HIDALGO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 6
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MAY 13, 2026

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Dr. Antonio Uresti
Mario Flores
Janie Gaytan
Juan Palacios
Rolando Reyna

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Jorge Arcaute
Krystine Ramon (via Zoom)
Gus Ramirez
Janie Flores
Cecilia Sanchez

1. **Call Meeting to Order, Roll Call and Establish a Quorum**
   The meeting was called to order by President Uresti at 6:30 p.m. A quorum was established.

2. **Invocation**

3. **Pledge of Allegiance**

4. **To receive Public Comments**
   There were no public comments.

5. **Consent Agenda**
   a. **To approve meeting minutes of April 8, 2026.**
   Motion to approve the minutes was moved by Commissioner Flores and seconded by Commissioner Reyna. Motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Uresti abstaining.

6. **Old Business**
   a. **To receive a report from the District's bookkeeper Luis Orozco regarding the District's financial condition.**
   Luis Orozco provided a presentation on the financial statements for the district for the months of January through March 2026. Mr. Orozco stated that the biggest expense in February was the reimbursement paid to the City of Alton. Ms. Krystine Ramon recommend that a mid-year budget amendment be done to balance the budget with expenses. Mr. Orozco stated that there is still a balance on property taxes to be collected. Mr. Orozco stated that he has been in contact with the auditor, Mr. Reyna, and he will be working with his firm in preparing the audit. No action was taken.

   b. **To receive a report from Consultant Gus Ramirez regarding Fire Services.**
   Consultant Gus Ramirez reported there were meetings held with the cities in reference to the proposal from the district for the figure amount plus ten percent and he also met with them for some contract information that the ESD attorney required, which is the amount of units and things of that nature that needed to be in the contract. Everybody submitted the information accordingly except the City of Penitas.

Mr. Ramirez stated that he met with the committee and they all met with Border Affairs for contract review. There were a lot of areas that are not necessarily part of District 6 which is the same issue encountered with District 5. Mr. Ramirez believes that this is what is holding back a couple of the cities.

The next item Mr. Ramirez reported on was that he followed up with the Mission City Manager in reference to the two fire trucks. The fire trucks were approved through their Commission to be given to the ESD. Mr. Ramirez also reported that he received the proposal from the Sullivan City Manager in reference to that bunker gear and he stated that they are in dire need of that bunker gear.

Mr. Ramirez stated that he met with the Chief of Staff of Precinct 3 over the user agreement. We went over the technicality that it's two tenants, ESD 5 and ESD 6. Mr. Arcaute stated that it has been the decision to deal with one ESD and have that ESD sublease to the other ESD. The final verdict from our legal department was to do a three party agreement. We have enough to submit something for an agenda item at the court's next meeting.

Mr. Arcaute stated that the second building would be included in the lease, and the ESD's would be responsible for all improvements. There are some drainage issue that should be addressed by the precinct. the ESDs are looking at doing improvements on these buildings, and all of those would have to be with prior approval by the County. No action was taken.

c. To review, discuss and take action to approve a contract with a GIS Services Company to provide fire hydrant location mapping, boundary analysis, and related geographic information system services for the District.
Consultant Gus Ramirez stated that he spoke with Mr. Julio Serda because he has not sent his quote in writing. Mr. Ramirez recommended that the item be tabled and be brought back at the next meeting to allow for time to have two quotes, unless the board decides otherwise. Item was tabled, there was no further discussion.

d. To receive a report from the Fire Services Review Committee.
Commissioner Flores reported that Mr. Ramirez, Christine and he met and reviewed the contracts. We deleted some of the stuff and we added some other stuff that I think we needed to protect the district. One item added is for the cities to provide some kind of a certification of general liability insurance to protect the district in case of a lawsuit or anything. Counsel Krystine Ramon stated that the maps in the agreements need to be changed for the other particular cities, this is why the next agenda item only has three cities because their ETJ is not their whole rural area is not included in our district. We will have to figure out those maps. That is something Chief Ramirez and the committee will work on.

e. To review, discuss and consider action to approve an Interlocal Agreement for Fire Services between the District and the City of Alton, the City of La Joya, and the City of Mission.
Commissioner Flores stated that the local agreement with the cities were reviewed and stated that they are satisfied with them, Commissioner Palacios agreed. Motion to approve was moved by Commissioner Flores and seconded by Commissioner Gaytan. Discussion followed by Consultant Ramirez regarding the update on the map for the contract with the City of Alton. The map delineates which area is the responsibility of the district and which

area is outside of the district and which area is of the city. The contracts require reporting each month at least ten days before the district's regular monthly meeting by the City fire chief or his or her designee. Motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Uresti abstaining.

f. **To discuss and consider approval to pay District bills as presented.**
Commissioner Gaytan stated that a list of bills was included in the packet and there were no questions. Motion to approve was moved by Commissioner Gaytan and seconded by Commissioner Reyna. Motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Uresti abstaining.

