HARRIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 5
Minutes of the Meeting Held on August 21, 2025

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT
Larry Hall
Luther Brady
Brent Burley
James Blaha
Sharon Cotton

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE
Gerardo Gonzalez – EMS Chief, HCESD 5
JoAnn Kuritz – HR Director, HCESD 5
Nicole Pierce – Smith, Murdaugh, Little & Bonham, L.L.P., District Counsel
Rodney Sims – member of the public
Lauren Bruening – member of the public
David Taylor – member of the public
Kay Henry – member of the public
Additional Member of the public

Agenda Item No. 1
The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Cotton at 1:00 p.m. at EMS Station No. 3, 111 West Stroker Road, Crosby, Texas 77532.

Agenda Item No. 2
Ms. Cotton opened the floor up to public comment and opened the public hearing to allow interested parties to address the Board regarding the proposed property tax rate setting. The Board heard comments from the members of the public in attendance at the meeting. The Board thanked the members of the public for attending the meeting and their comments on the proposed tax rate.

Agenda Item No. 3
The Board then reviewed the draft District's 2026 Budget presented by Ms. Kuritz. After discussion, Commissioner Burley made a Motion to approve the 2026 District Budget as presented. The Motion was seconded by Commissioner Blaha. The Motion passed by a vote of 5 to 0.

Agenda Item No. 4
The Board then discussed the District's 2025 Tax Rate. Ms. Pierce advised that the Notice of Public Hearing was published advising the public of today's meeting regarding the adoption of the tax rate. After discussion, Commissioner Burley made a Motion to adopt a District 2025 Tax Rate of $0.03/$100. The Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hall. The Motion passed by a vote of 5 to 0.

Agenda Item No. 5
The Board then discussed cancelling the election called for November 4, 2025. Ms. Pierce advised that based on the adopted tax rate that no election would be required for November 4, 2025. After discussion, Commissioner Blaha made a Motion to cancel the called election for November 4, 2025. The Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hall. The Motion passed by a vote of 5 to 0.

Agenda Item No. 6

The Board then reviewed the minutes for the regular meeting held on July 24, 2025. Commissioner Brady made a Motion to approve the minutes as presented. The Motion was seconded by Commissioner Burley. The Motion passed by a vote of 5 to 0.

Agenda Item No. 7

The Board received the monthly financial report prepared by Ms. Kuritz and the bills for payment. Following review of same, Commissioner Hall made a Motion to approve the financial report as presented. The Motion was seconded by Commissioner Blaha. The Motion passed by a vote for 5 to 0. Commissioner Brady made a Motion to approve the bills for payment as presented. The Motion was seconded by Commissioner Burley. The Motion passed by a vote of 5 to 0.

Agenda Item No. 8

The Board received the monthly investment report prepared by Ms. Kuritz. No action was required by the Board at this time.

Agenda Item No. 9

The Board received the monthly ambulance billing report prepared by Ms. Kuritz. No action was required by the Board.

Agenda Item No. 10

The Board received a monthly report from the EMS Chief Gerardo Gonzalez. He reported that there are no issues at any of the stations and that they have fully transitioned into utilizing our own oxygen system. He reported morale remains high and that the staff are working on different projects for the upcoming months. He reported that the two (2) new ambulances were delivered and will be placed into service soon. He reported that HCA Kingwood hospital reached out to coordinate a patient/medic meet & greet related to the great job by the medics on a recent cardiac call where the patient made a full recovery following the incident. The Board thanked Chief for the report and commended the staff and crews on their great work and service to the District.

Agenda Item No. 11

There were no capital requests presented at this time.

Agenda Item No. 12

The Board then reviewed the sealed bids related to the sale of the surplus ambulance. Ms. Kuritz advised that the District had received one (1) sealed bid. Ms. Pierce opened and presented the sealed bid to the Board. The bid was from the City of Liberty/Liberty Fire Department for a formal bid price of $45,000 for the 2015 C-3500 Chevy/Frazer ambulance. Following review of same, Commissioner Burley made a Motion to accept the bid offer of $45,000 from the City of Liberty/Liberty Fire Department for the sale of the 2015 C-3500 Chevy/Frazer ambulance. The Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hall. The Motion passed by a vote for 5 to 0.

Agenda Item No. 13
The Board then discussed the sale or disposal of surplus and/or salvage property pursuant to Local Government, Section 263.151. The Board discussed the one (1) remaining oldest ambulance which is a 2013 with 155k+ miles. Both are reserves at Station 1. Following review of same, Commissioner Blaha made a Motion to declare the 2013 ambulance as surplus and to put it out for auction with a minimum reserve of $10,000. The Motion was seconded by Commissioner Burley. The Motion passed by a vote for 5 to 0.

Agenda Item No. 14
The Board received a monthly report from Ms. Kuritz, Director of Human Resources and Finance. Ms. Kuritz reported that the Peer Support Team held an intensive training this month with representatives from neighboring agencies and reported that the Peer Support Team will meet on a monthly basis and trying to set up biannually regional meetings with the neighboring agencies. The Board thanked Ms. Kuritz for her report. No action was required by the Board.

Agenda Item No. 15
The Board then discussed changing banks and moving all the District's depository accounts to Frost Bank. After discussion, Commissioner Blaha made a Motion to change banks and move all of the District's depository accounts to Frost Bank and approve the Resolution for same. The Motion was seconded by Commissioner Brady. The Motion passed by a vote for 5 to 0.

Agenda Item No. 16
The Board did not enter into Closed Session.

Agenda Item No. 17
There was no action required related to personnel matters following Closed Session.

Agenda Item No. 18
There was no action required related to real estate matters following Closed Session.

A**genda Item No. 19**
The Board's next regular meeting will be held on **September 25, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.** at **EMS Station 3 located at 111 West Stroker Road, Crosby, Texas 77532**.

Agenda Item No. 20
The meeting was adjourned at 2:41 p.m.

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Board Secretary