

HIDALGO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 1
Minutes of Regular Meeting of February 17, 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

- I. Meeting was called to order and quorum established at 12:10 p.m.
- II. Approval of Minutes of January 20, 2024, meeting – After review and discussion, Commissioner Montalvo 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 January 2025 – After review and discussion, Commissioner Rektorik moved to accept the Financial Report as presented and file it for audit, seconded by Commissioner Montalvo. Motion carried unanimously.
 - B. Bills to be Paid – After review and discussion, Commissioner Rektorik moved to pay the bills as follows: (1) \$11.11 to Richard Talbert for reimbursement of Food Supplies for meeting on February 17, 2025, and (2) \$244.00 to U.S. Postal Service for Annual Post Office Box Service Fee, seconded by Commissioner Vos. 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. Paul Villarreal, Jr., Tax Assessor-Collector – 2024 Tax Roll Totals – After review and discussion, Commissioner Rektorik moved to approve the totals as provided by the Tax Assessor-Collector, seconded by Commissioner Montalvo. Motion carried unanimously.
 - B. City of Weslaco – Interlocal Governmental Agreement – Ambulance Services (IGAAS) - Status report on current IGAAS from October 1, 2024, to September 30, 2026 – 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 specific action was required or taken.
- E. Increase in Authorized Tax Rate - discussion and possible action on status of Order requiring an 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 and authorizing the President and/or Vice President and Secretary to execute all necessary documents related thereto, including but not limited to a contract with the Hidalgo County Elections Department. After review and discussion of the map provided by the Hidalgo County Elections Department, Commissioner Montalvo moved to accept and approve the boundary lines of HCESD1 and authorize Mark McCaleb, President, to sign the same, seconded by Commissioner Rektorik. Motion carried unanimously. After further review and discussion of the available polling locations, Commissioner Montalvo moved to select the Progreso Family Community Center located at 510 N. FM 1015, Progreso, TX, and the Pct. 1 Conference Center located at 1902 Joe Stephens Ave., Weslaco, TX, as polling locations for the election, seconded by Commissioner Vos. Motion carried unanimously. After further review and discussion related to the forthcoming contract with the Hidalgo County Elections Department, Commissioner Rektorik moved to authorize Mark McCaleb, President, to sign the contract upon review and approval by District counsel, seconded by Commissioner Montalvo. Motion carried unanimously.
- F. Increase in Authorized Tax Rate - discussion and possible action on authorizing the President and/or Vice-President to take necessary action and commit the necessary funds to assist in the education of the residents of the District regarding the election to be held May 3, 2025, seeking an increase in the maximum authorized tax rate for the District and authorizing the President and/or Vice President and Secretary to take all action and execute all necessary documents related thereto. – After review and discussion, Commissioner Rektorik moved to authorize Mark McCaleb, President, and Ramon Montalvo, Vice-President, to incur all necessary and reasonable expenses related to the election subject to the limitations set forth in the current 2025 budget, seconded by Commissioner Vos. Motion carried unanimously.

- G. Designated Bank Depositories – Review of status of accounts and possible restructuring/renewal of accounts and designation of District depositories – After review and discussion, no further action was required or taken.
- 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 Montalvo moved to pay \$397.57 for January 2025, seconded by Commissioner Rektorik. 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, Commissioner Rektorik moved to reimburse Commissioner Montalvo for expenses incurred by attending the 2025 SAFE-D Annual Conference in Round Rock, TX, on February 6-8, 2025, in the amount of \$977.23 as supported by the documentation submitted by Commissioner Montalvo, seconded by Commissioner Vos. Motion carried unanimously. It was noted that Commissioner McCaleb would also be entitled to reimbursement upon submission of the appropriate documentation. All commissioners were then reminded of the need to work on their continuing education requirements and that the District has previously approved the reimbursement of such expenses upon submission of the appropriate documentation.
- J. Website – status on establishment of website – After review and discussion, no further action was required or taken.
- K. Process of selection and/or selection of Auditor for the 2024 Audit – After review and discussion, Commissioner Rektorik moved to accept the engagement letter from Garcia & Pena, CPAs for the 2024 audit as presented with a fee not to exceed \$3,100.00 and authorize the President to sign and deliver the engagement letter, seconded by Commissioner Vos. Motion carried unanimously.
- L. Publication of required legal notices as provided in Chapter 775 of the Texas Health & Safety Code – After review and discussion, Commissioner Rektorik moved to pay \$31.50 to Advance Publishing LLC for the publication of the notice, seconded by Commissioner Vos. Motion carried unanimously.
- M. 2025 Budget – Status Report – After review and discussion, no further action was required or taken.
- N. 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. Commissioners were reminded of the

need to consider bringing a recommendation to the next meeting for consideration by the Board.

- VI. Adjournment – There being no further business, the meeting adjourned with the announcement that the next regular meeting scheduled would be March 17, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

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

APPROVED:

JENNIFER REKTORIK, Secretary / Treasurer
Date: March _____, 2025