

**MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 25, 2026, MEETING OF THE
HARRIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 17**

A public meeting for **August 25, 2026**, was duly called by the Board of Commissioners of **HARRIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 17**, which was held at the District's Administration Building located at **10410 Airline Drive, Houston, Texas**.

1. Call meeting to order.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 A.M. by **BILL BLASDELL**. Those commissioners present were **BILL BLASDELL, EVERETT GRIFFIN, ROBIN HAYSLIP, KENNETH ADCOCK**, and **DON GILKEY**. Also present were Members of the Chief's staff, District legal counsel Thomas Velez of Coveler & Peeler, P.C., the District's Administrative Assistant Becky Cox and Katie Norris from RIT Financial Services.

2. To receive public comment and conduct the public hearing/open forum to allow interested parties to address the Board of Commissioners and be heard regarding the proposed property tax rate setting.

The Board opened the public hearing related to the District's 2026 tax rate setting process.

3. Conclude Public Hearing on Tax Increase.

There being no public comment on the tax process, a Motion to conclude the Public Hearing was made by **MR. BLASDELL** and seconded by **MR. ADCOCK**. Motion carried by a vote of 4 to 0, and the hearing was adjourned at 9:39 a.m.

4. To consider and adopt the District's 2027 Budget.

The Board next reviewed the proposed 2027 Budget. A Motion to adopt the 2027 Budget as presented was made by **MR. BLASDELL** and seconded by **MR. GRIFFIN**. Motion carried by a vote of 4 to 0.

5. To adopt the District's 2026 Ad Valorem Tax Rate for Debt Service.

A Motion to set the Ad Valorem Tax Rate for Debt Service of \$0.00 per \$100 property valuation was made by **MR. BLASDELL** and seconded by **MR. ADCOCK**. Motion carried by a vote of 4 to 0.

6. To adopt District's 2026 Ad Valorem Tax Rate for Maintenance and Operations.

A Motion to adopt the 2026 Ad Valorem Tax Rate for Maintenance and Operations of \$0.10 per \$100 property valuation was made by **MR. BLASDELL** and seconded by **MR. GRIFFIN**. Motion carried by a vote of 4 to 0.

7. To adopt the District's 2026 total Ad Valorem Tax Rate.

A Motion was made by **MR. BLASDELL** to adopt the 2026 total Ad Valorem Tax Rate of \$0.10 per \$100 property valuation, effectively a 2.13% increase in the tax rate. This was seconded by **MR. ADCOCK**. The Motion carried by a vote of 4 to 0.

8. To cancel the District's November 3, 2026 tax election in accordance with Texas Election Code 2.08.

No action was taken by the Board.

9. To receive public comment related to regular agenda items.

The Board then opened the floor to public comment, though no comments were forthcoming.

10. To approve the Minutes of prior meetings.

Motion to approve the July 28, 2026 minutes was made by **MR. BLASDELL** and seconded by **MR. ADCOCK**. Motion carried by a vote of 4 to 0.

11. To review and act on financial matters, including financial report, investments, Investment Policy, accounts, depository security, resolutions for account access, and to pay bills.

The financial report was presented by Katie Norris of RIT Financial. A Motion was made by **MR. BLASDELL** and seconded by **MR. ADCOCK** to accept the financial report as presented, and approve payment of bills included therein. Motion carried by a vote of 4 to 0.

12. To review, discuss and take action regarding amendments to the District's 2026 budget.

Chief Cone explained the need to create additional line items in the current fiscal year budget to cover finances related to TIFMAS deployments. A Motion to accept these changes was made by **MR. BLASDELL** and seconded by **MR. GRIFFIN**. Motion carried by a vote of 4 to 0.

13. To review and discuss and take action regarding adoption, amendment and explanation of District policies, procedures and standard operating guidelines.

No action was taken.

14. To review and take action regarding purchase requests by the Department, including but not limited to capital assets, apparatus/vehicles, equipment, tools and communications equipment.

Chief Cone advised the Board of the need to purchase three (3) new RIT-Paks for a cost of \$13,203.67 from MES. A Motion to approve this purchase was made by **MR. BLASDELL** and seconded by **MR. ADCOCK**. Motion carried by a vote of 4 to 0.

15. To review and act on disposition of surplus and/or salvage property.

Chief Cone stated the only salvage/surplus at this time is some scrap metal that will be sold. A motion to approve the sale of the scrap metal was made by **MR. BLASDELL** and seconded by **MR. GRIFFIN**. Motion carried by a vote of 4 to 0.

16. To review and act on District obligations, including retiring obligations or incurring obligations for construction, real estate, vehicles, and equipment.

No action was taken by the Board.

17. To receive a report from Fire Chief on Fire Department activity.

Chief Cone and members of the department made verbal and multi-media reports regarding the District's current staffing levels, recent and upcoming community and public relations events, and administrative and operations matters. The Board was advised that 2,984 hours of training took place during the month of August, with 21,560 hours completed during the year so far. Vehicles in the District's fleet were out of service for a total of twelve (12) days during the month due to repairs and maintenance matters. Similarly, repairs at maintenance to District stations and equipment was addressed at a total monthly cost of \$21,245.75 including parts and labor. No action taken by the Board.

18. To review, discuss and take action regarding matters related to the District's Strategic Plan.

The Board was advised that clerical updates to the drafted strategic plan were completed. A Motion to accept the Strategic Plan as presented was made by **MR. BLASDELL** and seconded by **Mr. Adcock**. Motion carried by a vote of 4 to 0

19. To review, discuss and act on any issues related to the repairs, improvement, and construction of District facilities, including engaging construction services, change orders and construction payments.

Mr. Slattery reported on current construction projects, noting that construction in Alton was complete, with closing documents to be delivered this week. He also advised the waterline project was in progress with only valve trimming still outstanding. The final payment for that project would be presented after the project was complete.

- 20. To review and act on personnel matters, including action on hiring, retention, policies, duties, and benefits.**

No action was taken by the Board.

- 21. To review and act on real estate matters, including but not limited to purchase, sale, platting, or permits.**

No action was taken by the Board.

- 22. To review and act on any matters regarding dispatch, communications, or mutual aid agreements with other agencies.**

The Board was given updates related to CAD and dispatch updates with Harris County. No action was taken by the Board.

- 23. To meet in Closed Session pursuant to Government Code §551.071 to consult with legal counsel regarding pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offers or on matters which require confidentiality under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas and Tax Code §323.3022 to discuss sales tax matters.**

The Board did not convene in closed session under this item.

- 24. To meet in Closed Session pursuant to Government Code §551.074 to discuss personnel matters.**

The Board did not convene in closed session under this item.

- 25. To meet in Closed Session pursuant to Government Code §551.072 to deliberate regarding real estate matters.**

The Board did not convene in closed session under this item.

- 26. To review, discuss and take action regarding matters discussed in the Closed Session.**

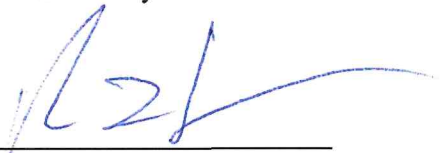
No action was taken by the Board.

- 25. To set the date of the next regular meeting.**

The September regular meeting will be held on September 24, 2026, at 9:30 AM. The mid-month bill pay meeting will be held on September 15, 2026 at 9:30 AM.

26. Adjournment.

There being no further business brought before the Board, a motion to adjourn was made by **MR. BLASDELL** and seconded by **MR. GRIFFIN**. Motion carried by a vote of 4 to 0. The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.



Secretary of Board