

San Jacinto County Emergency Services District No 2
81 Waterwood
Huntsville TX 77320m
MINUTES OF EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT 2
SPECIAL MEETING NOVEMBER 5, 2025

Call to order – At 5:00pm, Commissioner Marshall called the meeting to order.

Commissioners present: President Marshall, Commissioner Hayman, Commissioner Schwebach, Commissioner Chrestopoulos and Commissioner Murphey were present

Pledge of Allegiance, Texas Pledge and Opening Prayer:

The pledge of allegiance and Texas pledge were recited, and opening prayer was given by Commissioner Hayman and guests were welcomed.

President's Comments:

President Marshall shared his thoughts – See Attached.

Commissioner Hayman voiced her opposition to President Marshall's comments.

Public Comments:

One commenter asked Commissioner Chrestopoulos to clarify on his position on paying attorney fees.

One commenter voiced concern with the contract and relationship between ESD 2 and WIA.

Waterwood Fire & Rescue Reports: October- 1 call. Waterwood Fire & Rescue submitted a check to SJC ESD2 for the reimbursement of payment for the department's insurance in the amount of \$2,244.00.

A motion was made by President Marshall, seconded by commissioner Chrestopoulos to accept the check from Waterwood Fire & Rescue.

Waterwood Fire & Rescue submitted 2 reimbursement requests:

VFIS Insurance/Worker's Comp.- \$252.00

Martinez Heavy Truck Tire & Repair- Maintenance on both fire trucks - \$3,197.59

Minutes Prior Meeting – Commissioner Hayman made a motion to approve the October 7, 2025, minutes. Motion seconded by Commissioner Chrestopoulos and passed unanimously.

Review, discuss & take action regarding the treasurer's report and pay bills

A motion was made by Commissioner President Marshall, seconded by Commissioner Chrestopoulos to pay the MUD and SHECO from the People's State Bank Coldspring account and pay 2 Kreeks (logo design), Brooke Mounce and Allegiance Ambulance out of First National Bank Huntsville. motion carried.

A motion was made by President Marshall, seconded by Commissioner Schwebach to approve the attorney fees and the reimbursements from Waterwood Fire & Rescue, upon asking for payment from WIA for the amount needed. Commissioner Hayman and Commissioner Chrestopoulos abstained. Motion carried.

Review, discuss & take action regarding amending 2026 Budget

A motion was made by Commissioner Chrestopoulos, seconded by Commissioner Schwebach to adopt the 2026 budget. Motion carried

Review, discuss & take action regarding contract between SJC ESD2 and Waterwood Fire & Rescue

A motion was made by Commissioner Hayman, seconded by Commissioner Murphey to table until the changes made by Waterwood Fire & Rescue have been reviewed. Motion Carried.

Review, discuss & take action regarding contract between SJC ESD 2 and Waterwood Improvement Association, Inc.

A vote was taken on the contract as it stands now.

Vote-

Ayes: Commissioner Murphey.

Nays: President Marshall, Commissioner Schwebach, and Commissioner Chrestopoulos.

Abstain: Commissioner Hayman.

Motion Failed.

Executive Session: The board entered into executive session at approximately 6:00 PM and ended at approximately 6:53 PM.

Commissioner Hayman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by President Marshall. Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:06 pm.

Next Special meeting will be Tuesday, November 11, 2025 @ 5:00 PM.

Next Regular meeting will be Thursday December 4, 2025 @ 5:00 PM.

President Remarks 11-5-2025

Good evening members of WWFR, WIA members and residents of Waterwood.

I would like to start off tonight by reminding everyone that we do follow Robert's rules and do what we can to stay within those guidelines. I would like to remind everyone that the Board members are appointed by the San Jacinto County Commissioner's Court. Therefore, we are here to give the Emergency entities our full support and assist them in anyway possible. We have a responsibility to this community. We have our respective places on the Board. I am the President, Commissioner Chrestopoulos is the Vice President, Commissioner Schwebach is the Treasurer, Commissioner Murphy is the Assistant Treasurer, and Commissioner Hayman is the Secretary. When addressing the Board keep this in mind for each one of these members, should have special knowledge at their position. Although we are lucky to have Ms. Mounce with us, we are the appointed officials and will be able to use Ms. Mounce as a resource.

