



## JIM WELLS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICE DISTRICT # 1 REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES – February 10, 2026

Notice is hereby given that a Regular Monthly Meeting and Public Hearing of the Board of Commissioners of Jim Wells County Emergency Services District #1 was held on Tuesday February 10, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at the Abel Perez Fire House (APFH) located at 101 FM 1540 in Sandia, Texas 78383 for the following purposes.

### 1) CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

The meeting was called to order by Board President Abraham Aguilar at 7:00 pm. Commissioners present were Patrick Carter, Matthew Schmidt and Diana Hernandez Commissioner Karin Knolle was not present. Business Administrator, Brien Nicolau, joined via phone. Firefighters present were Fire Chief David Bradfute, Captain Ron Cole, Lieutenant Gilbert Medrano and Safety Officer Christopher Rodriguez. The guest speaker invited, Miles Watkins, from SOTEX Water Well, was also in attendance.

### 2) PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment.

### 3) INVITED GUEST SPEAKERS and/or VISITORS IN ATTENDANCE.

- I. Nueces/Jim Wells County ESD #5 Commissioner Jack McMonagle, regarding implementing Sales Tax as a revenue for operations.

Mr. McMonagle was unable to attend the meeting because of a conflict in his schedule.

- II. Miles Watkins with SOTEX Water Well.

Mr. Watkins stated that when they drilled for the water well, they tested and determined that there was not enough water flow to support the 5hp pump that was supposed to be installed. He had a pump company from Houston come and check also and they determined that the 2hp pump would work for this well. He stated if they install a 5hp pump then it will not have a warranty on it because it will not work well with the water flow in the well. He can install a 3hp pump and it will work with the water flow, and it will also have a warranty with it. Mr. Watkins stated that he is willing to do the work and provide the supplies to install a 3hp pump, but he can only pay for half of the cost of the 3hp pump. The cost of a 3hp pump is \$3,900.00. Mr. Watkins will check with the supplier to see if he can get credit for the 2hp pump that was installed and possibly apply the credit towards buying the 3hp pump. If they will not take the 2hp pump back, then it will be given to the fire department as a spare for the other water well. Chief Bradfute suggested that the fire department could pay \$1,000.00 if the ESD could pay for the other \$1,000.00. Pending whether a credit is issued the total cost of this modification will be discussed at a later date.

### 4) SECRETARY'S REPORT

Commissioner Carter made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 13, 2026, Monthly Meeting as presented. Commissioner Schmidt seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

### 5) TREASURER'S REPORT

The beginning ESD #1 statement balance for January 2026 was \$56,664.33. Total cleared checks and payments were \$44,009.12, total deposits were \$7,812.67, which included \$2.00 in interest. This brings the statement ending balance to \$20,467.88. The total for uncleared checks and new pending transactions was \$82.50, resulting in an ending register balance of \$ 20,385.38 on January 31, 2026. Uncleared transactions and pending commitments after January 31, 2026, of \$1,975.00, this makes the register balance \$18,410.38 as of February 02, 2026. Commissioner Hernandez made a motion to accept the financial report as presented for January 2026. Commissioner Carter seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.



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#### **6) SVFD COMMAND STAFF REPORT**

- I. Fire Chiefs Incident, Operations, Vehicle, and APFH Maintenance Reports January 2026.

Chief Bradfute presented the report for January 2026. APFH responded to 3 total calls and Sandia 534 Substation responded to 1 call. Total calls for January 2026 were 4. All Units are in service except Unit 5, they are replacing a seal that is causing an oil leak. Also, Unit 6 is not in service yet, it is the new Unit that was delivered.

- II. Safety Officers Report.

No Safety Report.

#### **7) NEW BUSINESS– Discuss, consider, and take action regarding:**

- I. Purchase of radio for new Brush Truck.

Chief Bradfute stated that he would like to table this item for now.

- II. Purchase of headsets for multiple apparatus.

Chief Bradfute stated that he had two quotes, one from Fire Com and one from Set Com. The one from Fire Com is an older quote so he would like to use the one from Set Com. He would like to purchase two headsets to begin with so they can see how they work, but he eventually would like to get headsets for all the Units. Commissioner Schmidt made a motion to allow the purchase of two headsets from Set Com for \$ 8,622.13. Commissioner Carter seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **8) OLD BUSINESS (Items tabled for further deliberation, updates, and/or action, or review of quotes/information).**

- I. Update on new Brush Truck delivery from Deep South Fire Trucks and loan from Community Leasing.

Chief Bradfute stated that the new truck was delivered, there are a few small items that need to be worked on but those are being taken care of. Mr. Nicolau stated that all the paperwork for Community Leasing has been finalized.

- II. Update on purchase of volunteer firefighter badges, name plates, and official firefighter ID cards.

Chief Bradfute stated that everything has been ordered except the badges and name plates.

#### **9) PENDING ITEMS/REPORTS (Items previously approved or in process)**

- I. Commissioners experience at the SAFE-D Conference last week.

Commissioners stated that the experience was positive and a lot was learned.

- II. Update on planning for future disaster events.

This is ongoing. No updates.



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III. Update on establishing a Priority Projects list to present to perspective donors.

Lieutenant Medrano stated that they are starting to inquire about adding an extra building and a cement slab for the building. It can help with storage needs.

IV. Update on development of Roles and Responsibilities, Operational, and Organizational SOPs.

This is ongoing. No updates.

V. Update on website.

Mr. Nicolau stated that he is working on setting up a new website and will be sending an email out to everyone requesting photos.

### 10) ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Schmidt made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Carter seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Aguilar adjourned the meeting at 8:01 pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Diana Hernandez".

Date Submitted 2-17-26

Commissioner Diana Hernandez, Secretary  
Jim Wells County ESD #1