

December 19, 2024

The Rusk County Emergency Services District #1 met on this date at 7:15 p.m. with Board President David Burks presiding. Board Members present were Gloria Dooley, Jiffy Dukes and Wayne Griffith. Absent was Board Member Brian Bathke. The meeting was opened with a prayer from Fire Marshal Patrick Dooley 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, Henderson, Rusk County Rescue, Laneville, Mt. Enterprise, New London, New Salem, Overton and Tatum. Departments recorded as absent were: Texas Forest Service, Garrison, Kilgore, Kilgore Rescue and Reklaw.

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 and payment of bills was then presented to the Board for their consideration and approval by Board Treasurer Gloria Dooley. She reported a beginning balance in the checking account in the amount of \$361,114.97, and after deposits and disbursements, an ending balance in the amount of \$3889,265.99; the General Money Market account had a beginning balance in the amount of \$1,055,133.61 with one transfer to checking in the amount of \$250,000.00 and interest earned in the amount of \$1,980.78, for an ending balance in the amount of \$807,113.78; the Obligations Money Market showed a beginning balance in the amount of \$991,946.00, with interest earned in the amount of \$2,070.86, for an ending balance in the amount of \$994,016.86; the Reserve Money Market account showed a beginning balance in the amount of \$34,483.57 with interest earned in the amount of \$72.00, for an ending balance in the amount of \$34,555.57; the Sales and Use tax Money Market account showed a beginning balance in the amount of \$1,600,040.17; with interest earned in the amount of \$3,609.93 and one deposit in the amount of \$306,360.75, for an ending balance in the amount of \$1,906,400.92; and the construction account showed a beginning balance in the amount of zero dollars, with one deposit and one disbursement in the amount of \$289,943.58, for an ending balance in an amount of zero dollars. Also included with report was a profit and loss versus

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actual, budget versus actual, department breakdown and reconciliations on all accounts. The Board also reviewed all checks written since the last meeting and there were no questions or discussion. A motion to approve the financial report and payment of bills was made by Board Member Jiffy Dukes, and duly seconded by Board Member Wayne Griffith. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

The first item under Old Business was to consider, discuss and possibly approve any pending items regarding the remodel of the training facility. The only item was the final cost on the renovation of the storage building. The Board had previously approved an estimated cost of \$35,000.00 and the final cost was \$36,216.27. A motion to approve the overage amount of \$1,216.27 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 item under Old Business was to consider, discuss and possibly approve anything pertaining to radio communications in the District. Michael Searcy reported that the dispatch work would be completed by the end of the year. No action taken.

The last item under Old Business was an update on the concrete work at the Laneville VFD. Jiffy Dukes reported that all of the work had been completed and that they were very pleased with the job and would recommend 4S Enterprises for any future work.

The first item under New Business was to consider and possibly approve reimbursement to the Rusk County Rescue unit the cost for one set of bunker gear at \$3,972.37. A motion to approve the reimbursement 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 under New Business was to consider and possibly approve reimbursement to the Rusk County Rescue unit for Swift Water training for 4 members at a cost of \$3,400.00 A motion to approve the reimbursement 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.

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The next item under New Business was to consider and possibly approve amending the District Guidelines, page 2, item 3 regarding bunker gear. A motion to approve the change with the number 5 removed was made by Board Member Gloria Dooley, and duly seconded by Board Member Jiffy Dukes. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

The next item under New Business was to consider and possibly approve rescinding approval of flags and flag poles at a cost of \$11,804.90 approved in September 2024. The sales rep has not returned any phone calls regarding the status of the order or when it would be completed so it was determined that we should look elsewhere for these items. A motion to rescind the approval 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 under New Business was to consider and possibly approve setting up eligibility requirements for the upcoming EMT class. After a review of the 20 members currently enrolled in the class and the approximate cost of \$1,500.00 per member, it was determined that this cost should be paid by individual departments and that each department could seek reimbursement from the ESD only for members that complete the class and pass their national certification test within 60 days of class completion. Each department can decide which members are eligible and will be totally responsible for costs. A motion to make departments responsible for all costs 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 the ESD buying the necessary computer to regin the District's trucks. After a brief discussion, a motion to table the item was made by Board Member Jiffy Dukes, 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 a list of personnel for building access control. After discussion, it was decided that

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a policy should be put in place at the next meeting. A motion to table the item 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 under New Business was to consider and possibly approve setting a January workshop date for the future purchase of District equipment. A motion to set the date of January 7<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. was made by Board Member Gloria Dooley, and duly seconded by Board Member Jiffy Dukes. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

The next item under New Business was to consider and possibly approve a January workshop on Strategic Planning. It was agreed to combine this with the Equipment workshop to be held on January 7, 2025. A motion to combine the two 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 last item under New Business was to consider and possibly approve paying off the Carlisle VFD building loan. After a brief discussion, a motion to pay off the loan before the end of the year 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.

Under public comments Board Member Jiffy Dukes thanked all the departments for their hard work and dedication for the residents of the county; and how grateful the Board was to have such a great group of individuals to work with and for. He also wished everyone on behalf of the Board a very Merry Christmas.

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 8:13 p.m.

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Secretary

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President

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