

JOINT STATEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: August 18, 2026

Location: Perryton, TX

Joint Public Statement on the Future of Ambulance Services in Ochiltree County

The City of Perryton, County of Ochiltree, and the Ochiltree County Hospital District announce a unified plan for emergency medical services which includes ambulance services (“EMS”). Under this plan, the Hospital District will assume full operational control, management and financial responsibilities of EMS.

The Hospital District has operated and managed EMS since 2025 under an interlocal agreement among the City, the County, and the Hospital District, under which each party paid one-third of EMS costs each year. The City, County, and Hospital District will terminate the existing interlocal agreement for EMS, transfer all ambulances, equipment and other assets of EMS, operations and management of EMS, including all financial responsibilities to the Hospital District.

In order for the Hospital District to pay for the cost of fully funding EMS each year, the Hospital District will have to raise their tax rate by \$0.08. To offset this tax increase and as a result of not having to budget and fund one-third of the cost of EMS, the City of Perryton and County of Ochiltree agree to make a good-faith effort to reduce their current tax rates by \$0.03 each for the 2027 budget.

The City of Perryton, County of Ochiltree, and the Ochiltree County Hospital District have worked together to reach this solution because it is the most effective way to maintain high-quality EMS response and plan for future needs. It places daily management with the Hospital District, who is best positioned to run EMS and aligns funding with the entity directly accountable for outcomes. A single, transparent EMS budget and oversight structure at the Hospital District will support financial clarity and long-term sustainability, while City and County taxpayers will see corresponding tax relief.

We appreciate our EMS professionals and the community’s support as we implement this transition. Additional information, including timelines and public reporting updates, will be shared as the process moves forward.

