

Ellis County Emergency Services District #3

Minutes of Meeting 7/13/2026



- 1) Attending were commissioners Joseph Barrett, John Allen, Adam Lennon, Clay Sparks, fire chief Jackie Cate and admin assistant Sherry McBride. Commissioner Robert Russ was absent. There was visitor Bobby McBride during the meeting.
- 2) Joseph opened regularly scheduled monthly meeting in prayer.
- 3) There were no visitor comments.
- 4) Review of Jun 2026 meeting minutes. Adam made motion to accept, John seconded, and motion passed.
- 5) Financial reports review – End of Jun account statement balances: Money Market #1 \$253,579.17, Money Market #2 \$253,975.09 and Checking \$70,923.06. Revenue from taxes was \$5097.07. Having an issue with getting credit card receipts. To investigate setting up accounts with Home Depot and O'Reilly's. Jackie looking into setting up a purchase order system. Truth and Taxation Report is being done. Sherry advised we may need some more funds in checking account so she will advise Joseph amount needed so that Joseph and John can go to Harmony Bank and make appropriate transfer. Clay made motion to accept financial reports, John seconded, and motion passed.
- 6) John made motion, Adam seconded, and motion carried to propose that we keep current tax rate of 10 cents per \$100 valuation for the next tax year.
- 7) Fire chief reports – 18 calls in Jun. Received a financing document from Govt Capital Corp indicating that engine cost of \$1.5 million financed over 10 years at 4.95% would have a annual payment of \$194,785.46. Commented that we owe about \$330 K on the building at 3.9% for another 10 years in case we wanted to pay it off. Sherry commented that making monthly payments on new engine and the building would amount to about \$20K per month. Jackie estimates that \$372K will be revenue from taxes but will probably leave \$352K in the new budget, which he will start on for next meeting. The fire dept will start looking into obtaining a grant for a tanker, which may require a MOU between the ESD and IVFD.
- 8) Board comments – Clay commented that he is getting negative comments about how the wrap looks on our roll up doors. We may need a quote to get all that replaced. An inquiry has also been made about getting a plaque to honor the late fire chief Donald Chambers. John – to take a Safe-D webcast course on 7/27 regarding setting tax rates, 1 hour credit.
- 9) Agenda items for Aug – tax rate approval, next year budget discussion, discuss possible naming of our fire department, and discussion of a new ESD#3 logo/icon, possible example shown here.



- 10) Next months meeting to be on 8/10, with public meeting regarding tax rate starting at 6PM.
- 11) John made motion to adjourn, Clay seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned.

Joseph Barrett President

John Allen Secretary

ESD#3 website elliscountyesd3.org