

**MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 25, 2025, SPECIAL MEETING OF
GALVESTON COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 1**

A special Meeting was duly called of **GALVESTON COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 1**, which was held on August 25, 2025, 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 **KEVIN O'BRIEN**. Commissioner **JACK HELTON** was absent. Also in attendance were Chief Anderson and other members and officers 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 3 of the agenda. No public comments were offered.

The Board then addressed item 4 of the agenda, to receive public comment and conduct the public hearing/open forum to allow interested parties to address the Board of Commissioners and be heard regarding the proposed property tax setting. None was forthcoming.

The Board then addressed item 5, to conclude the public hearing on tax increase.

The Board then addressed item 6, to adopt the District's 2026 budget. Chief Anderson presented the 2026 Budget to the Board. There was some discussion on ways to reduce the VFD budget as well as discussion on the population increases expected and the effect on call volume and budget. A motion was made by **Commissioner O'BRIEN**, seconded by **Commissioner FREE**, to approve the 2026 budget as presented. With a vote of 4 to 0, the motion carried.

The Board then addressed item 7, to adopt the District's 2025 Ad Valorem Tax Rate for Maintenance and Operations. A motion was made by **Commissioner GARDNER**, seconded by **Commissioner FREE**, to adopt the ad valorem maintenance and operations rate of \$0.085476 per \$100. With a vote of 4 to 0, the motion carried.

The Board then addressed item 8, to adopt the District's 2025 Ad Valorem Tax Rate for Debt Service. A motion was made by **Commissioner GARDNER**, seconded by **Commissioner FREE**, to adopt the ad valorem debt rate of \$0.00 per \$100. With a vote of 4 to 0, the motion carried.

The Board then addressed item 9, to adopt the District's 2025 total Ad Valorem Tax Rate. A motion was made by **Commissioner GARDNER**, seconded by **Commissioner FREE**, that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of 0.085476, which is effectively an 8.23 percent increase in the tax rate. With a vote of 4 to 0, the motion carried.

There being no further business brought before the Board, **Commissioner GARDNER** made a motion, seconded by **Commissioner O'BRIEN**, to adjourn the meeting at 6:44 PM. By a vote of 4 to 0, the motion carried.

Secretary of the Board