

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BREWSTER COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #1
NOVEMBER 18, 2025**

1. Call Meeting to Order

The regular meeting was called to order at 4:32 p.m.

2. Establishment of Quorum

A quorum was established. Members present: Jeanette Hall, Jim Hines, Christin Orren, and Linda Walker. Others Present: Fire Chief Susan Martin, TFEMS President Valynda Henington, and TFEMS Admin Kathy Pothier

3. Confirm Posting of Agenda

The agenda was posted on November 13, 2025 at 10:00pm by Jeanette Hall.

4. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited for the United States of America

5. Moment of Silence

The moment of silence was led by Christin Orren.

6. Mission Statement

The Brewster County Emergency Services District No 1 is committed to providing high-quality professional emergency services that are accessible equally to all members of the District.

7. Public Comment

No comment.

8. Discussion and Action Items:

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ON OCTOBER 21, 2025

A motion was made by Linda Walker, seconded by Jim Hines to approve the minutes of the October 21, 2025 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

B. REPORT FROM TERLINGUA FIRE & EMS, INC.

It was reported that USDA grant payments are resuming since the government reopened. A part-time driver from Alpine has been hired. Firefighter's ball raised an exceptional \$14,173.

C. FUNDING REQUEST/ALLOCATION

TFEMS requests an additional \$160,719 annually from ESD due to budget increases. The increase comes primarily from salary, with a USDA grant which currently covers a paramedic's salary, set to expire in 2026. ESD had concerns about current practices, scheduling, salary schedules, and overtime policies. Fire Chief Martin maintains with strict confidence that current practices are necessary for quality of services and retention of professional staff. Jim Hines stated that the ESD should not be quibbling over \$200,000 when the ESD is sitting on \$2,000,000 in funds. Jeanette Hall stated that the rate of increase supersedes the current annual collections and investment gains. ESD Commissioners determined to postpone the motion for sometime to analyze the request and potentially deliberate in an executive session on December 8, 2025. Jeanette Hall requested a budget up-to-date through November at the December meeting.

D. CONTRACT FOR SERVICES

The contract sent by Christin Orren was not most recent, with dates incorrect. Additionally, a motion was made by Linda Walker, seconded by Jim Hines to adopt the changes in wording regarding TFEMS budget deadlines as requested by Valynda Hennington. The motion passed unanimously.

E. ESD COMMISSIONER REPLACEMENT

Commissioners discussed possible candidates to recommend to the Brewster County Judge and Commissioner's Court. No action was taken.

F. BOARD MEMBER TERMS: ORREN AND HALL REAPPOINTMENTS

Christin Orren and Jeanette Hall are up for reappointment in January 2026.

G. SAFE-D CONFERENCE REGISTRATION OPEN

Linda Walker and Jeanette Hall plan to attend this year's SAFE-D conference.

H. REVIEW IMBURSEMENT POLICY

A motion was made by Christin Orren, seconded by Jim Hines to table the review of imbursement policy until December meeting.

I. PURCHASE COMPUTER FOR ESD

Christin Orren requested a chromebook for ESD work exclusively, to move off of her personal computer for ESD business. A motion was made by Linda Walker, seconded by Jim Hines to approve the purchase of a chromebook. The motion passed unanimously.

J. CLOSED MEETING

N/A

K. OPEN MEETING - CLOSED MEETING ITEM(S) FOR THE BOARD

CONSIDERATION/ACTION

N/A

9. Treasurer's Report

Jeanette Hall reported that as of October 31, 2025 the ESD had a balance of \$611,453.59 in the maintenance and operation fund. Edward Jones investment account had \$755,185.91. LOGIC had a balance of \$535,010.90 and TexStar Investment Pool had a balance of \$769,318.44. A motion was made by Christin Orren, seconded by Linda Walker to approve the treasurer's report as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

10. Set Date and Time for Next Regular Meeting

A motion was made by Linda Walker, seconded by Jim Hines to set the date and time for a special session on December 8, 2025 at 4:30pm. The motion passed unanimously.

11. Adjournment

Christin Orren moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

Jeanette Hall, Secretary