

July 21, 2022

The Rusk County Emergency Service District #1 met on this date at 6:45 p.m. with Board President David Burks presiding. Board Members present were Gloria Dooley, Jiffy Dukes and Wayne Griffith. Board Members absent were Brian Bathke. The meeting was opened with a prayer from Chief Marvin Vinson 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, Texas Forest Service, Henderson, Rusk County Rescue, Laneville, Mt. Enterprise, Overton and Reklaw. Departments recorded as absent were: Garrison, Kilgore, Kilgore Rescue, New London, New Salem and Tatum.

Before continuing with the regular agenda items, President Burks asked to move to the first item under New Business, to consider and possibly approve the 2021 annual audit report from Morgan LaGrone, CPA. Ms. LaGrone presented the report to the Board and noted that this year's audit was a clean audit with no adjustments. She reviewed all information in the audit for the Board Members and there were no questions or comments. On a motion made by Board Member Gloria Dooley, and duly seconded by Board Member Jiffy Dukes, the Board approved the 2021 audit report with a unanimous vote and thanked Ms. LaGrone and her staff for a job well done.

The minutes from 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 Board approved the minutes 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 District's checking account in the amount of \$504,771.87 and after deposits and disbursements, an ending balance in the amount of \$487,982.50; the General Money Market account showed a beginning balance in the amount of \$1,614,689.71 with one transfer from Obligations in the amount of \$44,640.60, one deposit in the amount of \$47,461.33 and interest earned in the amount of \$963.32, for an ending balance in the amount of \$1,659,779.96; the Reserve Money Market account showed a beginning balance in the amount of \$32,422.16, with interest earned in the amount of \$18.66, for an ending balance in the amount of \$32,440.82; and the Obligations Money Market account showed a beginning balance in the amount of \$71,538.65 with one transfer out and interest earned in the amount of \$25.57, for an ending balance in the amount of \$74,899.14. Also included in the report was a budget versus actual; profit and loss versus actual, department breakdown 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

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month and there were no questions or discussion. 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.

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 the dirt work had been completed at the building and it looked great and that Board Member Brian Bathke had also gone by and checked it out. She also reported on the email she had received from Board attorney John Hardy and that he was seeking out local banking options for the Board to explore for funding on the remodel project. She also asked to be allowed to seek out meetings with various local banks and explore options with them. A motion to allow Board Treasurer Gloria Dooley to met with and explore financing options with local banking institutions 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.

Under New Business the next item was to consider and possibly approve payment to Siddons-Martin for repairs to the 2002 tender from Mt. Enterprise VFD in the amount of \$9,703.41, with the department reimbursing the ESD in the amount of \$65.10. Chief Case presented the request and the Board discussed the repairs and the possible need to seek out quotes on repairs of this cost. A motion to approve the payment 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 last item under New Business was to consider and possibly approve reimbursement to the Rusk County Rescue Unit for bunker gear in the amount of \$18,128.50 (this item was included in their 2022 budget). The Board reviewed the quote and had no questions and suggested that the gear be direct billed to the ESD. A motion to pay for the bunker gear 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.

Under public comments, Matt Burnett with the Texas Forest Service spoke on the grant program and encouraged all members to contact their state representatives and get them to release back to the Forest Service the millions in the rainy day fund that had been appropriated and never used by the State of Texas. He also let everyone know that the service had 3 dozers stationed in the Henderson District office for use by all of the departments in fighting brush/grass fires. He asked for an updated roster and Board Member Gloria Dooley will email that to him and he will email to her a list of current grant applications from the departments in the county. Board Member Dooley remarked that grants NOT included in a department budget created a hardship when the Board plans their annual budget without the knowledge of a possible grant cost share needed by a department. She reminded departments to please

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include these on their annual budgets. Chief Chris Denison reported that the Carlisle VFD had received a grant for one of the 2-1/2T cargo trucks to be converted to a wildland truck. The cost share to the ESD would be around \$8,500.00 and that they had only applied for it this year and had not expected to get it so quickly. Board Member Jiffy Dooley asked if any other departments had one of these large trucks on a grant request and no other departments did. He remarked that he did not feel that the county fire district needed anymore than the 2 that they had now received as these were specialty vehicles and would not be in use on a regular basis, and that maintenance, repairs and insurance did not make them a valuable fleet addition. The Rusk County Rescue unit reported that the Command truck would be finished with upgrades in the next two weeks and they would then be ready to get the computers and radio system installed. Chaplain Stacie Horne announced that the National Night Out would be held on October 4 with the site and times to be announced at a later date.

There being no other 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 7:29 p.m.

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Secretary

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President