MINUTES OF THE June 22, 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 June 22, 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 **GREG GARDNER.** Those Commissioners present when the meeting commenced were **GREG GARDNER, SHARON FREE, TOMMY GASS** and **JACK HELTON**. Commissioner **KEVIN O'BRIEN** was absent. Also in attendance were Fire Chief Chris Anderson and Staff 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 May 26, 2026, meeting were sent to the Commissioners prior to the meeting for review. A motion was made by **Commissioner FREE,** seconded by **Commissioner GASS**, 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. Josh Rambo, Auditor for McCall Gibson Swedlund Barfoot Ellis, PLLC presented an unmodified opinion of the annual Audit for the District. He noted 2.3 months of operating reserve funds at the end of 2025. **Commissioner FREE** asked if there was a recommendation on amount of reserve funds noting the District targets 6 months' worth. Mr. Rambo stated that 6 months is a good target. A motion was made by **Commissioner HELTON**, seconded by **Commissioner FREE**, to approve the Audit as presented. With a vote of 4 to 0, the motion carried. **Commissioner FREE** then presented the monthly financial report noting that the truck loan has a very low rate so there was no advantage to paying it off early. A motion was made by **Commissioner FREE**, seconded by **Commissioner GASS**, to approve the financial report as presented. With a vote of 4 to 0, the motion carried. **Commissioner FREE** then presented the monthly bills noting the City of Santa Fe Dispatch and the new truck to be expected in November 2027. She also noted they would need a loan a few months prior to the delivery of the truck. A motion was made by **Commissioner HELTON**, seconded by **Commissioner GASS**, to approve paying the monthly 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. Chief noted that they deducted the recent overpayment by the ESD for bunker gear for a monthly request of $182,455. He also noted that they are about to make a $300,000 payment for the Brush Truck in October, but that $165,000 will be reimbursed via the grant. Lastly, he noted better support from the Chief in League City about the lack of historic complaints about training facilities like the one planned in Santa Fe. A motion by **Commissioner FREE** and second by **Commissioner GASS** to approve the payment of $182,455 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. There was no discussion 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. There was no discussion on this agenda item.

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. Chief Anderson requested that the ESD Board approve the rezoning application and name him as the representative. District Counsel John Peeler asked to see the documents before the Board signs them. Commissioner GARDNER noted that County Commissioner Guisti liked the idea of the training project. He also noted that there is rumored to be a petition of opposition due to road concerns. There was a brief discussion on issues related to the need to request a rezoning from the City of Santa Fe. A motion was made by Commissioner **GARDNER**, seconded by Commissioner **FREE**, to approve, execute, and submit the rezoning application pending legal review. With a vote of 4 to 0, the motion carried.

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. Chief Anderson noted they were reviewing options and discussing renewal terms with the City if Santa Fe. There was a discussion of long-term County wide consolidation of emergency dispatch being likely and how law enforcements dispatch priorities do not always line up with Fire and EMS. Chief Anderson noted they would have more detailed information next month. There was no action on this item.

The Board then addressed item 13 to review and act regarding Truth In Taxation planning for the upcoming 2027 Budget and 2026 Tax Rate adoption, including reviewing schedules of the same. District Counsel John Peeler reviewed the calendar with the Board. Chief Anderson noted a few items they are planning to include in the budget and that the Fire Department will present their recommendations. The ESD will meet on August 3, 2026 to propose their Budget and Rate and will take final action to adopt on August 24, 2026.

The Board met in Closed Session under item 14 of the agenda to consult with legal counsel from 6:55 PM to 8:19 PM.

The Board did not meet in Closed Session under item 15 to deliberate regarding real estate of the agenda.

The Board did not meet in Closed Session under item 16 to deliberate regarding security devices or security audits.

The Board did not meet in Closed Session under item 17 to deliberate regarding critical infrastructure and cyber security matters.

The Board then addressed item 18 of the agenda, to set the regular meeting date for July 2026 and potential workshops or special meetings. The Board confirmed their Regular Meeting date will be Monday July 27, 2026, at 6:00 pm. They also confirmed there would be a Special Meeting on Monday, August 3, 2026, at 6:00 pm.

There being no further business brought before the Board, **Commissioner HELTON** made a motion, seconded by **Commissioner FREE,** to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 PM. By a vote of 4 to 0, the motion carried.

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Secretary of the Board