the report was a budget versus actual, profit and loss, reconciliations on all accounts, department breakdown and check detail report. A motion to approve the financial report as presented 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 payment of bills was then presented to the Board for their consideration and approval by Treasurer Gloria Dooley. All Board Members had received and reviewed the check detail report via email prior to the meeting. There were no questions or discussion and a motion to approve the payment of bills was made by Board Member Wayne Griffith, and duly seconded by Board Member Jiffy Dukes. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Board.

The next agenda item was to consider and possibly approve any revenue transfers among the District accounts. Board Treasurer Gloria Dooley presented the January revenue transfer report showing 5 transfers, dates of the transfers, amounts of the transfers and from and to which District accounts and the reason for each transfer of revenue. A motion to approve the report was made by Board Member Jiffy Dukes, and duly seconded by Board Member Wayne Griffith. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

The next agenda item was to consider and possibly approve amendments to the 2025 budget to account for 2024 carry-overs. Board Treasurer Gloria Dooley presented the 2024 carry-overs that total $502,153.74 and the 3 accounts that would be increased to account for these funds. A motion to approve the budget amendments was made by Board Member Brian Bathke, and duly seconded by Board Member Jiffy Dukes. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

The next agenda item was to consider and possibly approve any pending items regarding the remodel of the training facility. Board Member James Dukes presented a quote to the Board in the amount of $4,500.00 for dirt work on the back and north side of the property that was needed to redirect water drainage. A motion to approve was made by Board Member Wayne Griffith, and duly seconded by Board Member Jiffy Dukes. The motion passed with a unanimous vote. The next item was a quote to add 3 cameras to the security system (kitchen, mechanical room and interior of storage building). After a review of the quote it was determine that the quantity was incorrect and the matter should be tabled until a corrected quote could be secured. A motion to table was made by Board Member Jiffy Dukes, and duly seconded by Brian Bathke. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

The next item on the agenda consider and possibly approve anything pertaining to radio communications in the District. A discussion regarding upgrading mobile radios to P25 was held and it was suggested by Josh Stelly that the Board consider instead building a redundant system in the 7/800 system. A motion to table the discussion and schedule a workshop instead 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 reimbursement to the Carlisle VFD for replacement face masks that had failed certification in the amount of $4,135.33. 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.

The next agenda item was to consider and approve a cost share with the Carlisle VFD on a VFIS grant in the amount of $875.00 for a bunker gear dryer. Board Member Gloria Dooley stated that she objected to any department coming to the Board with a request for such a small amount when they just received less than 30 days ago over $35,000.00 in funding from the Board. She stated she felt that departments should handle paying these smaller amounts without assistance from the Board. A motion to approve was made by Board Member Brian Bathke, however no motion to second was made by the Board. The motion died and the item requested was closed.

The next agenda item was to consider and possibly approve the purchase of flags poles at a cost of $11,625.00. This quote would be for 3 (three) 30 foot poles with a clear anodized finish, external rope with cleat and installation. A motion to approve the purchase and installation was made by Board Member Jiffy Dukes, and duly seconded by Board Member Brian Bathke. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

The next agenda item was to consider and possibly approve reimbursement to the New London VFD in the amount of $930.00 for hand tools for 2 of their brush trucks that had either been lost or had to be replaced over the past 18 months. Again, Board Member Gloria Dooley objected to the request based on the same reasons as stated for the Carlisle VFD request. A motion to deny was made by Board Member Gloria Dooley, and duly seconded by Board Member David Burks. The motion passed with a majority vote with Board Member Brian Bathke abstaining as he is a member of this VFD.

The next agenda item was to consider and possibly approve a District Communications Protocols policy. Board Member Jiffy Dukes requested that this be sent to the Carlton Law firm first for review and recommendations before the Board consider such a lengthy policy. A motion to table until after the legal review was completed was made by Board Member Jiffy Dukes, and duly seconded by Board Member Wayne Griffith. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

The next agenda item was to consider, discuss and possibly approve submission of the Texas Comptroller Special Purpose District Financial and Tax Reporting Requirement. Board Treasurer presented last year's report to the Comptroller Office and reported that

this year's report was due by April 1st and she just needed the Board's permission to submit the report via their website. A motion to approve 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 next agenda item was to consider and possibly approve the Resolution Regarding Public Participation at Open Meetings. Board Member Gloria Dooley presented and read the Resolution to the Board. After a brief discussion a motion to approve this Resolution 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 agenda item was to consider and possibly approve the Resolution Establishing the District Fiscal Year. Board Member Gloria Dooley presented and read the Resolution to the Board. A motion to approve this Resolution was made by Board Member Wayne Griffith, and duly seconded by Board Member Brian Bathke. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Board.

The next agenda item was to consider and possibly approve the Resolution Establishing the District Administrative Office. Board Member Gloria Dooley presented and read the Resolution to the Board. A motion to approve this Resolution 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 agenda item was to consider and possibly approve the 2024 Annual Report to the Rusk County Commissioners Court. Board Member Gloria Dooley presented the report to the Board that had been given to the Commissioners Court at their February 6, 2025 meeting and approved by the court. A motion to approve 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 next agenda item was to consider and possibly approve bids on a brush truck for the Reklaw VFD. The Board once again reviewed the two bids received – one from Wild Fire and one from Siddons-Martin. Board Member Jiffy Dukes reported that there were too many differences between the two to make them comparable and asked that we table until Siddons-Martin reduced their bid to match the one submitted by Wild Fire. A motion to table was made by Board Member Wayne Griffith, and duly seconded by Board Member Jiffy Dukes. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Board.

The next item on the agenda was to consider and possibly approve closing the District's Construction account as the contract had been completed on the remodel and to close the

Reserve account since all account balances are considered to be reserve at the end of the year for auditing purposes. 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 additional items for the new Rusk County Rescue unit truck in the approximate amount of $19,643.50. This would include all items and signage for the vehicle. A motion to approve 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 next item on the agenda was to consider and possibly approve concrete bids for the Tatum VFD apron replacement. Chief Rayford Gibson reported that the two bids he had received had exceeded $50,000.00 and requested that the ESD advertise for sealed bids to be opened at the next meeting. A motion to advertise for bids 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 next item on the agenda was to consider and approve PPE for the Carlisle VFD in the amount of $34,215.10. Chief Bobby Davilla presented the request and after discussion the Board agreed that the order could be place and that the department would owe the ESD $496.62 as the pricing was over the $4,000.00 per set that was in our Guidelines. A motion to approve with the vendor direct billing the ESD 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.

Under Public Comments Board Member Jiffy Dukes asked for volunteers to help with sales auction for the Youth Project Show on Friday night, Saturday and Sunday.

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 8:50 p.m.

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Secretary President