

MINUTES OF THE May 12, 2025, DISTRICT MEETING
BRAZORIA COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 3

A meeting was duly called of the **BRAZORIA COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 3**, which was held on May 12, 2025, at the District Administration Office, 6931 Masters Road, Manvel, Texas 77578.

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 P.M. by **DARRELL VALUSEK**, District President. The Commissioners present were **DARRELL VALUSEK, FRANK HAGDORN, MATT GLAVES and GEORGE BULLINGTON**. Also present were District Executive Director Jeff Braun, legal counsel John Peeler, ESD 3 EMS Chief Tim Welch, ESD 3 Fire Services Administrator Jack Helton, District CPA Randall Parr, Finance Specialist Kristen Opre, other District Staff, representatives of the District's contracted providers, and members of the community.

The Board opened the floor to receive public comment under agenda item 2. Cindy Reaves communicated Chief Walters' appreciation for the efforts on the recent sales tax election. She distributed an email to the Commissioners that he had sent in his absence for the board meeting.

The Board continued to agenda item 4, Consent Agenda – the following items are considered routine by the Board and will be enacted by one motion. No separate discussion will occur on these items unless a Commissioner so requests, in which event, the item will be removed and placed on the Non-Consent Agenda:

- a. Approve minutes of the prior meeting.
 - i. April 14, 2025, District Meeting.
 - ii. April 21, 2025 Special Meeting
- b. Approve financial and bookkeeping matters, including payment of the bills and review of reports concerning the District's financial condition and investments.

Commissioner Glaves made a motion to approve items a.i.,ii and b as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bullington. The motion was approved by a vote of 4 to 0.

The Board then addressed agenda item 3, Special Recognition of EMS Personnel. Chief Tim Welch recognized Santiago Rodriguez for his completion of the Field Training Evaluation Program and administered the District's EMS oath to Mr. Rodriguez.

The Board then addressed agenda item 5, Non-Consent Agenda – items removed from the Consent Agenda. No items removed, no action taken.

The Board then addressed agenda item 6, to review and act to designate official(s) to prepare 2025 ad valorem tax rate calculations and related notices. Jeff Braun, Executive Director, addressed the Board concerning the designation. He stated that it is his recommendation to use the Brazoria County Tax Assessor/Collector for the 2025 tax calculation as has been used in the previous years. Also to authorize staff and legal counsel to assist the County with necessary paperwork to complete the calculation. Commissioner Hagdorn made a motion to approve the recommendation as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Graves. The motion was approved by a vote of 4 to 0.

The Board then addressed agenda item 7, to review and act to request a 30-day extension under Health and Safety Code section 775.082(d) for filing annual audit report with the County Commissioners court. Jeff Braun, Executive Director, spoke about the addition of this agenda item as a precaution for the possibility of filing the annual report after June 1. If needed, a special meeting would need to be called to approve the findings of the audit by the end of the month. Randall Parr, CPA, provided the Commissioners with the circumstances that made the possible extension necessary. Mr. Parr further explained that 95 to 98% of the necessary supporting documents have been sent to the auditors. Commissioner Graves made a motion to approve the extension request as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bullington. The motion was approved by a vote of 4 to 0.

The Board then addressed agenda item 8, to review and act on the property clearing work for 1.5-acre property along Rodeo Palms Parkway. Jeff Braun, Executive Director, discussed the clearing of the property for the construction phase and maintain the property. Alan Spears spoke of meeting with three companies and received bids on the cleaning, clearing and removal of items from the property. Mr. Spears gave further details as to the current condition of the site including how some have used it as a dump site for unwanted items. He stated The Tree Guy, which has cleared property for BCESD3 in the past, came in with the lowest bid for clearing and removal of debris. Mr. Spears, along with FJ Jones, told the Commissioners of the lack of drainage on the property and of the snakes on the property. Commissioner Graves made a motion to approve

the clearing of the property and awarding the contract to The Tree Guy. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hagdorn. The motion was approved by a vote of 4 to 0.

