



# Bandera, Uvalde, Medina, and Real County – Utopia/Vanderpool Area Emergency Services District No.1

## Minutes of November 21, 2019 Regular Meeting

**Meeting Location: Utopia Volunteer Fire Department,  
485 Main Street, Utopia, (Uvalde County), Texas. 78884.**

Commissioners attending: Al Buckner, Chad Hillis, Karen Heideman, Bill Cockerill. Absent: Josef Richarz

- 1. Call to order:** The meeting was called to order by **Buckner** and a quorum was established at 7:01 p.m.
- 2. Invocation:** The invocation was given by **Hillis**.
- 3. Citizens communications:** None.
- 4. Departmental reports:**
  - Utopia Fire/ Rescue:** No report.
  - Utopia EMS: Cockerill** -- A public hearing was being held today for staff waivers on ambulances. The EMS severed relationship with medical director Dr. Gebhardt. The new medical director is Dr. Scosia. Two EMS members are planning to attend the state EMS conference near the end of November. The Christmas party will be held Dec. 12. EMS is now receiving \$27,500 annually from Bandera County to be used for the employment of a paramedic under the direction of Utopia EMS.
  - Vanderpool Volunteer Fire: Buckner** – Two of three problems fixed on tender. Estimated total cost of \$3,000.
- 5. Minutes of previous ESD Board of Directors meeting, corrections and approval:** Motion made by **Hillis** to approve the minutes. Seconded by **Heideman**. Motion passed.

~~AL BUCKNER~~ President   ~~CHAD HILLIS~~ Vice President   ~~KAREN HEIDEMAN~~ Treasurer  
**Bill Cockerill – Secretary ♦ Josef Richarz – Asst. Treasurer**  
Mailing and Contact address: **P.O. Box 1027, Utopia, TX 78884**

Minutes of November 21, 2019 Regular Meeting



*Bandera, Uvalde, Medina, and Real County –  
Utopia/Vanderpool Area  
Emergency Services District No.1*

**Minutes of November 21, 2019 Regular Meeting**

- 6. Treasurer’s report and approval to pay ESD bills:** *Heideman* reported that current tax monies were starting to be received. Motion made *by Cockerill* to approve report and bills. Seconded by *Hillis*. Motion carried. See attached budget report.
- 7. Discussion and action on an official ESD email address for each commissioner:** Motion made by *Cockerill* to approve email addresses by officer position. Seconded by *Hillis*. Motion carried.
- 8. Discussion and action on establishing public comment rules at ESD meetings:** *Buckner* said the recommendation was to allow 10 minutes per person up to a total of one hour. *Cockerill* mentioned that other governmental entities allowed 3 minutes per person for up to a total of 15 minutes. Motion made by *Cockerill* to table until sample forms were available. Seconded by *Hillis*. Motion carried.
- 9. Discussion and action on establishing public internet presence per new state law:** After presentation by *Buckner, Heideman* made a motion to establish the ESD web site as [sabinalcanyon.org/esd](http://sabinalcanyon.org/esd) effective Jan. 1, 2020. Seconded by *Cockerill*. Motion carried.
- 10. Hear report on sales tax option, including procedures and potential costs and benefits:** *Heideman* reported that she had obtained the name of an expert in the area who could make a presentation to the board. *Buckner* said an election would be required to adopt a sales tax. *Hillis* expressed concerns over another tax. *Heideman* said she was personally opposed to sales tax. *Cockerill* said the main reason he promoted the discussion was in case the ESD ran into a major financial problem, but he wanted to resolve the issue. *Hillis* made a motion not to pursue sales tax option at this time. Seconded by *Heideman*. Motion carried.

**Al Buckner** – *President* ♦ **Chad Hillis** – *Vice President* ♦ **Karen Heideman** – *Treasurer*  
**Bill Cockerill** – *Secretary* ♦ **Josef Richarz** – *Asst. Treasurer*  
*Mailing and Contact address: P.O. Box 1027, Utopia, TX 78884*

**Minutes of November 21, 2019 Regular Meeting**

**11. Discuss background data, procedures for annual report:** Commissioners provided information needed for the filling out of the annual report by the treasurer. No action taken.

**12. Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m. Motion made by **Heideman** and seconded by **Hillis**. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted:

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Approval Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bill Cockerill, Secretary

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Board President or Vice President

**Al Buckner** – *President* ♦ **Chad Hillis** – *Vice President* ♦ **Karen Heideman** – *Treasurer*  
**Bill Cockerill** – *Secretary* ♦ **Josef Richarz** – *Asst. Treasurer*  
*Mailing and Contact address: P.O. Box 1027, Utopia, TX 78884*

**Minutes of November 21, 2019 Regular Meeting**