

March 16, 2023

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 Brian Bathke, Gloria Dooley, Jiffy Dukes and Wayne Griffith. The meeting was opened with a prayer from Ryan Riley 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 Rescue, Laneville, Mt. Enterprise, New London, New Salem, Overton and Tatum. Departments recorded as absent were: Texas Forest Service, Kilgore and Reklaw.

The minutes of the previous meeting 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 Treasurer Gloria Dooley. She reported a beginning balance in the District's checking account in the amount of \$575,038.85, and after disbursements, deposits, and transfers, an ending balance in the amount of \$346,718.51; the General Money Market account showed a beginning balance in the amount of \$1,085,872.91, and after deposits, transactions and interest earned in the amount of \$2,459.45, an ending balance in the amount of \$1,631,386.36; the Reserve Money Market account showed a beginning balance in the amount of \$3 2,778.25, with interest earned in the amount of \$63.49, for an ending balance in the amount of \$32,841.74; and the Obligations Money Market Account showed a beginning balance in the amount of \$540,971.30, with interest earned in the amount of \$1,047.86, for an ending balance in the amount of \$542,019.16. Also included with the report was a budget versus actual, profit and loss versus actual and department breakdown. On a motion made by Board Member Jiffy Dukes, and duly seconded by Board Member Wayne Griffith, the Board approved the financial report with a unanimous vote.

The payment of bills was then presented to the Board for their consideration and approval by Board Treasurer Gloria Dooley. She read aloud all checks written during the month and there were no questions or discussion. On a motion made by Board Member Wayne Griffith, and duly seconded by Board Member Jiffy Dukes, the payment of bill was approved with a unanimous vote of the Board.

Under Old Business the only item was to consider, discuss and possibly approve any pending items regarding the remodel of the training facility. Board Treasurer Dooley presented a change order on the doors for the building from Berry & Clay; Board Members Dukes and Bathke requested having Brushwacker return and trim and remove dead trees and having Pct. 1 remove the monuments and do the remaining dirt work in preparation of the fencing. A motion to

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approve these items was made by Board Member Jiffy Dukes, and duly seconded by Board Member Brian Bathke. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

The first item under New Business was to consider and possibly approve disposal of the Zetron dispatch system no longer in use at the Sheriff's department. After a brief discussion it was determined that it really had little to no value at this time, and the Board requested that Michael Searcy see if the Panola County Sheriff's department would be interested in receiving the system as a donation from the ESD. A motion to donate the system 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 banning all Hytera products in the District. Board Member Dooley reported that there were 38 hand held radios, 20 mobile radios, 4 base radios and 3 repeaters in the District. The Board explained to the 4 departments impacted that this is a result of the FCC and Homeland Security banning these products and even though Hytera had filed a law suit to resist the ban, it would be in the courts for years and would have a negative impact on grants and FCC licensing. At this time the Board was not telling any department that they had to stop using the radios immediately but within the next 6 months, or when replacement radios became available, they would be taken out of the system in the District. Until replacement radios were decided on and based on that availability, the Board would delay any action for 6 months. A motion to table the item until next month when hopefully pricing on replacement radios would be available, 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 item under New Business was to consider, discuss and possibly approve listing the property on Hwy. 259. After a brief discussion, a motion to list the property for sale 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 a cost share with the Kilgore Rescue Unit on repairs to their 2006 F550 in the amount of \$3,117.77. This request meets the Guidelines as the total repair cost is \$6,117.77 and the department will be paying the first \$3,000.00 of cost as per the Guidelines. A motion to reimburse the department was made by Board Member Brian Bathke, 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 the cost of replacement hose that failed certification for the Overton VFD. Chief Hamilton made the request on behalf of the department. Board Member Dukes requested that the department first

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notify the City and determine if the replacement hose was for any of the city vehicles since the new tender had new hose on it and that only left the county engine that might need some of the replacement hose. A motion to table the request until these items had been addressed 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 reassignment of the 2017 Fire Marshal truck as a First Responder vehicle for one of the volunteer departments. The Church Hill VFD, Eastside VFD and Laneville VFD all expressed interest in using this as a First Responder vehicle. After a discussion by the Board and with the departments involved, a motion to assign the vehicle to the Laneville VFD, only after the new Fire Marshal vehicle was completed, was made by Board Member David Burks, and duly seconded by Board Member Wayne Griffith. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Board, with Board Member Jiffy Dukes abstaining.

The next item under New Business was to consider and possibly approve a cost share with the Crims Chapel VFD on a Texas Forest Service grant for a skid unit up to a maximum of \$10,000.00. Chief Vinson presented the request and said he was asking for more in the event that the price changed before the skid unit could be produced and delivered. A motion to approve the cost share 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 under New Business was to consider and possibly approve a request from the Crims Chapel VFD for the cost to rebody the current brush truck bed while waiting for a 2024/2025 F450 Ford chassis at a cost of \$35,020.13. Chief Vinson presented the request and stated that the Dodge chassis was 24" longer than the skid so he was seeking out a Ford chassis but that it couldn't even be ordered until 2024. The Board asked that he at least consider the Dodge chassis since that extra two feet could be used as a walk through or extra box storage rather than wait on a chassis that he might not get until 2025 and then have to spend even more money taking it off of the old truck and putting it on a new chassis. That would mean paying twice for rebodding the unit. A motion to table the request while this is being considered was made by Board Member Brian Bathke, and duly seconded by Board Member Gloria Dooley. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

The last item under New Business was to consider and possibly approve assignment of a new Dodge 5500 chassis for build out of a brush truck. The Board reviewed the inventory and determined that the Eastside VFD was in need of the truck chassis and would sale their oldest brush truck once the unit is completed. The department will seek out and present build out bids to the Board within the next 60 days. A motion to assign the chassis to the Eastside VFD was

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made by Brian Bathke, and duly seconded by Jiffy Dukes. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Board.

Board President Burks then called for public comments. Board Member Dooley reported that the Tatum VFD had their brush truck in operation and that the final cost to the ESD had been \$32,509.06 and that without the insurance payment the cost of the truck was \$79,970.39; that the computer system in the command truck had come in under the approved amount at \$1,890.55 less than anticipated; that the second Dodge 5500 could be picked up next week and that Patrick Dooley and Michael Searcy would go and get it; and that it looked like the cell phone company would be using the south tower site and were working on permits and licensing and would be getting with us on the cost to lease space on the tower. It was agreed that we would not release our current land lease until we had a favorable lease in place that guaranteed us a low cost and first shot at the property in the event that the company terminated their lease with the land owner anytime in the future.

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, a motion to adjourn was made by Board Member Brian Bathke, and duly seconded by Board Member Jiffy Dukes. On a unanimous vote of the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Secretary

President