

UPSHUR COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 1

MARCH 8, 2021

7:00 P.M.

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Upshur County Emergency Services District No. 1 Board of Directors was held on March 8, 2021, at the Gilmer Fire Station, 120 Henderson, Gilmer, Texas.

- 1) **Open meeting.** The meeting was opened at 7:00 p.m. by Michael Kuza.
- 2) **Call to order.** Michael Kuza called the meeting to order. Prayer was led by David Tackett.
- 3) **Determine quorum present.** Michael Kuza determined a quorum was present with Marc Nichols being absent.
- 4) **Read and approve the minutes from the Regular meeting held February 8, 2021 and the Special meeting held February 10, 2021.** Motion was made by David Tackett and second by Gary Smith to approve the minutes from the Regular meeting held February 8, 2021 and the Special meeting held February 10, 2021. Motion carried 4-0. Unanimous vote in favor.
- 5) **Public Comment.** Mike Fennell notified the Board that he had a cracked seal on his pump and would like to entertain the motion for the Board to cover that expense. Duane Leech discussed shop charges. Jim Snow announced that he could perform some mechanical repairs if needed by any department. It was announced that there would be a vaccination clinic for First Responders at the Gilmer Civic Center on March 10, 2021. It was announced as a reminder that the First Responder Banquet is to be held at the Gilmer High School on March 27, 2021 from 6:00 – 8:00 for anyone interested.
- 6) **Discussion regarding recruitment/retention program – countywide monthly training.** Michael Kuza asked the Chief's to bring the number of members interested in training to the next meeting to determine how to proceed. Michael Kuza discussed holding this training at the Civic Center parking lot.
- 7) **Hear from VFIS of Texas regarding workers compensation.** Marvin Vinson with VFIS announced that the premiums will be going up. The current rate is \$25.00/hour.
- 8) **Discuss and take action regarding repairs to Lafayette VFD trucks.** East Texas Truck Systems put in a bid for \$26,00.00 to replace the tank and Deep South Fire Trucks made a bid to replace the bed and put a poly tank on the truck for \$15,000.00 with a lifetime warranty on the tank. Motion by Gaston DeBerry, III and second by David Tackett to award

the bid to Deep South Fire Trucks for \$15,000.00. Motion carried 4-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

- 9) **Pay the second quarter installment to the Upshur County Appraisal District.** Motion by Gaston DeBerry, III and second by Gary Smith to pay the second quarter installment to the Upshur County Appraisal District in the amount of \$6,683.85. Motion carried 4-0. Unanimous vote in favor.
- 10) **Pay the second quarter installments to the contracting departments.** Motion by Gaston DeBerry, III and second by David Tackett to pay the second quarter installments to the City of Gilmer in the amount of \$22,500.00, City of Big Sandy in the amount of \$7,500.00, and City of Gladewater in the amount of \$11,000.00. Motion carried 4-0. Unanimous vote in favor. Motion by David Tackett and second by Gary Smith to pay the second quarter installment to the City of Ore City in the amount of \$12,500.00. Motion carried 3-1 with Gaston DeBerry, III abstaining.
- 11) **Pay the City of Gilmer for dispatching services for the month of February, 2021.** Motion by Gaston DeBerry, III and second by David Tackett to pay the City of Gilmer for dispatching services for the month of February, 2021 in the amount of \$3,000.00. Motion carried 4-0. Unanimous vote in favor.
- 12) **Pay bills for the Upshur County Emergency Services District as submitted and approved.** Motion was made by Gaston DeBerry, III and second by David Tackett to pay the following bills as submitted. Motion carried 4-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

VFIS of Texas – Auto Policy	\$ 934.00
VFIS of Texas – Auto Policy	\$ 2,370.31
Siddons-Martin (water tanker)	\$ 7,230.75
Siddons-Martin (Engine 1 East Mountain)	\$ 2,503.96
Terri Ross (February Bookkeeping/Clerical)	\$ 750.00
ETEX Telephone	\$ 104.95
Siddons-Martin	\$ 449.18

Upshur County Tax Assessor Collector \$ 7.50

This bill submitted is for registration of the West Mountain truck and will be deducted from the West Mountain budget.

- 13) **Pay bills for the individual fire departments excluding Bettie, Diana and Simpsonville as submitted and approved.** Motion by Gaston DeBerry, III and second by David Tackett to pay the following bills to the rural fire departments as submitted and approved. Motion carried 4-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

East Mountain VFD	\$ 9,981.21
Ewell VFD	\$ 3,103.77

Glenwood VFD	\$ 4,476.76
Harmony VFD	\$ 6,451.90
Pleasant Grove VFD	\$ 678.59
Pritchett VFD	\$ 3,503.07
West Mountain VFD	\$13,665.66

- 14) **Pay bills for Bettie VFD as submitted and approved.** Motion by Gaston DeBerry, III and second by David Tackett to pay Bettie VFD bills in the amount of \$1,925.09. Motion carried 3-1 with Michael Kuza abstaining.
- 15) **Pay bills for Diana VFD as submitted and approved.** Motion by Gaston DeBerry, III and second by Gary Smith to pay Diana VFD bills in the amount of \$14,353.60. Motion carried 3-1 with David Tackett abstaining.
- 16) **Pay bills for Simpsonville VFD as submitted and approved.** Motion by Gary Smith and second by David Tackett to pay Simpsonville VFD in the amount of \$2,199.46. Motion carried 4-0. Unanimous vote in favor.
- 17) **Take action on any insurance claim pay outs to rural departments.** VFIS has paid disability claims to a member of the Pleasant Grove VFD in the amount of \$1,600.00. No action to be taken.
- 18) **Discuss and take action on any grant reimbursement requests submitted.** No action taken.
- 19) **Budget Amendments.** No action taken.
- 20) **Items to be considered for next month's agenda.** Update regarding recruitment/retention program – countywide monthly and/or quarterly training, repairs to Lafayette VFD trucks, and de-annexation of ESD #2.
- 21) **Adjournment.** Motion by Gary Smith and second by Gaston DeBerry, III to adjourn. Motion carried 4-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

Michael Kuza
 Presiding Officer Signature
 Title: ESD #1 Secretary

Date: 4-12-21