

October 20, 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 Brian Bathke, Jiffy Dukes, Gloria Dooley and Wayne Griffith. The meeting was opened with a prayer from Chaplain Stacie Horne 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 County Rescue, Kilgore, Kilgore Rescue, Laneville, Mt. Enterprise, New London, New Salem, Overton and Tatum. Departments recorded as absent were: Texas Forest Service and Reklaw.

The minutes of the previous September meetings were presented to the Board for their consideration and approval as emailed. On a motion made by Board Member Brian Bathke, and duly seconded by Board Member Jiffy Dukes, the minutes were approved 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 \$358,273.87 and after deposits and disbursements, an ending balance in the amount of \$494,624.64; the General Money Market account showed a beginning balance in the amount of \$1,832,654.96 with one transfer in the amount of \$275,216.00 and interest earned in the amount of \$2,025.43, for an ending balance in the amount of \$1,559,664.39; the Reserve Money Market account showed a beginning balance in the amount of \$32,500.13, with interest earned in the amount of \$38.02, for an ending balance in the amount of \$32,538.15; and the Obligations Money Market account showed a beginning balance in the amount of \$75,028.24, with one transfer in the amount of \$19,837.21 and interest earned in the amount of \$72.04, for an ending balance in the amount of \$55,263.07. 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 Wayne Griffith, the financial report was approved as presented with a unanimous vote.

The payment of bills was then presented to the Board for the 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 Brian Bathke, and duly seconded by Board Member Jiffy Dukes, the payment of bills was approved as presented 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. The Board Members all indicated that they had reviewed the 5 addendums received from GLS and there were no questions regarding them. The Board then reviewed the 3 bids for perimeter fencing and gates for the property. It was decided that Board Members Jiffy Dukes and Brian Bathke would come up with a list of

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specific items on the fencing since they were not alike in the number of columns or terminal posts. Once the list is complete, the 3 bidders will be asked to resubmit their amended bids. The item was tabled until a later date. The Board then review the single bid received for perimeter lighting and electricity to the remote storage building. As there were questions, a call was made to the electrical contractor John Cloutier and he went over the bid and assure the Board that the work could be done without issue with the remodeling project. A motion to accept his bid of \$26,860.45 for lighting and \$1,9995.00 for electricity to the remote building was made by Board Member Jiffy Dukes, and duly seconded by Board Member Wayne Griffith. The motion passed with a majority vote, with one nay vote from Board Member Brian Bathke. Tree removal was tabled until a later date.

The first item under New Business was to consider and possibly approve a cost share with the Eastside VFD on a Fire/Rescue equipment grant. The grant is for \$20,000.00 with a 10% cost share of \$2,000.00 to the ESD. A motion to approve a cost share of \$2,000.00 was made by Board Member Brian Bathke, and duly seconded by Board Member Wayne Griffith. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Board. The department intends to purchase rescue struts, battery chain saw, ripper, and thermal imaging cameras among other things.

The next item under New Business was to consider and possibly approve a cost share with the Overton VFD on the purchase of a complete set of rescue tools. The department was seeking a \$5,000.00 cost share from the ESD with the department paying \$5,000.00. The department had previously received approval from the City of Overton city council for a cost share from them in the amount of \$27,158 but the city had since decided to seek out a grant to pay for their approved cost share so that they wouldn't have to use any funds from the city. Board Member Jiffy Dukes made a motion to approve a cost share of \$5,000.00 from the ESD with the department paying \$2,000.00 and the City of Overton paying \$3,000.00. The motion was duly seconded by Board Member Wayne Griffith and passed with a unanimous vote. Board Member Dukes also requested that the Board receive documentation from the City of Overton that they had indeed applied for a grant and a check copy of their \$3,000.00 part of the cost share with the ESD and the Overton VFD. He asked for these items in the event that there was not a grant forthcoming, as it would leave the department with an outstanding balance on the tools in the amount of \$27,158.00.

The next item under New Business was to consider and possibly approve cost of repairs to the Overton VFD city pumper that had failed pump certification in the amount of \$5,782.30. While this was not a piece of county equipment, it is used in the county when need be, just as the county pumper engine is used within the city of Overton when need be. A motion to pay the bill directly 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. Board Treasurer Gloria Dooley

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will present this invoice for a 50/50 cost share and the previous agenda item cost share to the City of Overton city council at their November 2022 meeting for reimbursement to the ESD.

The next item under New Business was to consider and possibly approve reimbursement to the Mt. Enterprise VFD for an emergency generator and lighting in the amount of \$8,716.32. The Board reviewed the invoices and had no questions. 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.

The next item under New Business was to consider and possibly approve reimbursement to the Mt. Enterprise VFD for one set of bunker gear for Stacie Horne in the amount of \$813.00. A motion to approve the reimbursement was made by Board Member Brian Bathke, and duly seconded by Board Member Gloria Dooley. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

The next item under New Business was to consider and possibly approve an instructor level training class for Chaplain Stacie Horne at an approximate cost of \$2554.02 with the ESD paying \$1,500.00 and the City of Henderson paying for all other costs. As the cost had already been paid by Stacie, the reimbursement amount would go directly to her. A motion to approve the cost of \$1,500.00 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 fuel assistance payment to VFDs that had averaged 25 or more runs during the first 3 quarters of 2022 due to the increased cost of fuel. Board Treasurer Gloria Dooley made the request and after discussion it was agreed that in January of 2023 the departments receiving the fuel assistance would turn in their actual costs and if there was still a difference the Board would consider additional assistance. A motion to pay a stipend of \$2,500 to 9 departments was made by Board member Jiffy Dukes, and duly seconded by Board Member Wayne Griffith. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

The last item under New Business was to consider and possibly approve the purchase of additional burn ban signs at a cost of \$489.50. Board Member Gloria Dooley made the request as all of the burn ban signs had been given out and additional signs were needed. A motion to pay the bill directly to Sign Express was made by Board Member Jiffy Dukes, and duly seconded by Board Member Wayne Griffith. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Under public comments Board Member Jiffy Dukes reminded everyone of the annual Laneville Barbeque fund raiser, with auction and free concert on October 22<sup>nd</sup> starting at 11 a.m. Scott McCoy talked about the new defib devices available and the new requirements from the State of Texas for medical bags on first responder trucks. The Garrison VFD reminded everyone of their haunted house in Garrison. This is their annual fund raiser and would be starting the next

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night and run through October 31<sup>st</sup>. He said it was very scary and they discouraged young children from going through the house.

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 8:04 p.m.

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Secretary

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President