

THE STATE OF TEXAS                   X     KENEDY COUNTY FIRE AND  
COUNTY OF KENEDY                   X     EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 1

On the 12th day of August, 2024, at 6:30 o'clock p.m. a Regular Meeting of the Kenedy County Fire & Emergency Services District No. 1 was held at 350 N. Mallory Street, Sarita, Texas.

**Commissioners Present:**

William Dieterle, arrived late  
Melinda Vela  
Lorraine Burns  
Daniel Alaniz  
Alex Shugart

**Also Present:**

Jose E. Mendieta, Fire Chief  
Leo Villarreal  
Sylvia H. Villarreal  
Judge Charles E. Burns

**Absent:**

**1. Call Meeting to Order**

William Dieterle called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

**2. Public Comments**

No public comments were made.

**3. Discuss & Act on Minutes of July 15, 2024 Regular Meeting**

William Dieterle presented the Fire Commissioners with the minutes of the regular Fire Commissioners meeting of July 15, 2024.

Commissioner Melinda Vela moved and Commissioner Lorraine Burns seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that the minutes of the regular Fire Commissioners meeting of July 15, 2024 be approved as presented.

**4. Discuss & Act on Fire Chief's Report**

- a. Training Drills**
- b. Meetings and Projects**
- c. Fire/Emergency Incidents**
- d. Fuel Consumption Report**
- e. Truck Repairs Report**

Training:

- 07/02/2024 Went through vehicle and services all tools and vehicles
- 07/06/2024 Went over and let everyone start and use the jaws and the air bags to make sure everyone could use them properly
- 07/16/2024 Prepared all the units for storm by checking everything and putting units in bay stalls
- 07/23/2024 Went out and opened and flowed all hydrants and noted which ones were no opening

Meetings/Projects:

1. Had meeting with the TDEM over the claiming of expenses during Hurricane Beryl
2. Had a second meeting with TDEM team and they explained the claim process and all the forms that need to be runed in by August 8, 2024
3. Met with Border Patrol over them wanting to fill a tank with water to pour on a caliche pad they are pouring at the Checkpoint
4. Met with Red Cross over the preparation for Hurricane Beryl

Future Repairs:

Need to replace lights inside the bay of the station

Volunteer Activities:

1. Trained on the proper way to set up and use the air bags and jaws in our vehicle
2. Training on locating the hydrants and how to properly open and use the hydrants

Equipment/Special Projects:

Completed Projects

1. 5-ton truck water tank has been changed out and is ready to go
2. The semi-truck has been inspected and received a 68A form; need to work on the plates and title for the truck

Ongoing Projects:

1. Spoke with Bishop Farm & Equipment and they just received parts for John Deere so am waiting for them to install the part
2. Semi needs to be taken to TxDot in Pharr for final inspection as soon as title is received within the next two weeks

Fire Calls

Vehicle Accidents	0
Vehicle Fires	0
Grass Fires	3
Structure Fires	0
Medical Assistance	0
Total:	3

Ambulance Calls

Norias	0
Mifflin Armstrong	0
Kenedy County	1
Sarita	14
Total:	15

Commissioner Melinda Vela moved and Commissioner Alex Shugart seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that the Fire Chief's report be approved as presented.

5. **Discuss & Act on Command Officer Standby Compensation for July 2024**

William Dieterle informed the Fire Commissioners of the need to consider payment to Cris Lee for his June 2024 standby officer compensation in the amount of \$112.50.

Commissioner Melinda Vela moved and Commissioner Alex Shugart seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that Chris Lee be paid \$112.50 for July standby officer duty.

6. **Discuss & Act on Kenedy County Certification of 2024 No New Revenue Tax Rate and 2024 Voter Approval Tax Rate.**

William Dieterle informed the Fire Commissioners of the need to certify the Kenedy County 2024 No New Revenue Tax Rate and 2025 Voter Approval Tax Rate.

Commissioner Daniel Alaniz moved and Commissioner Lorraine Burns seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that the Kenedy County 2024 No New Revenue Tax Rate and 2025 Voter Approval Tax Rate be certified as presented.

7. **Discuss & Act on Kenedy County Certification of 2024 Total Appraised Value, Total Assessed Value, Total Taxable Value and Total New Property Taxable Value.**

William Dieterle informed the Fire Commissioners of the need to certify the Kenedy County 2024 Total Appraised Value, Total Assessed Value, Total Taxable Value and Total New Property Taxable Value.

Commissioner Melinda Vela moved and Commissioner Alex Shugart seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that Kenedy County 2024 Total Appraised Value, Total Assessed Value, Total Taxable Value and Total New Property Taxable Value be certified as presented.

8. **Discuss & Act on Kenedy County Certification of 2024 Anticipated Collection Rate**

William Dieterle informed the Fire Commissioners of the need to certify the Kenedy County 2024 Anticipated Collection Rate.

Commissioner Melinda Vela moved and Commissioner Daniel Alaniz seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that the 2024 Anticipated Collection Rate be certified as presented.

9. **Conduct 2025 Budget Workshop**

William Dieterle called the 2025 Budget Workshop to order. The Fire Commissioners worked on the proposed 2025 Budget.

10. **Discuss & Act on 2025 Budget and 2024 Proposed Tax Rate**

William Dieterle informed the Fire Commissioners of the need to set the 2025 Budget and the 2024 Proposed Tax Rate.

Commissioner Melinda Vela moved and Commissioner Daniel Alaniz seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that the proposed 2025 Budget be \$852,089 and the proposed Tax Rate be \$0.075111 per \$100 valuation.

11. **Discuss & Act on Setting Date for Public Hearing to Adopt the 2025 Proposed Budget and 2024 Proposed Tax Rate**

William Dieterle informed the Fire Commissioners of the need to determine the date that the Public Hearing to adopt the 2025 Budget and 2024 Tax Rate.

Commissioner Melinda Vela moved and Commissioner Daniel Alaniz seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that the Public Hearing to adopt the 2025 proposed budget and the 2024 proposed tax rate be held on September 9, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. and the required Notice of Public Hearing be published.

12. **Discuss & Act on Date for Next Regular Board Meeting**

William Dieterle informed the Fire Commissioners to determine the date for the next regular meeting.

Commissioner Melinda Vela moved and Commissioner Daniel Alaniz seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that the next regular board meeting be held on September 9, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

13. **Discuss & Act on Payment of Bills; Receive Report on Tax Revenue Received; and Receive Report on Bank Balance as of July 31, 2024**

William Dieterle presented the bills for the month ending July 31, 2024, to the Fire Commissioners and informed the Fire Commissioners that the bills should be considered for payment.

Commissioner Lorraine Burns moved and Commissioner Melinda Vela seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that the bills be paid as presented.

14. **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Commissioners, Commissioner Melinda Vela moved and Commissioner Alex Shugart seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that that the Fire District's Commissioners' meeting be adjourned at 7:38 o'clock p.m.



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William Dieterle, President

ATTESTED TO:

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Melinda Vela, Secretary