

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 17, 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 December 17, 2025, at the Needville Fire Station, 3323 Richmond Street, Needville, Texas 77461.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by the President of the Board of Commissioners (“Board” or “Commissioners”), **Barbara Smolik**. 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, 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”); and Brandon Ordoyne, Treasurer of the FD.

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

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

Commissioner **Smolik** called up Agenda Item 4 regarding review of the minutes of the special meeting held on November 5, 2025, and the regular meeting held on November 19, 2025. A motion was made by Commissioner **Thumann**, seconded by Commissioner **Norwood**, to approve the minutes of the special meeting held on November 5, 2025, and the regular meeting held on November 19, 2025, as presented. After discussion, the motion was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

Commissioner **Smolik** called up Agenda Item 5 regarding review of the Financial Report. Ms. Dunmire reported that the District’s general fund beginning balance was \$261,078.66 following the prior meeting, with subsequent receipt of tax revenue in the amount of \$55,405.82, sales tax revenue in the amount of \$45,156.63, and interest income in the amount of \$222.61. Ms. Dunmire further reported that the District received a refund from Fort Bend County in the amount of \$343.00 for the District’s overpayment of the deposit paid for the May 2025 Sales and Use Tax Election. Ms. Dunmire went on to report that the current balance of the District’s bank account at NewFirst Bank is \$349,348.55 and the balance of the TexPool account is \$1,306,873.03.

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 then reviewed the Tax Collections Report for November, which is contained in the Financial Report, and stated that the District’s 2024 taxes are 98.72%

collected, while the District's 2025 taxes are 1.40% collected. Ms. Dunmire reported that \$21,084.83 remains outstanding for tax year 2024.

Ms. Dunmire next reviewed with the Board the actual versus budgeted income and expenses for the fiscal year end ("FYE") December 31, 2026. Ms. Dunmire reviewed certain amended budget items including increasing the amount allocated for Appraisal District Fees to \$21,000.00, and increasing the amount allocated for FD Operations to \$1,166,658.00, due to the hiring of an additional paid-duty crew member.

A motion was made by Commissioner **Thumann**, seconded by Commissioner **Havron**, to approve the Financial Report, as presented. The motion was then amended by Commissioner **Thumann**, seconded by Commissioner **Havron**, to: 1) approve the Financial Report, as presented; and 2) approve the amended budget for the FYE December 31, 2026. After discussion, the motion was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

Commissioner **Smolik** called up Agenda Item 6 and Chief Svatek reviewed with the Board the monthly report from the FD, including the run-and-response report, manpower status, and equipment and apparatus reports. Chief Svatek reported that after the FD hires an additional paid-duty crew member, the FD will likely start to operate a three (3)-man engine crew. Chief Svatek further reported that the FD interviewed three (3) applicants and made job offers pending the outcome of their background checks and health screenings.

Chief Svatek next reported that Fire Engine No. 73 is experiencing various electrical issues, which have been interfering with the fire station's communication with the engine.

Chief Svatek then discussed the FD's response times and noted that increasing the number of fire stations will improve those response times. Chief Svatek stated that areas west of the District are growing rapidly and added that the volume of emergency calls received from such area is increasing.

Mr. Ordoyne then reviewed with the Board the FD's financial report and budget for the FYE December 31, 2026. Mr. Ordoyne reviewed with the Board certain large expenses incurred by the FD during the previous month. Mr. Ordoyne reminded the Board that it had previously approved payment to the FD for various capital items and reported that \$31,203.00 of such funds will be used for the installation of a boat shed at Fire Station No. 2. Mr. Ordoyne next reported that the FD received a payment from its insurance provider in the amount of \$9,176.85 for Fire Engine No. 73.

Further discussion then ensued regarding the FD's budget for the FYE December 31, 2026, and various expenses, including professional fees and insurance premiums. Mr. Ordoyne stated that the FD is requesting a check from the District in the amount of \$97,221.50 for one (1) month of operating expenses. Chief Svatek stated that the FD has been receiving certain grants available to small emergency service districts; however, once the FD has twenty (20) paid-duty crewmembers, it will no longer be eligible for such grants.

Commissioner **Smolik** called up Agenda Item 7, and Ms. Garza presented a memorandum prepared by PG regarding annual report filings with the Texas Comptroller, including eminent domain and special purpose district public information.

Next Ms. Garza explained that pursuant to Texas Health and Safety Code Section 775.036(f), the District must publish a Notice of District's Administrative Office (the "Notice") in a newspaper of general circulation within the District by January 31 of each year. Ms. Garza stated that the Needville Fire Station, located at 3323 Richmond Street, will be identified as the District's Administrative Office in the Notice. It was the consensus of the Board to: 1) authorize PG to file all necessary annual reports with the Texas Comptroller; and 2) authorize the publication of the Notice in the *Fort Bend Herald*.

Commissioner **Smolik** called up Agenda Items 8 – 10; however, there were no updates to report this month.

Commissioner **Smolik** called up Agenda Item 11 regarding real estate matters and Ms. Garza explained that Section 551.072, Texas Government Code, known as the Open Meetings Act, allows the Board to enter into a closed session for deliberation regarding the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Pursuant to the provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, as amended, specifically Section 551.072 pertaining to real estate matters, Commissioner **Smolik** convened the Board in Executive Session at 7:49 p.m. The persons participating in the Executive Session were all members of the Board present, Chief Svatek, Mr. Ordoyne, and Ms. Garza.

Ms. Dunmire exited the meeting at this time.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

Commissioner **Smolik** then reconvened the meeting in open session at 8:33 p.m.

A motion was made by Commissioner **Thumann**, seconded by Commissioner **Norwood**, to authorize Commissioners **Reiser** and **Havron** to continue participating in real estate negotiations with the City of Needville. After discussion, the motion was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

There being no further business brought before the Board, upon motion made, the meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.



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Rex A. Havron
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Secretary of the Board