

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS OF THE  
JEFFERSON COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 1**

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Jefferson County Emergency Services District No. 1 (“District”) was called at 6:00 p.m. on the 23rd day of February 2026, at the 13550 River Oaks Blvd., Beaumont, Texas 77713, pursuant to notice duly posted according to law.

The roll was called of the Commissioners on the Board, to-wit:

<b>Commissioners</b>	<b>Position</b>
Mark Zambardino	President
Robert “Lee” Barnett	Vice President
Wade Witt	Treasurer
Ryan Rosson	Secretary
John Johnson	Commissioner

All said Commissioners were present except Commissioners Wade Witt and Ryan Rosson. In addition to the above-named Commissioners, the following persons were also present:

<b>Attendee</b>	<b>Position</b>
Chief, Chris Gonzales	Administrator
Mr. Robert Ring	Administrative Assistant
Hubert Oxford, IV	General Counsel
Dan Haver	Jefferson County Emergency Services District, No. 1

At 6:00 p.m., President Zambardino announced that a quorum was established and then asked Chief Gonzales to lead the group in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Agenda Item No. 4 – Public Comment.**

President Zambardino called for public comment. There were none, and therefore, President Zambardino referred the Commissioners to Agenda Item No. 5.

**Agenda Item No. 5 – Review, discuss, and approve minutes of the January 26, 2026 Regular Meetings.**

President Zambardino then asked the Commissioners and staff to review the minutes, as submitted. In response, the Commissioners and staff responded that the minutes, as presented, were correct and ready to be signed.

There being no changes, a motion was made by Commissioner John Johnson to approve the minutes as presented of the January 26, 2026 Regular Meeting minutes. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Robert Barnett and unanimously approved by the Commissioners.

**Agenda Item No. 6 – Review, approve, and take-action, if necessary, on approving financial statement; authorize payment of invoices; and amending the budget.**

President Zambardino then called on Mr. Robert Ring to present the financials for January 2026. Mr. Ring then informed the Commissioners that the District's beginning balance in its checking account at Stellar Bank was \$31,721.21. During the month, there was a Tax Deposit of \$109,481.52 and a withdrawal of \$100,000.00 for a transfer to the TexSTAR account that was approved at the last meeting. In addition, the checking account was reduced by \$16,834.41 due to invoices paid in January 2026. After considering the transfer to TexSTAR and expenses paid during the January meeting, the ending balance in the District's checking account for the month was \$24,368.32. (*See Exhibit "A-1"*).

Mr. Ring then addressed the District's savings account at Stellar Bank. The beginning balance in the account as of January 1, 2026 was \$11,177.12 and after receiving an interest payment of \$1.83 during the month, the ending balance was \$11,178.95. (*See Exhibit "A-1"*).

Next, Mr. Ring referred the Commissioners to the TexSTAR account section of the report. At the beginning of January 2026, the District's balance in the account was \$261,358.04. During the month, the account earned \$853.33 in interest, but after accounting for the \$100,000.00 transferred from the District's checking account, the ending balance for January 2026 in the TexSTAR account was \$362,211.37. (*See Exhibit "A-1"*).

Combined, Mr. Ring advised that the District's funds available were \$397,758.64. However, after considering the funds reserved for the purchase of real

estate and equipment, the District's unrestricted funds were \$274,758.64, which is an increase of \$93,502.27 from December 2025. (See **Exhibit "A-1"**).

Mr. Ring then presented the Department's savings account balance at Stellar Bank for January 2026. The account balance decreased from \$16,124.27 to \$15,417.84, a difference of \$706.43, which was due to gifts and a dinner the Department provided for volunteers to show its appreciation. (See **Exhibit "A-2"**).

Next, Mr. Ring reviewed the invoices to be paid during the meeting. Per Mr. Ring, the total expenses to be paid were \$16,205.59. A summary of the invoices is set forth in **Exhibit "A-3"**.

The Commissioners were then asked to review the District's Financial Statements and Check Reconciliation for January 2026. (See **Exhibit "A-4"**). Per Mr. Ring, as of the meeting, everything was in order and within the budget.

Lastly, Mr. Ring then recommended that the Commissioners transfer \$50,000.00 from the District's checking account to the District's TexSTAR account. The Commissioners also agreed with the recommendation.

Upon the conclusion of the finances and necessary budget amendments, Commissioner Robert Barnett, made a motion to approve the: (i) January 2026 District and Department Account Summaries; (ii) approve the January 2026 Financial Statements and Check Reconciliation; and (iii) authorize the transfer of \$50,000.00 from the District's checking account to the District's TexSTAR account. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Ryan Rosson and unanimously approved by all the Commissioners present.

**Agenda Item No. 7 – Discuss and take-action, if necessary, on matters involving: 1) staffing; 2) purchases and/or 3) repair requests submitted by the Volunteer Fire Department; and 4) grant requests.**

President Zambardino then called for a report on staffing matters and any equipment purchases or repair needs. Chief Gonzales stated that the brush truck was going into the shop due to clogged fuel injectors. The Chief further informed the Commissioners that in March, the District was short six (6) shifts to be fully staffed.

Otherwise, no action was required by the Commissioners on this Agenda Item.