It has come to my attention that some members of the community are confused about why this Board has not made a contract with the WIA for the current fire house. I believe that many do not understand the full extent of what we are being asked to sign. I would like to share a few reasons that have stopped members from approving this contract, and what some of us might believe would be better for the community and fire members.

WIA has stated that this building in an asset on the WIA books. They believe that they need to be reimbursed for it. WIA would like a 10-year deal upon this first contract. The first 5 years would be at \$2,000 a month, and then the possibility of increasing the rent by 25%. They state that it is only for their ability to pay for any needed repairs for the building and would not want to use general funds for these repairs. Most places around the United States that make agreements for fire house rentals, charge a nominal amount, sometimes as low as \$1 a year. I understand that they need to be able to fund the repairs, I believe there is a better way to achieve this. I believe that if WIA is dead set on a payment, I believe that the \$2,000 a month payment should be held in a separate account. This way any Tax money and/or WIA funds would be easily available for repairs. I believe that if we would be able to save these monthly payments, and only spend money for needed repairs, we could possibly have up to \$240,000, which could go into funding a brand-new updated station for the growth that this department has been showing. The ESD has insurance on the building, equipment and staff. The ESD also pays the water and electric bill. The building is also not taxed and has been paid off.

The fire department currently has cameras set up in and around the station. Although the outside cameras are not a problem, the inside cameras pose an invasion of privacy issue. Currently when Allegiance stays at the station, they have a tendency to sleep one person in their sleeping quarters and one in the front office. This is either because of snoring or because of possible opposite sex sleeping arrangements. This can also cause another issue of invasion of privacy when the fire department have their board meetings and go into executive session. No one outside of those invited into the meetings should have access to what is discussed. I believe the best solution to the would be converting the interior cameras to a CCTV style where the only people that

would have access would be the Chief and those he allows. These recording can be turned over in the event of an emergency, theft, or damages for investigations.

WIA would like full time access to the fire department building whenever they please. They would be able to come and go as they please. They can and have come in and take equipment off of the truck and did not put it back correctly which could cause confusion and possibly mistakes on the fire grounds in the event of an emergency. If the fire fighters train on the fire truck and expect certain things to be in certain places but they are not, this can cause devastating delays. They have actually come into the station and taken fire extinguishers to use just outside of the station. Instead of calling the volunteers they say the support, they are taking away from the fire members abilities to perform their duties. These people that come in and have taken these fire extinguishers have the ability to volunteer for themselves but chose not to. They not only put themselves at risk, they are deciding to take precious call volume away from the fire department. The people that took these items are also not covered under the fire departments insurance causing other issues at well. I believe that this could be solved by installing a new entry system that can be controlled by electronic locks that can identify who is coming in and out of the fire department, plus uses time stamps. If things are taken or damages are done, the time stamp, plus unique identifier can help in finding out what happened. I believe that a 24-hour notice of entry should be sufficient to make plans with the fire department members for general maintenance and visits.

Although WIA told both the community and the Commissioner's Court that they will full fund EDS 2 to the level it has been operating at, this is not legally binding. Wia has the ability to stop funding to the ESD whenever they see fit. I am not saying the current board will do that, all I am saying is that it can happen. ESD Board members have stated that they want a contract with WIA stating they will commit to these promises.

These are also a few differences between a lease and a license, which have an impact on how the contract is written and executed. After discussions with multiple lawyers, a lease is what should be used, not a license.

I believe that these corrections could help our ESD Board and the WIA board come to an agreement that would most benefit this community.

Patrick Marshall
President SJCESD 2