

**MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 15, 2025 REGULAR MEETING OF
FORT BEND COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 9**

A regular meeting was duly called of the **FORT BEND COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 9** (the "District"), which was held on October 15, 2025, at the Needville Fire Station, 3323 Richmond Street, Needville, Texas 77461.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the Secretary of the Board of Commissioners ("Board" or "Commissioners"), **Rex Havron**. Pursuant to Agenda Item 1, a roll call of the Commissioners was made, and a quorum was confirmed, to-wit:

Barbara Smolik	President
Keith Thumann	Vice President
Rex Havron	Secretary
Jon Norwood	Treasurer
RJ Reiser	Assistant Treasurer

All members of the Board were present except **Commissioner's Smolik and Thumann**, thus constituting a quorum. Also present at the meeting were Monica A. Garza of Polley Garza PLLC, attorney for the District ("PG" or "Attorney"); Millie Dunmire of Artesian Financial Services, bookkeeper for the District ("Bookkeeper"); Chief Troy Svatek, Fire Chief of the Needville Fire Department ("FD"), via video conference; Captain Sparky Anderson, Captain of the FD; and Brandon Ordoyne, Treasurer of the FD.

Pursuant to Agenda Item 2, Commissioner **Havron** led the meeting attendees in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner **Havron** called up Agenda Item 3 regarding public comment; however, no public comments were offered.

Commissioner **Havron** called up Agenda Item 4 regarding review of the minutes of the regular meetings held on August 20, 2025, and September 17, 2025. A motion was made by Commissioner **Reiser**, seconded by Commissioner **Norwood**, to approve the minutes of the regular meetings held on August 20, 2025, and September 17, 2025, as presented. After discussion, the motion was approved by a vote of 3 to 0.

Commissioner **Havron** called up Agenda Item 5 regarding review of the Financial Report. Ms. Dunmire reported that the District's general fund beginning balance was \$360,663.83 following the prior meeting, with subsequent receipt of tax revenue in the amount of \$3,933.95 and interest income in the amount of \$781.18. Ms. Dunmire further reported that the current balance of the District's bank account at NewFirst Bank is \$275,460.09 and the balance of the TexPool account is \$1,298,036.68.

Ms. Dunmire then reviewed the invoices presented for approval at today's meeting, a copy of which is included in the Financial Report. Ms. Dunmire stated that she expects no further invoices from Touchstone District Services related to the May 3, 2025 Sales and Use Tax Election.

Ms. Dunmire next reviewed with the Board the actual versus budgeted income and expenses for the fiscal year ending ("FYE") December 31, 2025.

Ms. Dunmire then reviewed the Tax Collections Report for August, which is contained in the Financial Report, and stated that the District's 2024 taxes are 98.50% collected. Ms. Dunmire reported that \$24,682.23 remains outstanding for tax year 2024.

A motion was made by Commissioner **Reiser**, seconded by Commissioner **Norwood**, to: 1) approve the Financial Report, as presented; and 2) approve payment of the invoices presented. After discussion, the motion was approved by a vote of 3 to 0.

Discussion next ensued regarding scheduling a special workshop meeting to discuss the District's anticipated capital improvements and financial planning goals.

Commissioner **Havron** called up Agenda Item 6 and Ms. Garza presented an engagement letter from Breedlove & Co., P.C. ("Breedlove") for preparation of the District's audit for the FYE December 31, 2025. A motion was made by Commissioner **Reiser**, seconded by Commissioner **Norwood**, to engage Breedlove to prepare the District's annual audit report for the FYE December 31, 2025. After discussion, the motion was approved by a vote of 3 to 0.

Commissioner **Havron** called up Agenda Item 7 and Captain Anderson reviewed with the Board the monthly report from the FD, including the run-and-response report, manpower status, and equipment and apparatus reports. Captain Anderson reported that the FD is monitoring the number of solo calls that the FD responds to and stated that as the number of solo calls increases, the FD may need to increase the number of duty crew members.

Captain Anderson then reported that Orsted, a clean energy company that owns solar farms in the District, provided the FD with a drone to assist with the FD's response to fires at the local solar farms. Captain Anderson explained that the drone can be tethered to the fire trucks and used to assist the FD when responding to calls. Captain Anderson stated the FD is considering purchasing a portable inverter to power the drone.

Mr. Ordoyne then reviewed with the Board the FD's financial report, including certain expenses paid by the FD last month. Discussion ensued regarding the performance of the FD's investment accounts.

A motion was made by Commissioner **Reiser**, seconded by Commissioner **Norwood**, to approve the FD's reports. After discussion, the motion was approved by a vote of 3 to 0.

Commissioner **Havron** called up Agenda Item 8, and the Board discussed renewal of the Agreement for Emergency Services with the FD, which expires December 31, 2025. Ms. Garza stated that PG is preparing an amendment to extend the term of the agreement, which will be presented to the Board at the next regular Board meeting.

Ms. Garza stated that she had nothing to report under Agenda Item 9.

Commissioner **Havron** called up Agenda Item 10 regarding implementation of the District's sales and use tax. Ms. Garza stated that PG has received calls from businesses in or near the District's boundaries with questions about whether they are within the District's sales tax boundaries. Ms. Garza further stated she has consulted with HDL Companies ("HDL") on the appropriate party to respond to such inquiries and they

recommended PG respond with HDL's assistance as needed. Ms. Garza further stated HDL stated the inquiries should subside once the sales tax is implemented.

Commissioner **Havron** called up Agenda Item 11. The Board considered annual renewal of the District's membership in SAFE-D at a cost of \$2,500.00 and attendance at SAFE-D's annual conference to be held on January 29-31, 2026, in San Antonio, Texas. A motion was made by Commissioner **Reiser**, seconded by Commissioner **Norwood**, to: 1) approve renewal of the District's membership in SAFE-D at a cost of \$2,500.00; and 2) authorize the Board and three (3) members of the FD to attend SAFE-D's annual conference. After discussion, the motion was approved by a vote of 3 to 0.

Commissioner **Havron** called up Agenda Item 12 regarding community matters and Captain Anderson stated that burn ban notices were issued by Fort Bend County: one relating to elevated levels of air pollution and a second related to drought conditions.

Commissioner **Havron** called up Agenda Item 13 regarding matters related to the acquisition of facilities, equipment and/or vehicles. Commissioner **Reiser** stated that the Board has yet to discuss whether the potential renovation of the fire station at 3323 Richmond Street is feasible based upon the District's budget and financial goals. The Board concurred that it needs to consider whether acquiring real property for the purpose of constructing a fire station is a good use of the District's funds.

Commissioner **Havron** called up Agenda Item 14 and Gary Brown and Associates visited the property reported at 3323 Richmond Street and the District is waiting on the full appraisal report. Chief Svatek reported that the City of Needville also hired an appraiser to perform an appraisal of the building at 3323 Richmond Street.

There being no further business brought before the Board, upon motion made, the meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.


Secretary of the Board

