

UPSHUR COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 1
P.O. Box 1432, Gilmer, Texas 75644

FILED
UPSHUR
COUNTY CLERK

September 14, 2026

6:00 P.M.

SEP 08 2026 11:50 am

Upshur County Courtroom
Temporary Upshur County Courthouse
150 E. Jefferson Street, Gilmer, Texas 75644

UPSHUR COUNTY, TX
BY T. R. [Signature]
DEPUTY

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Commissioners of the **UPSHUR COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 1** will hold a meeting on **SEPTEMBER 14, 2026 at 6:00 P.M.** at the following location: Upshur County Courtroom, Temporary Upshur County Courthouse, 150 E. Jefferson Street, Gilmer, Texas 75644.

The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon which any formal action may be taken are listed below. Items do not have to be taken in the same order as shown on this meeting notice. Unless removed from the consent agenda, items identified within the consent agenda will be acted on at one time.

Pursuant to Policy Number 3 of the Upshur County Emergency District No. 1, anyone wishing to address the Board must sign up on the provided sign-up sheet along with the items they wish to speak about prior to the meeting being called to order. Individual members of the public may address the Board for a maximum of 3 minutes on any matter. Members of the public may collectively address the Board for a total of 30 minutes on any single matter. Individuals may address the Board once per item. No formal action, discussion, deliberation, or comment will be made for items not on this agenda. Any individual wishing to speak during a particular agenda item after the public comment section must wait to be recognized by the chairperson. It is the Board's discretion to hear any comment from individuals on agenda items after the public comment section.

1. Call to order and establish quorum.
2. Open and Conduct a PUBLIC HEARING on the proposed tax rate. The Proposed Tax Rate is \$0.0700 per \$100 valuation, which is effectively a 3.24% increase in the tax rate.
3. Close the PUBLIC HEARING.
4. Final budget discussion and consider taking action to adopt the budget for the 2026-2027 fiscal year by RECORD VOTE.
5. Discuss and consider taking action to adopt the tax rate for the 2026-2027 fiscal year by RECORD VOTE.
6. Discuss and consider taking action to adopt the budget amendments for the 2025-2026 fiscal year budget as proposed by Karen Jacks, CPA.
7. Discuss and consider taking action to execute the contracts for the 2026-2027 fiscal year with the rural fire departments and the City of Gilmer, City of Gladewater, and City of Big Sandy.
8. Discuss and consider taking action to hire Brooke Taylor as a professional advisor to help, advise, and write new dispatch Run Cards and the associated static response criteria up to \$8,000.00.

9. Announcements
 - a. Financial Report
 - b. Volunteer Compensation deadline
10. Consent agenda items:
 - a. Consider approving Minutes of August 10, 2026 meeting.
 - b. Consider approving Accounts Payable.
 - c. Consider approving reimbursements to departments for invoices submitted for the month of July 2026.
 - d. Consider approving expenditures, if any, purchased with the ESD's credit card and authorize payment for the credit card invoice due on or before September 12, 2026.
11. Discuss and consider taking action to add a meter and RPZ assembly to the Raintree flush valve, sharing the cost 50% with Pritchett WSC, with Upshur County ESD #1 providing up to \$1,300.00.
12. Discuss and consider taking action to set the date, time, location and catering for the banquet in December.
13. Discuss and consider taking action on any grant acceptance and grant reimbursement requests submitted, including but not limited to:
 - a. East Mountain Training Aid Grant.
14. Discuss and consider taking action on insurance claim payouts.
15. Dismiss meeting at the present location and move to the new ESD #1 office building located at 687 State Hwy. 155 N, Gilmer, Texas 75644 to walk through with all members, discuss preferences and priorities.
16. Reconvene the meeting.
17. Discuss and consider taking action on the desired projects for the office remodel including, but not limited to the following:
 - a. Consider HVAC quotes.
 - b. Consider painting and sheetrock repair.
 - c. Consider carpentry and window repair.
 - d. Consider office furniture.
 - e. Consider cleaning company.
 - f. Consider IT infrastructure.
18. Discuss and consider items for next month's agenda.
19. Adjournment.

UPSHUR COUNTY EMERGENCY
SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 1

By: Kenny Southwell (TR)
Kenny Southwell, President

This Meeting Notice and Agenda was filed with the County Clerk's Office, posted at the Upshur County courthouse bulletin board, and posted on the District's website at least 3 business days prior to the meeting.

UPSHUR COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES
DISTRICT NO. 1 BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Kenny Southwell – President
Scott Mischnick – Vice-President
Raymond Cook - Secretary/Asst. Treasurer
Brian Jones – Treasurer/Asst. Secretary
Garon (Gig) Wade

The Board of Commissioners may retire to Executive Session any time between the meeting's opening and adjournment for any purpose authorized by the Texas Open Meetings Act, including but not limited to: consultation with legal counsel (Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code); discussion of real estate acquisition (Section 551.072); gifts to the District (Section 551.073); personnel matters (Section 551.074); and/or deliberation regarding security devices or security audits (Section 551.073 and 551.089). Action, if any, will be taken in open session.

