MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

JASPER COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #1

Regular Meeting - August 25, 2026 - 6:00 p.m.

Meeting Place	Jasper County Sub-Courthouse, 33625 US Highway 96 South, Buna, Texas 77612
Legal Notice	Public notice was posted in compliance with law; the posted agenda is attached to the official record.
Record Status	Final minutes prepared from MMS Documents 2 and 4, the meeting transcript, supporting agenda packet, and Secretary/Treasurer review.

08_1.0 CALL TO ORDER AND ESTABLISH QUORUM

President Steve Hyden called the regular meeting to order. A quorum was established. Steve Hyden, Billy Ted Smith, Tracy Shipley, and Todd Walters were present. Vice President Mark Mueller was absent.

08_1.0a NEW ESD #1 MEETING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Secretary/Treasurer Billy Ted Smith presented the Jasper County ESD #1 Meeting Management System (MMS), explaining that one permanent agenda-item number will connect the posted agenda, supporting documents, meeting discussion, action record, transcript, minutes, follow-up, and official record.

Board action: Motion by Todd Walters; seconded by Tracy Shipley. Approved by three affirmative votes.

08_2.0 CITIZEN COMMENTS

No citizen comments were offered.

08_3.0 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

The Board reviewed the minutes of the July 28, 2026 regular meeting.

Board action: Motion by Todd Walters; seconded by Tracy Shipley. Approved by three affirmative votes.

08_4.0 - 08_4.4 TREASURER REPORTS AND PAYMENT OF BILLS

The Treasurer reported a beginning operating balance of $686,261.48. Receipts totaled $141,469.38, consisting of $2,036.95 in ad valorem tax revenue and $139,432.43 in sales-tax revenue. Expenses totaled $59,151.09, leaving an operating balance of $768,579.77. The Board reviewed the expense-approval report, actual-versus-budget information, and payment of bills. The investment report reflected two Education First Credit Union certificates of deposit totaling $334,468.21 and total reported funds/investments of $1,020,729.69.

Board action: Motion by Tracy Shipley; seconded by Billy Ted Smith. Approved by three affirmative votes.

08_5.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board did not convene in executive session.

08_6.1 ALLEGIANCE AMBULANCE SERVICE REPORT

The Allegiance representative presented the July 2026 EMS report. Allegiance recorded 93 calls and 75 transports, an 81 percent transport rate. Unit 8550 handled 72 calls and 59 transports, with an 82 percent transport rate, one flight, and an average response time of 9 minutes 13 seconds. Mutual-aid units handled 21 calls and 16 transports, with a 76 percent transport rate, two flights, and an average response time of 23 minutes 43 seconds. The Board discussed response and chute times, including a reported August 23 incident, and Allegiance agreed to review the circumstances and reinforce response expectations. The Board also discussed an EMS radio/communications outage reported at the Sheriff's Office.

Board action: Motion by Billy Ted Smith; seconded by Todd Walters. Approved by three affirmative votes.

08_6.2 BUNA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORTS

The Buna Volunteer Fire Department reported a First State Bank operating balance of $139,783.47 and a Stellar account balance of $12,928.65 at month end. The Department reported approximately 95 calls during July;

computer problems prevented a complete incident-type breakdown. The Board discussed recent fires, wildfire conditions, the burn ban, and Department response activity.

Board action: Motion by Todd Walters; seconded by Tracy Shipley. Approved by three affirmative votes.

08_7.0 DISTRICT ROLLING STOCK AND APPARATUS

The Board discussed apparatus repairs and maintenance. Engine 3 remained out of service, with repairs estimated at approximately $15,000. Engine 2 had an intermittent electrical problem. The Department reported concerns about incomplete or unsatisfactory work on the newer brush truck and advised that a formal complaint had been made to the service company. No formal action was taken.

08_8.0 DISTRICT STATIONS AND CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

The Board reviewed remaining Cairo Springs Station No. 2 items, including overhead-door panels, the security system and internet connection, the ice machine, sign lighting, ADA inspection, cleanup, paint residue, the well pressure switch, and retainage pending final completion. Follow-up was requested on unfinished contractor work and confirmation that the exterior sign lighting was operating.

08_9.0 COMMUNICATIONS, DISPATCHING, AND TRAFFIC PREEMPTION

No separate action was taken under this item.

08_10.0 DISTRICT FACILITIES

No additional action was taken under this item.

08_11.0 DISTRICT SALES TAX REPORT

The Board received and reviewed the District sales-tax report and HdL Company information. No formal action was taken.

08_12.0 DISTRICT COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Secretary/Treasurer Billy Ted Smith reported that a free SAFE-D regional training event offering three hours of commissioner training credit would be held September 19, 2026, in Orange County. Commissioners were encouraged to register.

08_13.0 - 08_13.1 FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET

The Board reviewed the proposed Fiscal Year 2027 operating budget for January 1 through December 31, 2027. Discussion included removal or reclassification of certain Buna VFD entries, generator-fuel accounting, fuel treatment and maintenance, the removal of the $1,250,000 Gist Station construction amount, and inclusion of $100,000 for the Gist Station. The adopted operating budget totaled approximately $1.6 million as reflected in the attached Resolution Adopting Budget and Exhibit A.

Board action: Motion by Tracy Shipley; seconded by Todd Walters. Approved by three affirmative voice votes.

08_14.0 - 08_14.1 2026 PROPERTY TAX RATE / RECORD VOTE

The Board considered the 2026 no-new-revenue tax rate and adopted a rate of $0.017273 per $100 of taxable valuation. The recorded affirmative votes were Todd Walters, Tracy Shipley, and Billy Ted Smith. The motion carried with three affirmative votes.

Board action: Motion by Billy Ted Smith; seconded by Todd Walters. Approved by recorded vote: Todd Walters - aye; Tracy Shipley - aye; Billy Ted Smith - aye.

08_14.2 ORDER LEVYING TAXES

The Board considered and adopted the Order Levying Taxes for tax year 2026. The executed Order and certificate are attached to the official record.

Board action: Motion by Billy Ted Smith; seconded by Todd Walters. Approved by three affirmative votes.

08_14.3 FILING THE ORDER WITH THE TAX ASSESSOR/COLLECTOR

The Board authorized filing the adopted Order Levying Taxes with the Jasper County Tax Assessor/Collector.

Board action: Motion by Billy Ted Smith; seconded by Tracy Shipley. Approved by three affirmative votes.

08_14.4 REQUIRED WEBSITE POSTING

The Board authorized posting the required adopted-tax-rate statement on the District website and related action as necessary.

Board action: Motion by Tracy Shipley; seconded by Todd Walters. Approved by three affirmative votes.

08_15.0 MEETING PLANNER AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The next regular meeting was scheduled for September 29, 2026.

08_16.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED

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Steve Hyden, President	**Billy Ted Smith, Secretary/Treasurer**