December 18, 2025

The Rusk County Emergency Services District #1 met on this date at 7 p.m. with Board President David Burks presiding. Board Members present were Jiffy Dukes, Gloria Dooley and Wayne Griffith. The meeting was opened with a prayer from Don Reynolds 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 Co. Rescue, Kilgore, Laneville, Mt. Enterprise, New London, New Salem, Overton, and Reklaw. Departments recorded as absent were: Texas Forest Service, Kilgore Rescue and Tatum.

Under Public Comments Board Member Dukes reported that he had attended a meeting of the Nacogdoches ESD #2 and met with them on questions they had regarding mutual aid between southern Rusk Co. departments and their ESD. Paul Patterson with NAFECO let everyone know that he had 2026 calendars available.

The minutes of the previous meeting were 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 monthly financial report was then presented to the Board for their consideration and approval by Board Administrative Assistant Dawn Taylor. She reported a beginning balance in the District's checking account in the amount of $497,364.60 and after disbursements and deposits, an ending balance in the amount of $429,676.90; the Obligations account showed a beginning balance in the amount of $307,913.46, with interest earned in the amount of $506.16, for an ending balance in the amount of $308,419.62;the Sales and Use tax account showed a beginning balance in the amount of $4,412,181.18, with interest earned in the amount of $8,118.75 and one transfer in the amount of $885,998.91, for an ending balance in the amount of $5,298,180.09; and the General Money Market account showed a beginning balance in the amount of $1,005,546.65, with interest earned in the amount of $1,652.95, for an ending balance in the amount of $1,007,199.60. Also included with the report was a profit versus actual, budget versus actual and a breakdown of funds by department. 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 of the Board.

The payment of bills was then presented to the Board for their consideration and approval. The Board reviewed all checks written and there was no discussion or questions. On a motion made by Board Member Jiffy Dukes, and duly seconded by Board Member Wayne

Griffith, the payment of bills was approved with a unanimous vote of the Board.

The next agenda item was to consider and possibly approve any transfer of funds between accounts. The November report showed all account transfers and there were no questions or 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.

The next agenda item was a review and discussion only of a memo from Attorney Kelli Carlton regarding the terms of office for each Board Member and how those terms would be set for reappointment in the future. The Board discussed the procedure and had no questions. No action required or taken.

The next agenda item was to consider and possibly approve monthly financial reports and RMS reporting from District VFDs. Board Treasurer Dooley presented the report and summary financial report and requested that in the future that any department not current in either or both requirements, have funding withheld until they were in compliance with the policy. A motion to approve the reports and to hold the departments to the policy in place by withholding funding if necessary was made by Board Member David Burks, and duly seconded by Board Member Jiffy Dukes. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

The next item on the agenda was to consider and possibly approve a MOA with Christus EMS that had been modified from the last meeting. 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 agenda item was to consider and possibly approve a change order on the Laneville brush truck in the amount of $41,458.62 that had been tabled from the November meeting. The Board once again reviewed the change order and a motion to approve was made by Board Member Gloria Dooley, and duly seconded by Board Member Wayne Griffith. The motion passed with a majority vote with Board Member Jiffy Dukes abstaining.

The next agenda item was to consider and possibly approve discontinuing the annual stipend of $2,500.00 to Chaplain Stacie Horne but to keep in place the hourly rate of $25.00 per hour, mileage, and expenses incurred per month. Board Member Dooley reported that she had discussed this with Chaplain Horne and it was agreed that this could be discontinued and that any training or additional expense could be brought to the Board for approval. A motion to approve was made by Board Member Gloria Dooley, 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 increasing the annual payment

amount to the Henderson Fire Department to $60,000.00, Board Treasurer Dooley presented the request based on the fact that the Henderson FD also had a volunteer department that was not funded by the ESD and the fact that they covered a far bigger territory and did almost 3 times more calls than the Kilgore Fire Department and that Kilgore had always received a total of $60,000.00 annually for their city department and a volunteer department. A motion to increase the funding 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 any requests from the Rusk County Firefighters Association committees for funding assistance. Association President Bozeman reported that the Appreciation Banquet Committee was seeking assistance of approximately $8,000.00 for the dinner. A motion to approve was made by Board Member Gloria Dooley, and duly seconded by Board Member Jiffy Dukes.

The next agenda item was to consider and possibly approve a cost share with the Henderson Fire Department for repairs to the county engine in the amount of $3,411.04. Deputy Chief Stoddard presented the request and a motion to approve was made by Board Member Gloria Dooley, 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 cost shares with the Church Hill and Crims Chapel VFDs for rescue tools under TFS grants with direct payment to the vendor and the departments returning to the ESD their grant funds. A motion to approve the cost share 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 reimbursement to the Church Hill VFD for a chop saw and blades in the amount of $1,410.98. Chief Pearson explained that it wasn't a chop saw but a K12 saw that the department had purchased. Board Treasurer Dooley pointed out to the department and the Board that this item was not part of their 2025 budget requests and that this was considered a tool that a department could, and should, purchase out of annual funding received by the District. She also recommended that it not be approved as doing so would open a door for all hand tools to be bought and paid for by the District. A motion to deny the request 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 on the agenda was to consider and possibly approve a cost share with the

Church Hill VFD on a possible PPE grant in the amount of $2,583.40 contingent on receiving a $25,000.00 TFS grant. A motion to approve the possible cost share was made by Board Member Jiffy Dukes, and duly seconded by Board Member Gloria Dooley. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

The next agenda item was to consider and possibly approve reimbursement to the Laneville VFD for one set of bunker gear at a cost of $4,572.31. A copy of the invoice and check was presented to the Board for the gear for a new department member. A motion to approve was made by Board Member Gloria Dooley, and duly seconded by Board Member Wayne Griffith. The motion passed with a majority vote with Board Member Jiffy Dukes abstaining.

The next item on the agenda was to consider and possibly approve a cost share with the Laneville VFD on a PPE grant cost share in the amount of $2,763.91 with the $25,000.00 grant funding being returned to the ESD and the ESD direct paying all vendors for the gear. A motion to approve was made by Board Member Wayne Griffith, and duly seconded by Board Member Gloria Dooley. The motion passed with a majority vote with Board Member Jiffy Dukes abstaining.

The next item on the agenda was skipped/no action to be taken as per the request of Michael Searcy.

The next item on the agenda was to consider and possibly approve a cost share with the Relaw VFD on a TFS rescue tools grant. The Board reviewed two quotes and a motion to approve the quote for $44,210.00 was made by Board Member Jiffy Dukes, and duly seconded by Board Member Gloria Dooley. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

The next agenda item was to consider and possibly approve reimbursement to the Reklaw VFD for Fire Academy cost not covered under TFS at a cost of $1,350.00. 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 agenda item was to consider and possibly approve the cost of failed hose for the Reklaw VFD at a cost of $6,996.72. A motion to approve 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 agenda item was to open only the bids received for the New Salem VFD station and read aloud the totals. No action taken on this item. All sealed bids were opened and totals read aloud.

The last item on the agenda was to consider, discuss and possibly approve the annual

report to TDEM as required by state law. Board Member Dooley presented a copy of the report that had been filed via internet on December 9, 2025. 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.

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 Wayne Griffith. On a unanimous vote of the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

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Secretary President