Board Expenses	
Appraisal District	\$51,772.00
Admin Assistant	\$10,200.00
Bookkeeping / Clerical CPA	\$15,000.00
Audit	\$13,000.00
Office Supplies	\$2,500.00
Legal Services	\$15,000.00
Internet(towers for the radio systems)	\$15,600.00
Uniforms (Nunex and 1 Shirts)	\$10,000.00
Tax Collection - Upshur County	\$3,685.00
Post Office Box/Postal	\$300.00
Tax Tote Advertising	\$750.00
Utilities (phone/internet/towers)	\$0.00
Records Retention	\$9,000.00
Sales Tax Election Firm (May 2027)	\$35,000.00
Fuel (future fuel needs for ESD 12 hr.)	\$8,000.00
Total Board Expenses	\$591,387.00
Financial Loan Payments/Reserves	
East Mountain Station 2 Loan Payment	\$93,000.00
Reserve Funds	
ESD #1 Truck Long Term Payment	\$225,000.00
Total Financial Loans	\$318,000.00
Responder Stipends/Training	
Volunteer Incentive Program	\$65,000.00
Total Training	\$65,000.00

Contract City Departments	
Glinier	\$90,000.00
Big Sandy	\$35,000.00
Gladewater	\$60,500.00
Total Contract City Departments	\$185,500.00
ESD Rural Departments	
Bolita	\$43,000.00
East Mountain	\$43,000.00
Ewell	\$43,000.00
Harmony	\$43,000.00
Pleasant Grove	\$43,000.00
Pritchett	\$43,000.00
Simpsonville	\$43,000.00
West Mountain	\$43,000.00
Total ESD Rural Departments	\$258,000.00
ESD Stations/Assignment	
East Mountain 2	\$11,000.00
Ewell 2	\$11,000.00
Simpsonville 2	\$11,000.00
Total ESD Stations/Assignment	\$33,000.00
Total Department Budgets	\$476,500.00
Part-Time/On-Call Response Pay	
Part-Time Firefighters Pay	\$0.00
On-Call Firefighters Pay	\$60,000.00
Total Response Pay	\$60,000.00

Capital Projects	
Radio radios/apparatus/hvac/char	\$160,000.00
Updates to ESD Headquarters	???
Radio Site Monitoring	\$5,000.00
Grant Reimbursements	\$20,000.00
Total Capital Projects	\$215,000.00
Maintenance	
Truck Maintenance	\$14,400.00
Station Maintenance	\$5,000.00
Pump, Hose & Ladder Testing	\$20,000.00
Air System Maintenance	\$1,500.00
Radio Maintenance	\$10,000.00
Radio License & Renewal	\$4,500.00
Total Maintenance	\$59,400.00
Insurance and Retirement	
Treasurer Insurance (Bond)	\$1,700.00
Property/Casualty/Accident/Sickness	\$145,000.00
Workers Compensation(PT FF)	\$0.00
TESRS (Volunteer Retirement)	\$50,000.00
Total Insurance and Retirement	\$196,700.00

Dispatch RMS Expense	
Upshur County (Dispatch)	\$36,000.00
CAD Central Square	\$1,500.00
Emergency Networking Annual	\$18,270.00
Abolting Software(Active 911) 85 users	\$7,950.00
Total Dispatch Expense	\$63,720.00
Software	
Civic Plus	\$2,730.00
Hover	\$20.00
Google	\$750.00
Software	\$3,500.00
Board Expenses	
Board Expenses	\$101,307.00
Financial Loan Payments/Reserves	\$318,000.00
Total Department Budgets	\$667,500.00
Capital Projects	\$215,000.00
Maintenance	\$59,400.00
Insurance and Retirement	\$196,700.00
Dispatch/ RMS Expense	\$63,720.00
Part-Time/On-Call Response Pay	\$60,000.00
Software	\$3,500.00
Responder Stipends/Training	\$65,000.00
Budget Total	\$1,430,827.00
Total Valuation	2,714,728.434
Projected Income	1,605,294
Proposed budgeted	1,331,329
Funds to Reserves	73,967
Budget to Reserves	266,567

95.00%

1.66/360

73.96/

0.04277225579

TAXPAYER IMPACT STATEMENT
UPSHUR COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #1
MEDIAN-VALUED HOMESTEAD PROPERTY
TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, SECTION 551.043

Texas Government Code 551.043(a) was amended by House Bill 1522 in 2025. This is changing the notice period for government meetings from 72 hours to 3 (three) business days. This amendment also requires that any meeting at which a governmental body will discuss or adopt a budget for the governmental body must include a **Taxpayer Impact Statement** for the median-valued homestead property, a comparison of the property tax bill in dollars pertaining to the property for the current fiscal year to an estimate of the property tax bill in dollars for the same property for the upcoming fiscal year. These changes took effect on September 1, 2025.

The Upshur County Emergency Services District #1 is considering the adoption of a property tax rate of \$0.07 per \$100 valuation for the 2026 tax year and 2027 fiscal year. This rate is 3.24% higher than the no-new revenue rate (NNR) of \$0.0678 per \$100 valuation.

Fiscal Year (Tax Year)	Median-Valued Homestead	Tax Rate per \$100 Valuation		Property Tax Bill
FY 2025-2026 (Tax Year 2025)	\$205,555	Adopted 2025 Tax Rate:	\$0.07	\$143.85
Estimated FY 2026-2027 (Tax Year 2026)	\$205,215	Balanced Budget Funded at the Estimated 2026 No New Revenue Tax Rate:	\$0.0678	\$139.13
Estimated FY 2026-2027 (Tax Year 2026)	\$205,215	Proposed Budget Funded at the Proposed 2026 Tax Rate:	\$0.07	\$143.64

These estimates in this Impact Statement are valid only for the proposed budget and proposed tax rate that the Upshur County Emergency Services District #1 will discuss at its meeting on September 14, 2026. The proposed budget and the proposed tax rate may each be amended by Upshur County Emergency Services District #1 Board of Commissioners before the final adoption. A copy of the proposed budget is attached hereto.