The Board then addressed agenda item 9, to review and act on repairs to the CR 143 Fire Station from damage caused by winter storm in January 2025. Jeff Braun, Executive Director, spoke to the Board about the extent of the damages to the facility including computer equipment. Per Alan Spears, the pictures provided were taken the day after the winter storm. Mr. Spears has spoken with the insurance company about the damages seen in the pictures and what may be found once the repairs begin. According to Mr. Spears, with pictures being taken by the contractor during the repairs, the insurance company is willing to allow for a supplement if more damage is found. Commissioners had questions about the availability of funds to meet the deductible and the shortfall from the insurance company. Mr. Braun confirmed the availability of the funds after talking to Randall Parr, CPS. Mr. Parr reiterated the funds are available. Commissioner Graves questioned the timeline for the completion of the repairs as to which Alan Spears responded two to three weeks. Commissioner Graves made a motion to approve the repairs as presented by staff. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hagdorn. The motion was approved by a vote of 4 to 0.

The Board then addressed agenda item 10, to review and act to approve 2025 Interlocal Agreement with the City of Angleton for the provision of fire suppression services. Jeff Braun, Executive Director, stated that after changes requested by the City of Angleton back in 2024, the change in the city attorney and a meeting with Chief Morton, a final agreement has been reached with the Board's approval. Commissioners had questions regarding the purchase of an apparatus as to which Mr. Braun notified the Board that information will be added at the time of purchase and the numbers remained the same. John Peeler, legal counsel, spoke about the language regarding the concept of the lien. Mr. Peeler explained that after the purchase, if the City of Angleton decides to do something with the apparatus, the BCESD3's lien interest has to be taken into account as there is a stepdown in lien interest as the apparatus ages. Mr. Peeler assured the Board that there is no language in the agreement that obligates the District to future capital contributions. Commissioner Graves made a motion to approve the agreement as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hagdorn. The motion was approved by a vote of 4 to 0.

The Board then addressed agenda item 11, to review and act to approve rental bunker gear for Iowa Colony Volunteer Fire Department. Jeff Braun, Executive Director, opened by reminding the Board that last year Iowa Colony VFD decided to rental bunker gear on their own. Mr. Braun handed the conversation over to Jack Helton, Fire Services Administrator. Mr. Helton informed the Board that Iowa Colony that there has been an influx of firefighters. Up to this point, Iowa Colony VFD has pieced equipment together to cover the shortage. Commissioner Graves has asked that for future gear, to bump the orders for the bulk rate purchase so maybe not to need to use rental gear. Mr. Braun noted that him and Randall Parr have discussed adding a line item in the budget for rental gear next year. Mr. Helton talked about the training he attended with Iowa Colony VFD and the piecing together of gear that he witnessed. He spoke about Chief Walters reaching out to other departments for excess gear to exchange for what he had and what he needed. Also discussed was the conversation that Mr. Helton has had the with Fire Chief's about ways to be able to loan gear throughout the District when needed and have the District's logo on the gear. Commissioner Graves made a motion to approve the purchase of the rental gear for Iowa Colony VFD. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hagdorn. The motion was approved by a vote of 4 – 0.

The Board then addressed agenda item 12, to approve a resolution to ratify on ongoing engagement of delinquent tax collection counsel and to impose penalties under Tax Code sections 33.07, 33.08 and 33.11 to fund delinquent tax collection legal fees. John Peeler, legal counsel, presented a Resolution addressing the continued engagement of Perdue Brandon Fielder Collins and Mott, LLP and how the penalties under the referenced Tax Code sections pay for the collections costs. He noted that the Resolution is worded to apply to the current tax year collections and future collections, as well. Commissioner Graves made a motion to approve the Resolution as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hagdorn. The motion was approved by a vote of 4 – 0.

