

**HIDALGO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 5
PUBLIC HEARING AND SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
ON TAX INCREASE
AUGUST 19, 2026**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Dr. Antonio Uresti
Maribel Galvan
James Olivarez
Juan “Lino” Garza

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

Fausto Salinas

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Jorge Arcaute
Krystine Ramon (via Zoom)
Gus Ramirez
Janie Flores
Cecilia Sanchez
Other guests as recorded

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Uresti at approximately 6:03 p.m.

2. Roll Call and Establish a Quorum

Roll call was taken and a quorum was established.

3. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag

The invocation was given and those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. To receive public comment and conduct the public hearing/open forum to allow interested parties to address the Board of Commissioners and be heard regarding the proposed property tax rate setting.

President Uresti opened the public hearing at 6:03 p.m. to receive public comments regarding the proposed property tax rate. No public comments were received.

5. Conclude Public Hearing on Tax Increase.

Commissioner Garza made a motion to conclude the public hearing. Commissioner Galvan seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0 with President Uresti abstaining.

6. To consider and adopt the District 2027 Budget.

The Board reviewed and discussed the proposed 2027 Budget. President Uresti noted that projected revenues exceeded projected expenditures by approximately \$82,000 and asked about available contingencies in the event of unforeseen or catastrophic expenses. It was explained that the District maintains reserves in accordance with its investment policy and that a contingency had also been included under Emergency Medical Services to assist with maintaining continuous services if necessary.

Commissioner Garza made a motion to approve the District's 2027 Budget. Commissioner Olivarez seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0 with President Uresti abstaining.

7. To adopt the District 2026 Ad Valorem Tax Rate for Maintenance and Operations.

Krystine Ramon, Legal counsel reviewed the proposed tax rate scenarios with the Board and explained that the District could adopt the proposed rate of \$0.10. Counsel further explained that adoption of the \$0.10 rate would not trigger an automatic election but could be subject to a petition-based election. The District has no debt; therefore, the full \$0.10 rate would be allocated to Maintenance and Operations.

Commissioner Garza made a motion to adopt the District's 2026 Ad Valorem Tax Rate for Maintenance and Operations at \$0.10. Commissioner Galvan seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0 with President Uresti abstaining.

8. To adopt the District 2026 Ad Valorem Tax Rate for Debt Service.

Legal counsel, Krystine Ramon advised the Board that the District has no debt and recommended adoption of a Debt Service tax rate of \$0.00.

Commissioner Garza made a motion to adopt the District's 2026 Ad Valorem Tax Rate for Debt Service at \$0.00. Commissioner Olivarez seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0 with President Uresti abstaining.

9. To adopt the District 2026 total Ad Valorem Tax Rate.

Counsel Ramon explained that the total proposed tax rate was \$0.10 and advised the Board that specific statutory language was required for the motion. Counsel clarified that the stated 12.11% increase compares the proposed tax rate to the no-new-revenue tax rate and does not represent an increase from the prior year's adopted \$0.10 tax rate.

Commissioner Olivares made the following motion:

"I move that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.10, which is effectively a 12.11% increase in the tax rate." Commissioner Galvan seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0 with President Uresti abstaining.

10. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Galvan made a motion to adjourn at 6:16 p.m. and was seconded by Commissioner Olivarez. Motion carried 3-0. The meeting was adjourned.