MINUTES OF THE May 26, 2026, REGULAR MEETING OF
GALVESTON COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 1

A regular Meeting was duly called of **GALVESTON COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 1,** which was held on May 26, 2026, at **Santa Fe Fire and Rescue Station 1** located at **13112 Highway 6, Santa Fe, Texas**.

The Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Commissioner **TOMMY GASS.** Those Commissioners present when the meeting commenced were **SHARON FREE, TOMMY GASS, JACK HELTON,** and **KEVIN O'BRIEN**. Commissioner **GREG GARDNER** was absent. Also in attendance were Fire Chief Chris Anderson and Administrator Kim Hansen of Santa Fe Fire & Rescue ("Department"), and District Legal Counsel John Peeler of Coveler & Peeler, P.C.

A quorum being present and established, the meeting proceeded as scheduled.

The Board opened the floor for public comment under item 2 of the agenda. No public comments were offered.

The Board then addressed item 3 of the agenda, to review and approve the minutes from prior meetings. The meeting minutes from April 27, 2026, meeting were sent to the Commissioners prior to the meeting for review. A motion was made by **Commissioner O'BRIEN,** seconded by **Commissioner FREE**, to approve the meeting minutes as presented. With a vote of 4 to 0 the motion carried.

The Board then addressed item 4, to review and act on financial matters, including financial reports, audits, investments, and bills. **Commissioner FREE** presented the monthly reports and bills noting there was approximately 2.8 months of operation funds in the reserve. A motion was made by **Commissioner FREE**, seconded by **Commissioner HELTON**, to approve the financial report and pay the district's bills as presented. With a vote of 4 to 0, the motion carried.

The Board then addressed item 5, to receive a status update from the Strategic Planning Committee. There was no discussion on this item.

The Board the address item 6 to receive a monthly report from Santa Fe Fire & Rescue, including to authorize the payment of operations funding to Santa Fe Fire & Rescue in accordance with the adopted budget and service agreement. Chief Anderson presented run reports, ambulance billing reports, EMS billing account balances, upcoming and recent training, and the monthly funding requests. He also noted no TIFMAS deployments last month. The new Brush truck is expected in November or December 2026. He also noted they have received the new bunker gear and there are several new volunteers over the last six (6) months. Kim Hansen, Department Administrator, noted that the department will reduce the next payment request to account for the overpayment in April and May. The current funding request is for $157,947 and does deduct the VFIS payment of $35,625 which was discussed last month. It was also noted that the EMS billing is approximately $7,000 lower than the 2025 YTD period. A motion by **Commissioner FREE** and second by **Commissioner HELTON** to approve the payment of $157,947 under the approved budget. With a vote of 4 to 0, the motion carried.

The Board then addressed item 7 of the agenda, to review and approve a District False Alarm policy. Chief Anderson noted that he is still waiting on City impact and the Fire Marshall still needs to complete that. There was a brief discussion on how the City plans to charge since the City does not respond. There was no action on this agenda item.

The Board then addressed item 8 of the agenda, to review and approve expenditures necessitated for the maintenance, upkeep, replacement, purchase, repairs and modification of real property, vehicles, and equipment. There was no discussion on this agenda item.

The Board then addressed item 9 of the agenda, to review and act regarding capital acquisitions, including fire fighting vehicles/apparatus, ambulances, and emergency equipment and acquisition funding/financing for the same. There was no discussion on this agenda item.

The Board then addressed item 10 of the agenda, to review and act on matters related to construction, renovation, repair, maintenance and improvements to District facilities and real property, including engagement of design professionals or engineering services, selection of builders/contractors, acquisition of materials for same, and cooperation with other county entities regarding the development of stations, including action on construction financing. Chief Anderson gave an update on the training facility noting that the Department block walked for public support from neighbors of the property. He also stated that some City Panning and Zoning Committee members have unofficially indicated that rezoning of the property should not be necessary to secure construction permit approval. There was also a brief discussion on the permit process. A motion was made by **Commissioner HELTON**, and second by **Commissioner O'BRIEN**, to approve the ESD co-signing the permit applications if the City requires such co-signing. With a vote of 4 to 0, the motion carried.

The Board then addressed item 11 to review and take any action regarding real estate, including sale, purchase, lease, platting, utilities, encumbrances, maintenance and legal actions related to real estate. There was no discussion on this item.

The Board then addressed item 12 to review and act regarding Dispatch Services Agreement with the City of Santa Fe, including designation of committee to negotiate with the City regarding renewal and to review dispatch options for the District. The District may also act to approve semi-annual payment to the City for dispatch services under current agreement. After a brief discussion, District Counsel John Peeler recommended to designate Fire Chief Chris Anderson and an ESD Commissioner to negotiate with the City. The Board decided to designate

Fire Chief Chris Anderson, **Commissioner HELTON**, and **Commissioner GARDNER** to negotiate with the City and review other options. There was no action on this item.

The Board then addressed item 13 to designate the Galveston County Tax Assessor-Collector's Office to prepare the District's No New Revenue Tax Rate and related tax rate calculations for 2026, and to authorize District Counsel to publish the necessary 2026 Tax Rate setting notices. A motion was made by **Commissioner O'BRIEN**, second by **Commissioner HELTON**, to designate the Tax Assessor-Collector's Office to prepare the tax rate. With a vote of 4 to 0, the motion carried. A second motion was made by **Commissioner HELTON**, second by **Commissioner O'BRIEN**, to approve District Counsel to work with the Tax Office on notices and related information. With a vote of 4 to 0, the motion carried.

The Board then addressed item 14 to approve a resolution to ratify an 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. A motion was made by **Commissioner O'BRIEN**, second by **Commissioner HELTON**, to approve the resolution as presented. With a vote of 4 to 0, the motion carried.

The Board did not meet in Closed Session under item 15 to consult with legal counsel of the agenda.

The Board did not meet in Closed Session under item 16 to deliberate regarding real estate of the agenda.

The Board did not meet in Closed Session under item 17 to deliberate regarding security devices or security audits.

The Board did not meet in Closed Session under item 18 to deliberate regarding critical infrastructure and cyber security matters.

The Board then addressed item 19 of the agenda, to set the regular meeting date for June 2026 and potential workshops or special meetings. The Board confirmed their Regular Meeting date will be Monday June 22, 2026, at 6:00 pm. Chief Chris Anderson noted that the Department would try to have rough budget numbers for the meeting.

There being no further business brought before the Board, **Commissioner HELTON** made a motion, seconded by **Commissioner FREE,** to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 PM. By a vote of 4 to 0, the motion carried.

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Secretary of the Board