7. <u>**New Business**</u>

a. **To designate the Hidalgo County Tax Assessor-Collector's Office to prepare the District's No New Revenue Tax Rate and related tax rate calculations for 2026, and authorize District counsel to publish the necessary 2026 Tax Rate setting notices.**
Counsel Krystine Ramon stated once again that the district does not have to use the County to prepare the district's tax rate revenue, the voter approval and the de minimis rate. Ms. Ramon asked that a resolution be approved that will designate the Hidalgo County Tax Assessor collector's office to prepare the tax rates and authorize the district council to publish the necessary 2025 tax rate setting notice. Motion to approve was moved by was moved by Commissioner Reyna and was seconded by Commissioner Palacios. Motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Uresti abstaining.

b. **To discuss and take action regarding Sales Tax Election.**
Commissioner Reyna moved to authorize Counsel Ramon to seek several companies that could do a tax evaluation and was seconded by Commissioner Palacios. Motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Uresti abstaining.

c. **To review, discuss and consider the approval to authorize the Board Treasurer to transfer funds.**
Commissioner Flores moved to authorize the Board Treasurer to transfer money to the money market account leaving no more than $100,000, motion was seconded by Commissioner Reyna. Motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Uresti abstaining.

d. **To discuss and consider the approval of an ESD grant program for District Fire service providers.**
Gus Ramirez, Consultant, stated that this grant program would be a good conduit for cities, who have voiced their needs, to submit for funding for some of those needs. Commissioner Flores stated that he felt that the grant program was a better way to help service providers versus paying invoices. There was discussion regarding the details of the grant program. Motion was moved by Commissioner Gaytan to approve the grant program with the two parameters of having two hundred thousand dollars allocated per year and open up the applications twice a year. Motion seconded by Commissioner Flores. Motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Uresti abstaining.

e. **To review, discuss and consider the approval to join the Federal Surplus Property Program.**
Gus Ramirez, Consultant, stated that as instructed he submitted an application to the Federal Surplus Program and the ESD's were accepted. Mr. Ramirez stated that he will be filing the signed application so the ESD's can formally become part of the program. Motion

to approve was moved by Commissioner Reyna and was seconded by Commissioner Palacios. Motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Uresti abstaining.

f. **To review, discuss and consider the approval of a Facebook page for the District.**
Gus Ramirez, Consultant stated that a Facebook was created at the direction of the board for the District. Krystine Ramon, Counsel stated that with a Facebook page, she stresses that records need to be kept as per TSLAC. There are outside retention companies that can take care of it if it gets very big. Motion to approve was moved by Commissioner Reyna and seconded by Commissioner Palacios. Motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Uresti abstaining.

g. **To review, discuss and consider the approval to purchase IT equipment to support meeting operations.**
Gus Ramirez, Consultant stated that in order to minimize paper use and for operational efficiency, each commissioner would get a laptop that can be used during the meetings to log in through Zoom. One hotspot would be purchased that would be shared by both ESD's. Motion to approve was moved by Commissioner Flores and seconded by Commissioner Gaytan. Motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Uresti abstaining.

h. **To review, discuss and consider authorizing the consultant to contract for maintenance of ESD equipment and Apparatus.**
Commissioner Flores moved to authorize Consultant Gus Ramirez to contract a company to perform general maintenance on the two fire trucks donated by City of Mission. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Gaytan. Motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Uresti abstaining.

i. **To receive a report from the Committee in reference to the meeting with the grant service writer.**
Commissioner Palacios stated that Mr. Humberto Garza was given the ESD's strategic approach and a demonstration of the need of the ESD since the District is just starting. Mr. Humberto Garza feels that we can certainly get some grants. Commissioner Palacios stated that Mr. Garza showed great interest in helping the district obtain grants. There will not be a charge unless he gets us a grant where he will charge an administrative fee once the grant is received.

8. **Executive Session: Pursuant to Chapter 551, Texas Government Code Section 551.071**
   a. **To consult with Legal Counsel.**
   The District did not go into executive session to consult with legal
9. **Return to Open Session for Possible Action**
10. **Adjournment**
    Motion to adjourn at 9:19 p.m. was moved by Commissioner Flores and seconded by Commissioner Gaytan. Motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Uresti abstaining.