

# UPSHUR COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 1

NOVEMBER 9, 2020

7:00 P.M.

## MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Upshur County Emergency Services District No. 1 Board of Directors was held on November 9, 2020, at the Gilmer Civic Center, Hwy. 271 North, Gilmer, Texas.

- 1) **Open meeting.** The meeting was opened by Gaston DeBerry, III at 7:02 p.m.
- 2) **Call to order.** Gaston DeBerry, III called the meeting to order.
- 3) **Determine quorum present.** Gaston DeBerry, III determined a quorum was present with Ricky Evans, Jr. being absent.
- 4) **Read and approve the minutes from the Regular meeting held October 5, 2020.** Motion was made by Shelby Henderson and second by David Tackett to approve the minutes from the Regular meeting held October 5, 2020. Motion carried 4-0. Unanimous vote in favor.
- 5) **Public Comment.** Bettie VFD Chief Michael Kuza brought it to the attention of the board that he had an engine motor issue after pump test. Gilmer Fire Department Chief Jerry Taylor discussed the matter of requesting the Upshur County Sheriff's Office to start report on all suspicious fires and that the State Fire Marshal should be notified. Document on fire report should this happen if the Sheriff's office refuses. Chief Taylor also made it known that there were still masks available at the Gilmer Fire Department.
- 6) **Discuss and take action regarding the West Mountain VFD truck payments.** Discussion was had concerning the West Mountain VFD truck payments. It was determined that the ESD would deduct \$5,000.00 from the West Mountain VFD budget at the beginning of the budget year and note in the records that it was for the repayment of the 2003 engine.
- 7) **Discussion regarding paying fuel and truck bills directly.** There was discussion of the possibility of having a county wide fuel card system and also mainstreaming some of the bills for the individual fire departments (ex: Upshur Rural Electric, ETEX telephone, etc.)
- 8) **Discuss and take action on appointment of 3 ESD commissioners by Upshur County Commissioners Court at their meeting in December.** There was discussion regarding Ricky Evans resigning from the ESD Board which would create an open position that would need to be filled. It was also discussed that Gaston DeBerry, III, Marc Nichols, and Shelby Henderson are up for re-appointment at the end of December. Gaston DeBerry, III commented that he would get with the Upshur County Judge and ask that this matter be

put on the December agenda for the Upshur County Commissioners to appoint the ESD commissioners.

- 9) **Discuss and take action regarding ESD Board member replacement.** Discussion only. No action taken.
- 10) **Canvass ballots from the November 3, 2020 election.** The proposition to split the ESD passed with 2904 votes for and 630 votes against. Motion was made by Marc Nichols and second by David Tackett to accept the results of the election. Motion carried 4-0. Unanimous vote in favor.
- 11) **Pay bills for the Upshur County Emergency Services District as submitted and approved.** Motion was made by Shelby Henderson and second by David Tackett to pay the following bills with the exception of the bill to Harmony VFD and the reimbursement to Shelby Henderson. Motion carried 4-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

Motion was made by David Tackett and second by Marc Nichols to pay the remaining bills submitted. Motion carried 3-1 with Shelby Henderson abstaining.

Harmony VFD	\$ 625.46
Shelby Henderson	\$ 30.00
Stanley Ford Gilmer	\$ 7,641.86
ETEX Telephone	\$ 104.95
VFIS of Texas	\$15,339.00
R & L Bookkeeping	\$ 1,170.00
Coveler & Peeler, P.C.	\$ 508.65
Terri Ross	\$ 187.60
Texas Municipal League	\$ 102.90
Siddons Martin Emergency Group LLC	\$ 3,831.65
Simpsonville VFD	\$ 24,252.00
Terri Ross	\$ 750.00
Upshur County Treasurer	\$ 3,058.93

- 12) **Pay bills for the individual fire departments excluding Diana, Harmony, and Simpsonville as submitted and approved.** Motion by David Tackett and second by Shelby Henderson to pay the bills submitted by the following rural fire departments as submitted and approved. Motion carried 4-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

Bettie VFD - \$3,884.24  
Ewell VFD - \$10,448.69  
Glenwood VFD - \$674.04  
Pleasant Grove VFD - \$356.40  
Pritchett VFD - \$8,659.52

- 13) **Pay bills for Diana VFD as submitted and approved.** Motion by Marc Nichols and second by Shelby Henderson to pay bills for Diana VFD in the amount of \$1,956.70. Motion carried 3-1 in favor with David Tackett abstaining.
- 14) **Pay bills for Harmony VFD as submitted and approved.** Motion by David Tackett and second by Marc Nichols to pay bills for Harmony VFD in the amount of \$743.93. Motion carried 3-1 in favor with Shelby Henderson abstaining.
- 15) **Pay bills for Simpsonville VFD as submitted and approved.** No bills submitted. No action taken.
- 16) **Take action on any insurance claim pay outs to rural departments.** Motion by Shelby Henderson and second by David Tackett to pay the bill submitted by West Mountain VFD in the amount of \$305.80 as payment for windshield repair. Motion carried 4-0. Unanimous vote in favor.
- 17) **Discuss and take action on any grant reimbursement requests submitted.** No action taken.
- 18) **Budget Amendments.** No action taken.
- 19) **Items to be considered for next month's agenda.** (1) Bettie VFD truck bill for engine repair, and (2) Discussion on paying fuel and truck bills directly with a possible fuel card.
- 20) **Adjournment.** Motion by Shelby Henderson and second by Marc Nichols to adjourn. Motion carried 4-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

  
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Presiding Officer Signature  
Title: PIO/Secretary

Date: 12-14-20