

**HIDALGO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 1**  
**Minutes of Regular Meeting of April 21, 2025**

The following Commissioners were present: Mark McCaleb, Ramon “Monse” Montalvo, Jennifer Rektorik and James A. Vos,

In addition, the following people were present: Richard S. Talbert, Attorney and Karina Cardoza, Absolute Business Consulting Group

- I. Meeting was called to order and quorum established at 12:05 p.m.
- II. Approval of Minutes of March 17, 2025, meeting – After review and discussion, Commissioner Rektorik moved to approve the Minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Vos. Motion carried unanimously.
- III. Public Comments – None were presented.
- IV. New Business – discussion and possible action
  - A. Financial Report for March 2025 – After review and discussion, Commissioner Vos moved to accept the Financial Report as presented and file it for audit, seconded by Commissioner Rektorik. Motion carried unanimously.
  - B. Bills to be Paid – After review and discussion, Commissioner Vos moved to pay the bills as follows: (1) \$138.37 to Richard Talbert for reimbursement of Food Supplies for meeting April 21, 2025, and (2) \$5,835.00 to Richard Talbert for Attorney’s Fees (January – March 2025), seconded by Commissioner Rektorik. Motion carried unanimously.
- V. Other Business - discussion and possible action
  - A. Correspondence
    1. Paul Villarreal, Jr., Tax Assessor-Collector – Monthly Collection Report – After review and discussion, no further action was required or taken.
    2. Hidalgo County Appraisal District – Surplus Equipment – After review and discussion, no further action was required or taken.
  - B. City of Weslaco – Interlocal Governmental Agreement – Ambulance Services (IGAAS) - Status report on current IGAAS from October 1, 2024, to September 30, 2026; Approval of quarterly contract payment for period January, February and March 2025 – Mr. Talbert advised the Commissioners that while the monthly report had been received that the statement for the quarterly contract payment had not been received. After review and discussion, no further action was required or taken.

- C. Hidalgo County Precinct 1 – discussion and possible action on potential interlocal governmental agreement relating to provision of emergency services and related funding mechanisms within the District and the Precinct – After review and discussion, no further action was required or taken.
- D. Hidalgo County Ad Hoc Committee on Emergency Services – discussion and possible action on proceedings related to county-wide review of provision of emergency services vis a vis existing Emergency Service Districts, potential new Emergency Service District for western Hidalgo County, and possible unification of all Emergency Service Districts on a county-wide basis and other possible matters related to relating to provision of emergency services and related funding mechanisms within the District and Hidalgo County – After review and discussion, no further action was required or taken.
- E. Increase in Authorized Tax Rate - discussion and possible action on status of election to be held May 3, 2025, in association with the Hidalgo County Elections Office to seek an increase in the maximum authorized tax rate for the District in accordance with the provisions of Section 775.0745 of the Texas Health & Safety Code, including confirmation of contract with Hidalgo County Elections Department and voter education programs in association with Absolute Business Consulting Group with related expenses – Mrs. Cardoza reviewed with the Commissioners the action being taken to inform the public regarding the upcoming election and provided the Commissioners with copies of the flyers and mail outs related to such information campaign. M. After review and discussion, Commissioner Rektorik moved to pay \$378.88 to Brand Boosters for printing expenses and \$4,000.00 to ABC Group for consulting services related to the information campaign for District residents, seconded by Commissioner Vos. Motion carried unanimously.
- F. Mr. Talbert reminded the Commissioners that with the actual election day being Saturday May 3 that it was necessary to hold a meeting to canvas the vote results within 10 day of such election date. After review and discussion, Commissioner Montalvo moved to hold the canvas meeting as part of the regular monthly meeting and to hold that meeting on Monday, May 12, 2025, instead of the regular monthly date of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month, seconded by Commissioner Rektorik. Motion carried unanimously.
- G. Designated Bank Depositories – Review of status of accounts and possible restructuring/renewal of accounts and designation of District depositories – Commissioner Montalvo abstained from discussion and voting. After review and discussion, Commissioner Vos moved to authorize the District’s attorney to coordinate and take all necessary action to open a new Certificate of Deposit with Vantage Bank for a period of 9 months at the interest rate of 4.2% with all interest earned thereon to be added to the balance of such Certificate as it is earned and paid on a quarterly basis in the amount of \$150,000.00 with the signature authority on such Public Funds Certificate to require two (2) signatures of the following: Mark McCaleb – President, Ramon Montalvo – Vice President and Jennier Rektorik –

Secretary-Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rektorik. Motion carried unanimously. NOTE: Since Freedom Bank had submitted a proposal, Commissioner Montalvo abstained from discussion or voting on this matter.

- H. Attorney's Fees for collection of delinquent property taxes - Status Report and authorization to pay current attorney fees on delinquent tax collection accounts as per collection reports from Hidalgo County Tax Office and statements from Linebarger, Goggan, Blair & Sampson, LLP – After review and discussion, Commissioner Rektorik moved to pay \$346.03 for March 2025, seconded by Commissioner Montalvo. Motion carried unanimously.
- I. Texas State Association of Fire and Emergency Districts/SAFE-D – membership, training requirements available, reporting requirements and related matters, including reimbursement of expenses incurred by Commissioners in participating in required training – After review and discussion, no action was required or taken.
- J. Website – status on establishment of website – Mr. Talbert advised the Commissioners that Robert Grado was continuing to work on the establishment of the website and had recommended that the website be hosted by WIX and presented several term options for such hosting. After review and discussion, Commissioner Montalvo moved to authorize the approve hosting of the website on WIX for a 36-month period for a total of \$432.00 provided that all ownership of the website be in the name of the District, seconded by Commissioner Rektorik. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Talbert then advised the Commissioners that it was anticipated that the website itself would not be operational until after the election and that the Commissioners would have the opportunity to review it before it went live.
- K. Status update on 2024 Audit – After review and discussion, no further action was required or taken.
- L. 2025 Budget – Status Report – After review and discussion, no further action was required or taken.
- M. Consideration of recommendation to Hidalgo County Commissioner David Fuentes on the appointment of a new Commissioner – After review and discussion, no further action was required or taken.

VI. Adjournment– There being no further business, the meeting adjourned with the announcement that the next meeting would be May 12, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

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RICHARD S. TALBERT, Attorney for Hidalgo  
County Emergency Services District No. 1

APPROVED:

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JENNIFER REKTORIK, Secretary / Treasurer

Date: May \_\_\_\_\_, 2025