The Board then addressed agenda item 13, to review and act to acknowledge the termination of the Sales Tax Allocation Agreements with the City of Manvel and City of Iowa Colony. John Peeler, legal counsel, reminded the Board that in the contracts there was a clause if

the sales tax proposition did not pass, the agreements would be terminated. Mr. Peeler is asking the Board as a formality to have this noted in the minutes these agreements are terminated due to the failure of the proposition to pass in the May 3rd election. Commissioner Hagdorn made a motion to approve as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bullington. The motion was approved by a vote of 4 – 0.

The Board then addressed agenda item 14, to receive a report on District EMS operations from District EMS Chief, Tim Welch. Chief Welch spoke about the impact of the tariffs on the cost and availability of supplies. He informed the Board of the increase in pricing for needed supplies in relation to the numbers given for the budget. Pricing has gone up and some supplies are difficult to acquire. There is a potential budget impact with the continual increase of pricing for supplies. According to some suppliers the Chief has spoken with, we may see an additional 10 – 15% increase in relation to the 2% that was allotted for the budget on medical supplies. Chief Welch moved on to the statistical data on the response calls which is down from the previous month. The remainder of the statistics were about the same as the month of March. Commissioner Hagdorn questioned the impact of the tariffs so early on as we do not know the outcome of the tariffs and how things are changing quite rapidly. Chief Welch stated that with the uncertainty of the impact, he would rather be proactive instead of reactive and informed of the possibilities of the price increases and the price increases he has already encountered. Commissioner Graves questioned the availability of supplies in comparison with COVID. Chief Welch is not sure of the impact the possible tariffs will have. Chief Welch informed the Board of the difficulties he is experiencing in receiving certain supplies currently.

The Board then addressed agenda item 15, to receive an update on operations and administration from Executive Director, Jeff Braun. Mr. Braun continued with the conversation about the impact the tariffs could have on the remodeling currently in the works for Station 1 financially and the access to supplies. He spoke about the uncertainty of it all and the impacts not only to the District but to others as well. Mr. Braun talked about a second meeting in May and the possibility of it including the bid process for Station 1 renovations. The conversation moved to the Rodeo Palms property and the Building Committee to start the programming process on the fire station. Questionnaires have been sent out by David Slattery in relation to that property.

Mr. Braun moved on to the fire capital budget and the information that was obtained from the Chief's that has helped with planning projects that are moving forward. He will continue to apprise the Board of the movement of the projects and purchases. Mr. Braun informed the Board of the work that has been put into the fleet inventory list and it being close to completion so this information can be given to Randall Parr, CPA, for the vehicle replacement program update and future capital purchases. He gave the floor to Jack Helton, Fire Services Administrator, to update the Board on matters at Demi John VFD. Mr. Helton talked about the grand re-opening of the fire station and the attendance of the community and leaders. There was food and a good time to be had by all that attended. He talked about the appearance of the station with the repairs that had been completed.

The Board then addressed agenda item 16, to receive the Communications report from District Staff, Cindy Reaves. Mrs. Reaves reported: the number for reaching the community was all up. Mainly due to the advertising of the election on May 3rd. She had the results available by districts from the election for the Commissioners. She talked about a Chamber luncheon during the month of May and two other Chamber events that will be attended. Mrs. Reaves spoke about looking into to Pearland Chamber for opportunities in working with them in the future. The Commissioners let her know they appreciated her hard work on the election. Jeff Braun, Executive Director, acknowledged the time and effort that FJ Jones put in to getting information out to the public and conversations she had with the community regarding the election. The public has been further educated about the ESD with the education of the public to continue.

The Board then addressed agenda item 17, to meet in Closed Session under Government Code 551.071, 551.072 and 551.074 to consult with legal counsel regarding pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offers or on matters which require confidentiality under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas, to deliberate regarding real property and to deliberate regarding personnel matters, including appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of District personnel. There was no action taken, no closed session was held.

The Board then addressed agenda item 18, to review and take any action regarding real estate, including sale, purchase, lease, platting, utilities, encumbrances, maintenance and legal actions related to real estate. No action taken.

The Board then addressed agenda item 19, to review and act on matters related to lawsuits and claims against the District, including engaging legal counsel. No action taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 P.M.



Matt Graves, Secretary/Treasurer