

January 19, 2023

The Rusk County Emergency Service 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 Chief Rayford Gibson 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, Kilgore Rescue, Laneville, Mt. Enterprise, New London, New Salem, Overton, Reklaw and Tatum. Departments recorded as absent were: Texas Forest Service, Garrison and Kilgore FD.

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 Brian Bathke, 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 Jeanine Rounsavall. She reported a beginning balance in the District checking account in the amount of \$525,008.40, and after deposits and disbursements, an ending balance in the amount of \$443,326.52; the General Money Market account showed a beginning balance in the amount of \$1,564,774.83, with interest earned in the amount of \$3,135.98, for an ending balance in the amount of \$1,567,910.81; the Reserve Money Market account showed a beginning balance in the amount of \$32,644.76, with interest earned in the amount of \$65.43, for an ending balance in the amount of \$32,710.19; and the Obligations Money Market account showed a beginning balance in the amount of \$55,444.14, with interest earned in the amount of \$111.12, for an ending balance in the amount of \$55,555.26. Also included with the report was a budget versus actual, department breakdown, profit and loss versus actual and reconciliations on all accounts. On a motion made by Board Member Jiffy Dukes, and duly seconded by Board Member Brian Bathke, 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 Administrative Assistant Jeanine Rounsavall. She read aloud all checks written during the month and there were no questions or discussion. On a motion made by Board Member Gloria Dooley, and duly seconded by Board Member Brian Bathke, the Board approved the payment of bills with a unanimous vote.

Under Old Business the first item was to consider, discuss and possibly approve any pending items regarding the remodel of the training facility. Board Treasurer Gloria Dooley reported that she had spoken with Danny Berry and they were beginning to pull permits for the project. She had also spoken with John Cloutier of Blazer Electric and he expected the poles to be delivered for the perimeter lighting with 10 days and would begin on that project soon thereafter. Neither of these items required any action from the Board at this time.

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The last item under Old Business was to consider and possibly approve an Interlocal Agreement between the Rusk County Emergency Service District #1 and the Rusk County Commissioners Court. On a motion made by Board Member Jiffy Dukes, and duly seconded by Board Member Gloria Dooley, the agreement was approved and signed with a unanimous vote of the Board.

Under New Business the first item was to consider and possibly approve for the Carlisle VFD the purchase of a 4x4 at a cost to the ESD of \$10,241.30. As the department had this item submitted in their 2023 budget and had secured a donation from Basa Resources of \$5,000.00 reducing the cost to the ESD, a motion to approved 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 department was asked if they would be coming back to the Board for the purchase of a skid unit and they responded that they would not be doing so.

The next item under New Business was to consider and possibly approve the purchase of Lifeline ARM Chest Compression System devices for volunteer departments at a cost of \$8,175.00, with each department paying a 50% cost share of \$4,087.50 back to the ESD. Scott McCoy with Christus EMS demonstrated the device and reported that all Christus EMS units now had these devices on them. The Board then polled the departments and the following six departments requested them: Eastside, Laneville, Mt. Enterprise, New Salem, Reklaw and Tatum. A motion to purchase six of the devices 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 a letter of engagement from Morgan LaGrone, CPA for auditing services for the annual 2022 audit. A motion to engage the firm of Morgan LaGrone, CPA 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 amending the 2022 budget. Budget amendments were reviewed by the Board and there were no questions or discussions. It was noted that the District ended the year with a positive fund balance. A motion to amend the 2022 budget 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 a tender bid for the Mt. Enterprise VFD. The Board review all three bids submitted and after a brief discussion a motion to accept the bid from Siddons-Martin in the amount of \$385,222.00 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.

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Under Public Comments: Treasurer Dooley reminded everyone to get their 2023 folders and check list at the end of the meeting; Scott McCoy told the departments that Christus can do CPR classes for up to 20 members but they needed to contact him to get on the schedule and that they would also provide training on the new Lifeline devices to the departments; Chris Mahler with Siddons-Martin announced that he had brought additional calendars with him for distribution to the departments.

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 8:02 p.m.

Secretary

President