



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

**Minutes of September 19, 2019, Regular Meeting**

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

Commissioners attending: Karen Heideman, Bill Cockerill, Josef Richarz

Commissioners not attending: Al Buckner, Chad Hillis

1. **Call to order:** The meeting was called to order by **Heideman** and a quorum was established at 7:08 P.M.

2. **Invocation:** **Richarz** provided the invocation.

3. **Citizens communications:** None.

4. **Departmental reports:**

**Utopia EMS – Cockerill** reported that Bandera County funding for a Utopia EMS paramedic is expected to come through in October. John Garafano has been certified as an instructor. The state audit was completed with good results. The EMS received about \$300 from wild game cook-off sponsored by Baptist church. The Stop the Bleed course was well attended. Will be getting estimates to replace the flooring at the shed. The EMS was asked to provide a paramedic for Rod Lewis birthday bash in October.

**Utopia Volunteer Fire – Richarz** reported that a tender grant had been submitted. Call volume is up due to people ignoring burn ban and the hot and dry conditions. The department obtained two new members, plus the three new members the preceding month.

**Vanderpool Volunteer Fire –** No report.

**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**

**5. Minutes of previous ESD Board of Directors meeting, corrections and approval:**

**Richarz** moved to approve minutes as presented. **Cockerill** seconded. Motion carried.

**6. Treasurer's report and approval to pay ESD bills: Cockerill** made the motion to approve report and pay bills. Seconded by **Richarz**. Motion carried. **Heideman** reported that appraisal fees were paid to two entities. Tax collections exceed 100 percent. Report attached.



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

**Minutes of September 19, 2019, Regular Meeting**

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

**7. Discussion and action to disburse remainder of the funds to service providers: Heideman**

made a motion to disburse remainder of funds to service providers. Seconded by **Richarz**. Motion carried. Utopia EMS will receive \$9,920; Utopia Volunteer Fire, \$5,952; and Vanderpool Volunteer Fire, \$3,968.

**8. Discussion and action to adopt 2018-2019 budget amendments: Heideman** moved to adopt

budget amendments. Seconded by **Cockerill**. Motion carried. Increased tax revenues were put in fund balance. Monies taken from fund balance added to service provider accounts.. Left balance at about \$53,000.

**9. Discussion and action to adopt the 2019-2020 budget: Richarz** made motion to adopt new budget.

Seconded by **Cockerill**. Motion carried. The new budget is \$221,500, which reflects the loss of about \$7,500 in revenues from the Lone Hollow camp that is now non-profit and tax-exempt. Budget attached.

**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**

10. **Discussion and action to adopt the 2019-2020 tax rate:** *Heideman* made the motion to set the tax rate at 10 cents per \$100 valuation. Seconded by *Cockerill*. Motion carried. Voting for the motion were *Heideman, Cockerill and Richarz*. Absent and not voting were *Buckner* and *Hillis*.
11. **Discuss establishing a sales tax, including procedures and potential costs and benefits:** *Cockerill* made a motion to table item. Seconded by *Heideman*. Motion carried. *Cockerill* said he would like to wait on discussing the item until a full board was available.
12. **Adjourn:** After no further business, meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

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

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

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**