PANOLA COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #1 met for a regular meeting on the $22^{\rm nd}$ day of July 2025. The meeting was held at the Carthage Civic Center Street located at 1702 South Adams Street in Carthage, Panola County Texas at 7:00 P.M.

Members Present: Stuart Lipsey, Justin Yates, Cliff Todd, Palmer Fuselier and Taylor Harris

- 1. Chairman Lipsey opened the meeting at 7:00 PM and established a quorum.
- 2. Board members then reviewed the minutes from the June 17, 2025 regular meeting then approved them on a motion by Todd, a second by Fuselier, and a unanimous vote following.
- 3. There were no public comments.
- 4. The Chief's Association presented grant opportunities to the board for the purchase of new VFD trucks in 2026. These trucks will be on the 2026-2027 budgets.
- 5. The board discussed public relations opportunities for the ESD and VFD's. Touchstone District Services will attend the August ESD meeting to present a proposal for outreach in support of the upcoming election. Run reports are given to KGAS to be broadcast monthly and the board encouraged VFD's to speak on KGAS's Panola Pride. The ESD has a "booth" at Potlatch, September 26-27, 2025. TBD what will be needed for this event.
- 6. The board discussed Louisiana Pacific's Freeport Exemption.
- 7. The board discussed ordering an election for the adoption of a sales and use tax in the district. Tatum declined their option to run, and Beckville is undecided. The board discussed the timeline and chose to wait until the Spring election.
- 8. CPA Nixon went over the preliminary tax rate options for 2026 that will be adopted at the August meeting.
- 9. The board discussed the upcoming budget submissions for the 2026 calendar year and discussed tax items. After discussion, on a motion by Todd, a second by Yates, and a unanimous vote following, the board will approve the interlocal agreement with Carthage FD contingent on a 30k contribution for year one and budget assessment and approval for the following years. Interlocal agreement to be reviewed and approved by Attorney Campbell prior to signing.
- 10. Chairman Lipsey presented the bills to be paid. After discussion and reviewing the bills, on a motion by Harris, a second by Todd, and a unanimous vote following, the bills presented were approved for payment.
- 11. The monthly financial statements were presented by CPA Nixon, and he updated the departments on their budget items. After the discussion, on a motion by Todd, a second by Harris, and a unanimous vote following, the financial statements were approved.

12. Chairman Lipsey then adjourned the meeting at 7:56 PM on a motion by Todd and without objection. The next regular meeting will be held at the Carthage Civic Center located at 1702 S. Adams Street in Carthage, Panola County Texas and is tentatively set for August 19, 2025, to start at 7:00PM.

Bhard Member Dated <u>8//9/25</u>