HIDALGO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 6
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JULY 8, 2026

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT
Dr. Antonio Uresti
Mario Flores
Juan Palacios
Janie Gaytan

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT
Rolando Reyna

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE
Jorge Arcaute
Krystine Ramon (via Zoom)
Gus Ramirez
Janie Flores
Cecilia Sanchez
Other guests as recorded

1. **Call Meeting to Order**
   The meeting was called to order by President Uresti at 6:00 p.m

2. **Roll Call and Establish a Quorum**
   Roll call was taken and a quorum was established.

3. **Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag**
   The invocation was led by Commissioner Galvan from ESD #5 and those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. **Public Comment**
   There were no public comments.

5. **Consent Agenda**
   a. **To approve meeting minutes of June 10, 2026.**
      Commissioner Flores made a motion to approve the June 10, 2026 meeting minutes and was seconded by Commissioner Palacios. Motion carried 3-0 with Commissioner Uresti abstaining.

6. **Old Business**
   a. **To receive a report from the Committee Treasurer and take necessary action regarding the District's investments.**
      Commissioner Gaytan reported a money market balance of $112.17 and a public funds/checking balance of $169,655.88 as of the meeting date. The Board discussed maintaining sufficient operating funds to pay current obligations while transferring excess funds to the interest-bearing account when practical. No action was taken.

   b. **To receive a report from Consultant Gus Ramirez regarding Fire Services.**

Consultant Gus Ramirez reported on fire service matters, including the committee's review of service coverage for areas outside the District and the proposed interlocal agreement with Hidalgo County. The Board discussed the County's anticipated $750,000 allocation, coverage of geographic gaps or "white spots," appropriate compensation for service outside District boundaries, and obtaining comparable service-cost information from similarly situated jurisdictions. Counsel Ramon agreed to research comparable rates, and a workshop was recommended for further discussion. No action was taken.

c. **To discuss and consider approval to pay District bills as presented.**
The Board reviewed District bills for consulting and legal services. Commissioner Flores made a motion to approve the bills as presented, and Commissioner Palacios seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0, with Commissioner Uresti abstaining.

d. **To receive a report from the Fire Services Review Committee.**
Gus Ramirez stated that the Fire Services Review Committee continues to work on an interlocal agreement addressing fire hydrant maintenance and service. Counsel Ramon was reviewing agreements used by other public entities as possible models and advised that maintaining every hydrant could create a substantial budget obligation. The Board requested additional information and cost estimates. No action was requires.

7. **New Business**

a. **To review and act regarding Truth and Taxation planning for the upcoming 2027 Budget adoption and 2026 Tax Rate adoption, including reviewing schedules for same.**
Counsel Krystine Ramon reviewed the Truth-in-Taxation calendar for the 2027 budget and 2026 tax rate, including certification deadlines, publication requirements, and the sequence for proposing and adopting the budget and tax rate. The Board discussed a goal of maintaining a tax rate at or near $0.10, subject to the certified values and calculated rates. The Board discussed scheduling a budget workshop for July 22, 2026 before the tax-rate proposal meeting, a July 29, 2026 meeting to propose the tax rate, and an August 19, 2026 meeting/public hearing to adopt the budget and tax rate. Counsel Ramon was directed to coordinate the required notices and agenda language. No action required for this item

b. **To discuss the 2025 Audit and pending items.**
The Board discussed the status of the 2025 audit and outstanding information requested by the auditor. Counsel reported that the statutory filing deadline was August 31, 2026. The Board discussed having the auditor present the report at the July 29 meeting if the remaining documentation could be completed. No action required for this item.

c. **Discuss and consider approval of an amendment to the grant guidelines.**
Counsel Ramon advised that the program should not be titled a "grant" program and recommended the title "Fire Services Interlocal Funding Program." Mrs. Ramon also recommended adding applicant information regarding the percentage of the applicant's budget devoted to training and clarifying annual training hours for volunteer and/or paid firefighters. Commissioner Palacios made a motion to approve the recommended changes. Commissioner Gaytan seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0 with Commissioner Uresti abstaining.

d. **Discussion and possible action to engage volunteers.**
The Board discussed the agenda item regarding engaging volunteers. Because Commissioner Reyna, who had requested the item, was absent and the purpose of the item could not be fully addressed, the Board took no action.

e. **Discuss and consider approval of an amendment to the Interlocal Agreement with the City of Mission.**
Counsel Krystine Ramon reviewed requested amendments to the Interlocal Agreement with the City of Mission. The Board agreed to clarify that the agreement concerns fire and rescue services and does not include EMS; retain the existing indemnity language; allow clarifying language regarding compliance with Chapter 791 of the Texas Government Code; allow the proposed territory and rate-adjustment provisions; and allow reporting language protecting confidential, medical, disciplinary, and legally protected information. Commissioner Flores made a motion to approve the amendments as discussed, except for the requested indemnity change. Commissioner Palacios seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0 with Commissioner Uresti abstaining. Counsel was directed to communicate the approved revisions to the City of Mission.

f. **To review, discuss and take possible action on the purchase of a brush truck.**
The Board discussed a brush truck previously reviewed at an approximate price of $295,000 and agreed additional options should be compared. Counsel Ramon advised that purchases over $100,000 generally require competitive procurement unless an applicable exception or cooperative purchasing program is used. The Board directed that at least three vendors be contacted so options could be presented at a future meeting. No purchase was approved and no formal action was taken on the item.

g. **To review and act on scheduling District Meetings and items to be added to meeting agendas.**
The Board reviewed upcoming meetings and workshops. A budget and budget-amendment workshop was discussed for July 22, 2026, contingent upon the availability of the District's bookkeeper. The Board also discussed the July 29, 2026 meeting for the proposed tax rate and the August 19, 2026 meeting/public hearing for adoption of the budget and tax rate. Counsel and staff were asked to coordinate the required agendas, notices, and attendance.

8. **Executive Session: Pursuant to Chapter 551, Texas Government Code Sections 551.071, 551.072 and 551.074**
   a. **To consult with Legal Counsel.**
   There was no executive session.

9. **Return to Open Session for Possible Action**

10. **Adjournment**
    There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Commissioner Gaytan and seconded by Commissioner Flores to adjourn at 8:36 p.m.. The motion carried 3-0 with Commissioner Uresti abstaining.