

## UPSHUR COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 2

JUNE 18, 2024

7:00 P.M.

### MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Upshur County Emergency Services District No. 2 Commissioners was held on June 18, 2024, at the New Mountain Fire Station, 9871 State Hwy. 155 N, Ore City, Texas 75683.

- 1) **Open meeting.** The meeting was opened at 7:06 p.m. by Gaston DeBerry, III.
- 2) **Call to order.** Gaston DeBerry, III called the meeting to order. Prayer was led by Gaston DeBerry, III.
- 3) **Determine quorum present.** Gaston DeBerry, III determined a quorum with Tommie Whitaker, Kenny Hankins, Gregg Price, and Rita Criswell being present.
- 4) **Public comment.** None
- 5) **Read and approve minutes from the meeting held May 21, 2024.** Motion was made by Kenny Hankins with a second by Gregg Price to approve the minutes of the meeting held May 21, 2024 as written. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.
- 6) **Discuss and take action to approve the Independent Auditor's Report for the FY ending September 30, 2023 prepared by Arnold Walker Arnold & Co, P.C.** Gaston DeBerry, III reported that the ESD #2 had a perfect audit for the FY ending September 30, 2023 with no corrective action plan needed. Motion by Kenny Hankins with a second by Tommie Whitaker to approve the audit report prepared by Arnold Walker Arnold & Co, P.C. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.
- 7) **Discuss and take action to renew the audit contract with Arnold Walker Arnold & Co., P.C.** Motion by Tommie Whitaker with a second by Kenny Hankins to renew the audit contract with Arnold Walker Arnold & Co., P.C. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.
- 8) **Discuss and take action regarding radio programming and system.** Discussion regarding the frequency issues with ESD #1. The Chiefs of Ore City, Diana, and New Mountain fire departments agreed to wait to reprogram their radios at the time the ESD #1 gets a new frequency. No action.
- 9) **Discuss and take action on setting spending limits for the fire departments.** Gaston DeBerry, III reached out to the Fire Chiefs of Diana and New Mountain for their input in regards to setting a spending limit on large purchased items. It was agreed that the Fire Departments should contact the Board when the department was going to purchase a large

expenditure. The Fire Departments agreed that spending limits should be a part of the individual department by-laws. No action.

- 10) **Discuss and take action to set ESD #2 maps and boundary lines.** Gaston DeBerry, III will get with Marc Nichols to determine the status of the new maps. No action. This matter will be moved to the July meeting for further action.
- 11) **Discuss and take action regarding the fire departments' reserve funds.** Gaston DeBerry, III provided the amount of reserve funds available to the fire departments of Diana and New Mountain. There was discussion regarding the purchase of large expenditures with reserve funds. No action. This matter will be passed to the next regular meeting for further discussion.
- 12) **Pay the City of Gilmer for dispatching services for the month of May, 2024 in the amount of \$900.00.** Motion by Tommie Whitaker with a second by Rita Criswell to pay the City of Gilmer for dispatching services for the month of May, 2024 in the amount of \$900.00. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.
- 13) **Pay bills for the Upshur County ESD #2 as submitted and approved.** Motion by Tommie Whitaker with a second by Kenny Hankins to pay the following bills as submitted and approved. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

Terri Ross (May Bookkeeping/Clerical)	\$ 600.00
Arnold, Walker, Arnold & Co. (Audit)	\$ 3,500.00
Upshur County Appraisal District (3 <sup>rd</sup> qtr)	\$ 3,906.73
- 14) **Pay the City of Ore City the amount of \$9,333.33 as the monthly installment as set out in the Contract for Fire Fighting Services.** Motion by Kenny Hankins and second by Rita Criswell to pay the City of Ore City in the amount of \$9,333.33 as the monthly installment for the 23-24 fiscal year. Motion carried 3-0 with Gaston DeBerry, III and Tommie Whitaker abstaining.
- 15) **Pay Diana VFD the amount of \$12,166.66 as their monthly budget allotment and any other expenses presented for approval.** Motion by Tommie Whitaker with a second by Gregg Price to pay Diana VFD in the amount of \$12,166.66 as their monthly budget allotment for the 23-24 fiscal year. Motion carried 4-0 with Kenny Hankins abstaining.
- 16) **Pay New Mountain VFD the amount of \$4,125.00 as their monthly budget allotment and any other expenses presented for approval.** Motion by Kenny Hankins with a second by Tommie Whitaker to pay New Mountain VFD the amount of \$4,125.00 as their monthly budget allotment for the 23-24 fiscal year. Motion carried 4-0 with Rita Criswell abstaining.
- 17) **Discuss and take action on budget amendments.** None.

18) **Items to be considered for next month's agenda.** Discuss and take action on audit requirement for the individual departments; Discuss and take action regarding the purchase of large expenditures by the departments; Discuss and take action regarding the dispatching map and boundary lines of ESD #2

19) **Adjournment.** Motion by Kenny Hankins with a second by Gregg Price to adjourn. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Presiding Officer Signature  
Title: President

Date: 7-16-24