**Agenda Item No. 8 – Discuss and take-action, if necessary, on the status of Jefferson County Emergency Services District No. 1, Inc.**

**Agenda Item No. 9 – Discuss and take-action, if necessary, on adopting an Amended and Restated Service Agreement with the Department.**

President Zambardino then asked the Commissioners to address Agenda Item No. 8. In response, Attorney Oxford asked whether the Commissioners would discuss both Agenda Items 8 and 9 at the same time. He then informed the Commissioners that, as a result of issues in Chambers County, Texas regarding paid firefighters, he has been reviewing potential compliance issues with the Texas Commission on Fire Protection. Specifically, the District's current model of paying off-duty firefighters may need to be modified to require the District to operate as a regulated fire department in compliance with Chapter 419 of the Texas Government Code. As a result, depending on the outcome of that review, it may be premature to dissolve the Department, and additional changes to the Service Agreement may be necessary. Nevertheless, Chief Gonzales stated that even if the Department remains an active non-profit, he would like to amend the Department's bylaws to provide that the District's Commissioners appoint the Fire Chief.

The Commissioners asked for Attorney Oxford to provide additional details for the March Meeting. Thereafter, a motion was made by Commissioner Robert Barnett to table these agenda items. The motion to table was seconded by Commissioner John Johnson and unanimously approved by all the Commissioners.

**Agenda Item No. 10 – Discuss and take-action, if necessary, to authorize the execution of a reporting software agreement.**

Chief Gonzales and Mr. Ring reported that the District needed to enter into this Agreement because its prior vendor is no longer compliant with NFPA requirements and is no longer updating or maintaining its software. Accordingly, staff recommended transitioning to First Due for reporting and compliance purposes. The Agreement provides for an initial term of twelve (12) months, with automatic annual renewals unless terminated upon at least sixty (60) days' prior written notice. The cost of the services includes a one-time implementation fee of \$800.00 and an annual subscription fee of \$2,100.00, for a total initial cost of \$2,900.00, exclusive of applicable taxes. (See **Exhibit "B"**).

After discussion and upon a request for authority to sign the Agreement, a motion was made by Commissioner Robert Barnett to approve the Agreement with

First Due for reporting software and to authorize the execution of the Agreement on behalf of the District. This motion was seconded by Commissioner John Johnson and unanimously approved by the Commissioners.

**Agenda Item No. 11 – Chief’s Report.**

Lastly, the Commissioners were asked to review the January 2026 run reports set forth below. Per the Chief, in January, the District responded to twenty-one (21) calls.

January-26			
Date / Time	Response Address	Nature of Call	Disposition
1/1/26 - 07:15	Brooks Rd.	Mutual aid - structure fire	Assisted ESD3
*1/3/26 -08:23	Reins Rd.	Back pain	AEMS transported to ER
1/3/26 -18:49	Chimney Rock Dr.	Chest pains	AEMS transferred to St. Elizabeth
1/7/26 - 22:30	N. Meeker @ OSL	Train vs. pedestrian	Scene turned over to DPS
1/8/26 - 21:38	Keith Rd.	Motor vehicle accident	Major accident - 2 fatalities
1/9/26 - 00:19	Davida Dr.	Hemorrhage	AEMS transferred to St. Elizabeth
*1/9/26 - 16:11	Old Sour Lake Rd.	Motor vehicle accident	No injuries -AEMS obtained refusal
1/10/26 - 18:29	River Bend Dr.	Motor vehicle accident	No accident located
*1/16/26 : 10:24	Old Sour Lake Rd.	Chest pains	AEMS transported to Baptist
1/17/26 - 12:58	Carroll Ln.	Unauthorized burning	Unable to locate
**1/18/26 - 17:01	Sweet Gum Rd.	Seizures	AEMS transported to St. Elizabeth
1/19/26 - 05:59	Thompson Rd.	Mutual aid - structure fire	Assisted ESD3
1/20/26 - 19:50	Reins Rd.	Motor vehicle accident	No injuries -AEMS obtained refusal
1/20/26 - 22:18	Yellowstone Dr.	Fall	AEMS obtained a refusal
1/22/26 - 02:33	2nd St.	Mutual aid - structure fire	Assisted ESD3
**1/23/26 - 19:08	Forest Trail Cir.	Carbon Monoxide	Faulty detector
1/24/26 - 21:48	Alford Oaks Dr.	Assault	Cleared by AEMS
*1/26/26 - 11:09	Hwy 105	Fall w/ injuries	AEMS transported to Baptist
1/27/26 - 05:51	S. China Rd.	Mutual aid - structure fire	Assisted ESD3
1/30/26 - 09:17	Reins Rd.	Breathing problems	AEMS transported to St. Elizabeth
*1/31/26 - 13:22	Sweet Gum Rd.	4-wheeler accident	AEMS transported to St. Elizabeth

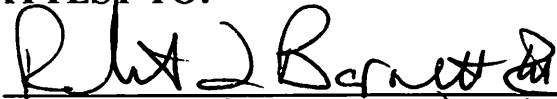
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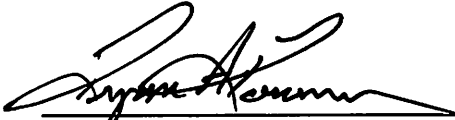
There being no other matters to discuss, President Zambardino thanked the Commissioners for attending and announced that the next Regular Meeting of the District will be on March 23, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. Thereafter, Commissioner Robert Barnett made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:41 p.m. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Ryan Rosson and was unanimously approved by all the Commissioners.

ATTEST TO:



Position: Year President

Date: 3/30/26



Position: Secretary

Date: 3/30/2026