

INGRAM VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: January 2026

Location: Ingram Volunteer Fire Department Station

Time: Adjourned at 5:43 PM

ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present: [Names of Board Members]

Fire Department Representatives: Chief, Brandon, Jason, Tommy

Guests: Jessica Nestor (Communities Unlimited)

1. Call to Order and Approval of Minutes

The meeting was called to order by the presiding board member. The minutes from the December 15th meeting were reviewed by the board.

Motion: A motion was made to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

2. Fire Department Report

The Department reported on recent activity and operations:

- **Call Statistics:** The department responded to 360 calls for service in the year 2025. As of the meeting date in 2026, the department has responded to 24 calls, averaging approximately one call per day.
- **Recent Incidents:** A structure fire occurred this morning at 5:45 AM. The department achieved a 9-minute response time.
- **Mutual Aid:** Successful mutual aid operations were conducted with Hunt Fire Department and Kerrville Fire Department.
- **Performance:** The Chief recognized the team for excellent cooperation and training results.

3. Grant Updates

The board received updates on pending and active grant applications:

- **Sterling Turner Foundation:** An operations grant request for \$20,000 is currently pending. A response is expected in April.
- **LCRA Grant:** A request for \$14,847 has been submitted for a metal parking structure.
 - Total project cost: \$21,210.
 - A down payment of \$6,363 has already been paid.
 - The grant process closed on January 31; a response is expected within 2-4 weeks.
 - Site preparation is complete: parking pad is finished, butter bricks are installed, and electrical materials have been purchased.

4. FEMA Update

Updates regarding FEMA reimbursement and related projects included:

- Property damage claims were submitted on November 14, 2025.
- Reimbursement is structured as a 75/25 split. Donated resources are available to cover the department's portion.
- The department is working with Kerr County on the Category B project.
- Concerns were raised regarding the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) contract and lack of protection for IVFD.
- Jessica Nestor from Communities Unlimited is assisting the department with the FEMA process and exploring USDA grant options.

5. Equipment and Facilities

Billing: The Striker bill has been received and forwarded to the attorney.

New Installations: An extractor and dryer, funded by a James Avery grant, have been installed for cleaning wildland and bunker gear.

Inventory Management: The department has contracted with PS Tracks for a new inventory management system.

- Cost: \$4,500 per year.
- Includes a five-day on-site inventory by PS Tracks personnel.
- The system offers digital tracking with mobile access and automatic alerts for maintenance and supply levels.

6. Tender Truck Update

Grant funding has been approved for up to \$300,000 for the new tender truck. The process must be completed by October 14, 2026. Construction on the vehicle is progressing.

The board discussed finalizing vehicle financing arrangements and the potential to swap Texas A&M grant funding to free up ESD funds for additional equipment purchases.

7. Maintenance Program Changes

The department is discontinuing its relationship with Siemens due to incomplete repairs, poor customer service, and lack of communication regarding staff changes.

New Plan: An in-house Preventative Maintenance (PM) program is being developed with Tommy and Brandon at Good Old Days Garage. The plan will utilize the San Antonio Fire Department template and will remain within the allocated \$17,000 budget.

8. Training Updates

A six-month training calendar has been established with the following schedule:

- Four Tuesdays per month.
- At least one Saturday per month.

Two members will attend the Emergency Vehicle Operating Course (EVOC) instructor certification in San Antonio for a two-day course in March. Regular training is scheduled for January 31, and sessions are open to other departments. Direct scheduling is available through teks.org.

9. Benefits Update

The department successfully secured benefits for the widow of Captain Tony Fernandez, including a one-time payment and monthly workmen's compensation from Texas Mutual Insurance.

10. CARFA Relationship

The department announced it is withdrawing from CARFA meetings due to a lack of productive outcomes and unresolved issues. It was noted that other departments are also stepping away. The ESD board may continue attendance at their discretion, while the department continues to monitor the situation.

11. Future Projects

Unit 506 Remount: Plans are underway to remount Unit 506 to a crew cab chassis.

- Estimated Cost: \$127,000.
- Funding: To be sourced through grants (no ESD funds requested).
- Assistance: Jessica Nestor is assisting with the grant applications.

12. Guest Presentation

Jessica Nestor, Communities Unlimited: Ms. Nestor introduced herself as a licensed water and wastewater operator for Texas, working with Communities Unlimited, a nonprofit focusing on rural communities. She is assisting the department with the FEMA process and USDA grant funding. She will be in Ingram from Tuesday evening through Friday for meetings with the FEMA team.

13. Financial Reports

Treasurer's Report

Checking Account:

- Beginning Balance: \$257,871.50
- Withdrawals (5 checks): \$9,772.54
- Deposits (2 deposits): \$14,220.06
- **Ending Balance: \$262,319.02**

Truck Account Balance: \$308,034.07

Other Income: Appraisal District refund received in the amount of \$59.56.

The Treasurer's Report was approved unanimously.

Bills Approved for Payment

Vendor/Payee	Description	Amount
Western Surety Company	Bond	\$100.00
Greg Richards	Attorney Fees (Demand Letter)	\$1,001.25
Metro Fire	8 Interceptor Nomex Hoods	\$967.42
A&A Tire	Tac One Tires	\$2,472.78
Royal Flush Plumbing	Extractor Drainage Installation	\$2,832.50
Total IVFD Reimbursement This Meeting		\$6,272.70

Fiscal Year to Date Reimbursements: \$30,548.89

All bills were approved unanimously.

14. Other Business

- **Tire Purchases:** Additional tire purchases are scheduled for Unit 502 and one other unit (front tires only) this month. Replacements are being spread over multiple months for budget management.
- **Annual Gun Raffle:** The Second Annual Gun Raffle has launched.
 - Tickets: \$20 each.
 - Prizes: Benelli shotgun (12 gauge), AR rifle, and a 9mm pistol.
 - Sales locations: Station (via QR code), Gibson's, Tractor Supply, Moore's, and potentially Walmart.
- **Audit:** No update on the annual audit was provided due to the absence of Bill.

15. Next Meeting

No specific agenda items were submitted for the next meeting.

16. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and approved. The meeting adjourned at 5:43 PM.

Action Items

- Follow up on LCRA and Sterling Turner Foundation grant responses.
- Complete tender truck financing arrangements.
- Explore swapping Texas A&M grant funding for tender to free ESD funds.
- Finalize PM maintenance plan with Good Old Days Garage.
- Continue PS Tracks inventory implementation.
- Coordinate EVOC instructor training in March.
- Schedule meeting with Jessica Nestor.
- Continue Unit 506 remount grant applications.

Board Secretary

Board President