

**WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICE DISTRICT #1
NOTICE OF MEETING OF DIRECTORS TO BE HELD:
MONDAY OCTOBER 21, 2024, AT 9:00 AM
LOCATION:
HOLLY LAKE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
126 PR 7869
HOLLY LAKE RANCH, TEXAS 75765**

Meeting Minutes - FINAL

Call the Meeting to Order

Board Vice President Chuck Bahr called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM. Other Commissioners in attendance were Keith Mullinax, Robin Edwards, and Cynthia Treece. President Horn arrived shortly after the meeting began.

Certification by the President or Vice-President that the provisions of the Open Meetings Act, Section 551.001 Et. Seq. of the Texas Government Code have been complied with in connection with the public notice of this meeting and that a quorum is present.

Vice President Bahr confirmed that all the provisions of the Open Meetings Act were met, and that a quorum was present.

Invocation

Commissioner Bahr gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

All in attendance participated.

Recognition of guests

No guests were present from the public.

Donnie Reynolds from Christus attended as did HLVFD Chief Joe Taylor and Captain Cheryl Thomas.

Receive public comment.

None

Review and consider approval of prior minutes.

The Commissioners reviewed the September 2024 meeting minutes, and Commissioner Bahr moved to accept them. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion, and it was approved.

Present, review, and consider approval of Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Mullinax presented the report. The beginning account balance as of 9/1/2024 was \$182,995.17. Disbursements of \$14,412.14 were made, interest of \$58.05 was received, and \$759.84 was deposited, with a final ending balance of \$169,400.92 on 9/30/2024. No accounts were due. An outstanding deposit from the Tax Assessor Collector of \$846.19 and an outstanding disbursement of \$2,775.00 (from checks that had recently cleared) made the final balance on 10/21/24 \$167,472.11. Commissioner Edwards moved to accept the report, and Commissioner Treece seconded the motion. It was approved.

Present, review, and consider approval for Payment of Accounts due.

No accounts were due.

ESD #1 Board to receive for review and consider approval for payment of sworn billing and any submitted requests of contractual amounts by Holly Lake Volunteer Fire Department (HLVFD)

The Commissioners reviewed a request by the HLVFD for \$13,951.87. This request was originally presented at the September 2024 meeting. Commissioner Mullinax moved to approve payment, and Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Activity Report including any training time from HLVFD and Christus EMS.

HLVFD:

Structure fire – 0

Vehicle fire – 0

Grass fire - 3

Medical calls – 43

Landing zone - 5

Motor vehicle collisions - 5

Public assists - 1

Total – 57

Sept. training hours – 125.5

Christus:

40 calls with 28 transports. Average response time was 13.59 minutes.

Christus is currently employing 8 temporary paramedics, due to a shortage of paramedics. Christus is opening a new hospital in Palestine, and they have opened new hospitals in Texarkana and Athens already. They have 18 EMTs in training who will be ready to work in 10 months, but the shortage of paramedics is challenging when trying to provide ambulance service in east Texas.

Old Business:

1. Report by Board President or Vice-President on delivery to the office of the Wood County Tax Assessor-Collector of the executed Ordinance Levying a 2024 Ad Valorem Tax Rate of \$0.0463 per \$100 valuation for Wood County ESD #1.

President Horn reported that the Ordinance has been delivered.

2. Update by Treasurer on payment of renewal of public officials' liability insurance policy through Texas Association of Counties Risk Management Pool.

Commissioner Mullinax reported that the renewal was submitted, and the payment made.

3. Any other old business still pending.

Commissioner Mullinax completed his treasurer's report.

New Business:

1. Report by HLVFD Chief Joe Taylor regarding current drought conditions and any current or proposed Burn Bans in local area and nearby counties.

Chief Taylor discussed a potential fire ban on the agenda for the next Wood County Commissioners' meeting. There have been five fires in September and HLVFD has also assisted in controlling two fires outside of Wood County. Humidity is very low at 25-30%.

2. Discuss any planned public events involving Wood County ESD #1, HLVFD, or Christus EMS. HLVFD will be present when Santa Claus comes to visit Holly Lake Ranch on November 29 and 30. They will host a waffle breakfast and the Christmas in the Pines festival at the HLVFD on December 7.

Christus has no events planned at this time.

3. Any other new business.

President Horn has received the interlocal cooperation agreement for tax collection from Wood County. The cost will be \$1,800 a quarter. This agreement must be approved by October 31, 2024, in Commissioners' Court. Commissioner Edwards moved to approve the agreement, and Commissioner Bahr seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

President Horn announced that she has received a letter of resignation from ESD #1 Board from Commissioner Mullinax, who has served five years as treasurer. Commissioner Mullinax has offered to assist the new treasurer (yet to be known or named) in his or her duties. Commissioner Mullinax will remain on the board until December 31, 2024. President Horn thanked him for his long service.

Captain Cheryl Thomas submitted a HLVFD request of \$11,299.44, which included 24 invoices from 9/16/24 through 10/21/2014. This request will be considered for payment at the November 2024 meeting.

This concludes the other new business.

Close Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 9:48 a.m. with Commissioner Bahr moving to adjourn and Commissioner Edwards seconding the motion, which was approved.

By _____

Prepared by Cynthia Treece, Secretary, November 9, 2024