

# UPSHUR COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 1

JULY 29, 2026

6:00 P.M.

## MINUTES

A Special meeting of the Upshur County Emergency Services District No. 1 Board of Commissioners was held on July 29, 2026, in the Upshur County Courtroom, Temporary Upshur County Courthouse, 150 E. Jefferson Street, Gilmer, Texas.

The District considered and acted upon the following matters:

- 1) **Call to order and establish quorum.** The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. by Kenny Southwell and a quorum was present with Kenny Southwell, Scott Mischnick, Brian Jones, and Raymond Cook being present. Garon (Gig) Wade was absent.
- 2) **Public Comment.** No public comment.
- 3) **Discuss and consider taking action on purchases and/or improvements to the Upshur County ESD #1 building/property located on Hwy. 155.** Kenny Southwell provided an update on the status of the building. He is getting quotes for work on the power, water, sewer, garbage, wifi, A/C, etc.

Kenny Southwell advised that the Radio grant that the ESD had applied for was denied.

He also spoke in regards to the Sheriff entering into an Emergency Radio Services Agreement with ETMC EMS/UT Health East Texas EMS at the June 30, 2026 meeting of the Upshur County Commissioners Court. He also noted that Commissioner Nicholson and Judge Tefteller questioned UT Health official, Mr. Berkley, if this included the Upshur County ESDs and they were informed that this did include the ESDs.

Brian Jones gave an update on the investment accounts with TX Class.

Kenny Southwell provided information regarding dispatch, run cards, CAD system, etc.

Kenny Southwell announced that he had met with the Gilmer City Manager and Fire Chief regarding the service contract with the City of Gilmer for the upcoming budget year.

Kenny Southwell explained the importance of the ISO ratings.

No formal action taken.

4) **BUDGET DISCUSSION.** Kenny Southwell went over the preliminary figures for the upcoming budget making changes as needed with input from the Board. The August 3<sup>rd</sup> Budget Meeting was cancelled. A tentative date of August 17<sup>th</sup> was set for another budget hearing if needed. The Board was in agreement to hold the Public Hearing on the Adoption of the Budget and Tax Rate before the Regular meeting scheduled for September 14, 2026.

5) **Discuss and set the PROPOSED tax rate by RECORD VOTE.** Scott Mischnick made a motion with a second by Brian Jones to set the PROPOSED tax rate at \$0.0700/\$100 for Upshur County Emergency Services District #1 for FY2027. Votes as follows:

Kenny Southwell Yay

Scott Mischnick Yay

Brian Jones Yay

Raymond Cook Yay

Absent and not voting: Garon (Gig) Wade

Motion passed unanimously; 4 For and 0 Against.

6) **Discuss and consider items for next regular agenda.** Budget Discussion; D&TA on purchases and/or improvements to the Upshur County ESD #1 building/property located on Hwy 155, if needed.

7) **Adjournment.** Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Presiding Officer Signature

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_