

HIDALGO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 5
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 25, 2026

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Dr. Antonio Uresti
Maribel Galvan
Fausto Salinas
James Olivarez
Juan "Lino" Garza

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Jorge Arcaute
Krystine Ramon (via Google Meets)
Gus Ramirez
Arturo Galván Jr.
Janie Flores
Cecilia Sanchez
Humberto Garza
Leroy Salinas
Michael Leo
Kelly Salazar
Janelle Garza

1. **Call Meeting to Order, Roll Call and Establish a Quorum.**
The meeting was called to order by President Uresti at 5:31 p.m. A quorum was established.
2. **Invocation**
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**
4. **To receive Public comments.**
There were no public comments.
5. **To approve the February 11, 2026, meeting minutes.**
Motion to approve the minutes was moved by Commissioner Garza and seconded by Commissioner Salinas. Motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Uresti abstaining.
6. **To review, discuss and take action on a grant proposal from Border Affairs.**
Humberto Garza with Border Affairs LLC, provided an overview of his company and the services it offers to assist the District in obtaining grants. Mr. Garza said he does not charge for his services, however if there is an Administration Fee associated with the awarding of the grant, then he will ask the Board for approval of that fee. Motion to approve was moved by Commissioner Garza and seconded by Commissioner Salinas. Motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Uresti abstaining.
7. **To review, discuss and take action on Public Comments Policy.**
Attorney Krystine Ramon presented to the Board a Public Comments Policy and explained the policy. A discussion was held regarding the Public Comments Policy. Motion to approve was moved by Commissioner Garza and seconded by Commissioner Galvan. Motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Uresti abstaining.

- 8. To receive a presentation from Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson and Perdue Brandon Fielder Collin & Mott, LLP and take action.**

Kelly Salazar with Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson and Janelle Garza with Perdue Brandon Fielder Collin & Mott LLP presented an overview of their company, highlighting core services including delinquent tax collection, mailings, home visits and various other services. After the Board returned to open session, a motion to approve engaging Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson to collect delinquent taxes was moved by Commissioner Garza and seconded by Commissioner Olivarez. Motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Uresti abstaining.

- 9. To review and take action on Order adopting Residence Homestead Exemption for Persons Sixty-Five or Older or Disabled; Order Adopting General Homestead Exemption.**

Discussion was held regarding adoption of a Residence Homestead Exemption for Persons 65 or Older or Disabled and a General Homestead Exemption. There was a discussion on it being too early in the district's creation to adopt exemptions due to possible unforeseen expenses. Motion to not grant any property tax exemptions was moved by Commissioner Garza and seconded by Commissioner James Olivarez. Motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Uresti abstaining.

- 10. To review, discuss and take action on proposals for 2025 auditing services.**

Attorney Krystine Ramon stated that proposals were received from Carr, Riggs and Ingram and from Guillermo Reyna, CPA for consideration by the District. Ms. Ramon stated that the audit deadline, per the Texas Health and Safety Code, is June 1st with a possible 30-day extension to July. Motion to approve engaging Guillermo Reyna as the District's Auditor was moved by Commissioner Galvan and seconded by Commissioner Salinas. Motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Uresti abstaining.

- 11. To review, discuss, and take action regarding the provision of Emergency Services to the District territory, strategic planning, proposals, and approve emergency services contract with providers, including transitions.**

Attorney Krystine Ramon recommended that the Medicare contract be discussed in Executive Session. President Uresti agreed to discuss the contract in closed session. No action was taken after meeting in closed session.

- 12. To review, discuss, and take action regarding any District financial institution matters, including resolutions and paying District bills.**

Attorney Krystine Ramon stated that an invoice for the County Appraisal District and her firm's legal service invoice was included in the packet and a separately provided invoice from Bookkeeper, Mr. Orozco which was received very late today. Commissioner Garza made a motion that all bills and invoices to be paid be rendered to the District ten days prior to the board meeting. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Galvan. Motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Uresti abstaining.

President Uresti requested that Attorney Krystine Ramon draft a policy for the early submittal of bills and invoices.

- 13. To authorize District Counsel to file annual financial report to Texas Comptroller pursuant to Texas Local Government Code, Chapter 203, Subchapter D.**

Attorney Krystine Ramon presented to the Board that each year a Special Purpose District like an ESD, must submit an annual report to the Texas Comptroller's Office of Public Accounts to show the District's tax rate and finances. Ms. Ramon asked if the Board would approve legal counsel submitting this required information. Motion was made by Commissioner Salinas and seconded

by Commissioner Olivarez to approve legal counsel submitting the required Special Purpose District Report to the Texas Comptroller's Office. Motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Uresti abstaining.

14. To receive a report from Consultant Gus Ramirez regarding Fire Services.

Gus Ramirez reported to the Board that he met with Med Care along with the committee to go over the proposed contract. Mr. Ramirez also informed the Board that he along with the Committee met with the City of Palmview to discuss the portion the City of Palmview covers with their EMS. Mr. Ramirez discussed with the Board approving him to get quotes for a District logo. The Board through general consent, allowed Mr. Ramirez to get quotes for a District logo.

15. To review and act on scheduling District meetings and items to be added to meeting agendas.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 8, 2026 at 6:30pm. Commissioner Garza asked on the next meeting agenda for an item to be placed regarding New Business.

16. To meet in Closed Session pursuant to Government Code §551.071 to consult with legal counsel.

Motion to approve going into closed session pursuant to §551.071 of the Government Code was made by Commissioner Garza and seconded by Commissioner Salinas. Motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Uresti abstaining. The Board went into closed session at 7:20pm and came out of closed session at 7:50pm.

17. Adjournment.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Garza and seconded by Commissioner Salinas. The meeting adjourned at 8:18 pm.