

July 28, 2026

Hunt County Judge, Stovall
Hunt County Commissioners Court

My public comment, is in reference to the 7/7/26 and 7/14/26 Commissioners Court sessions. In which, it was stated by Mr Ray, Hunt County Civil Attorney, that the ESD petition, drawn up on 5/8/26 would have to be reviewed for any Hawk Cove signatures. Judge Stovall asked several questions regarding Hawk Cove being removed from the ESD and its mapping. It was stated by Attorney Ray, on 7/14/26 Commissioners Session that "Hawk Cove Council was in active and would be cut out of the ESD and its mapping." As Mayor Pro Tem of Hawk Cove, our Council was not INACTIVE, it was placed in a position of INABILITY to ACT by denial of placement on our Agenda.

The ESD and the termination of QVFD have been known by our Police Chief/City Manager McKeehan since January 2026 and NOT one time was it placed on our Agendas; in the 6 1/2 months that it had been known. Not, even after the hiring of Angela Massey, May 2026, who is still on the Board of Directors of QVFD, and hired as City Secretary of the City of Hawk Cove. Massey was not brought before council upon her application or placement by McKeehan. Our local government has been changed to City Manager form of government, beginning back in 2020, without the election process, and done via ordinances further in acted in 2023. Hunt County Voters Admin can attest.

Our City Attorney, Ronna Hodges was present in the 7/7/26 session and remained silent in her seat. She did not address the Commissioner Court in regards to Hawk Cove's position during public comments or, asked to be placed on the Agenda to speak on the City's behalf.

I, as Mayor Pro Tem, of the City of Hawk Cove, was not inactive in my voice to notify my Mayor, Darren Evans and City Secretary, Angela Massey via email 6/24/26 with a follow up 6/25/26, with delivery receipt, and requested a Special Session be held by 7/6/26 regarding the ESD, due to the petition deadline; in order for our citizens to be able to vote on the November 2026 ballot. There was also, another council person who sent in a request for Special Session on this same subject. Both of our request went unanswered.

Our multiple Fire Chief's, that service our community, and Fire Chief President of Hunt County, were denied their request to be placed on our, Hawk Cove Agenda's, so that council could interact and ask questions. Instead, they presented themselves via public comments and passed out handouts to inform council. We as a council were not allowed to act on the information received, as it was a public comment. I personally, out of concern for my neighbors, and community, posted on my Political Facebook page, our multiple Fire Chief's written public comments to our City Secretary, Mayor, and Council and that of our Commissioner, Garry Smith, from January 2026 to our City Secretary, Mayor Spence, at that

time, and to our Council. These men did their best to reach our community and notify us of the changes. Especially, Quinlan Volunteer Fire, who our community had and still has a contract with even though they are inoperable, and their cease of operations that was given to Commissioners Court back in January 2026.

There is a concern, of the most recent 7/21/26 Hawk Cove Council session, available on YouTube, of our Mayor, Darren Evans stating that the ESD is on the ballot to be voted on. He also goes onto state the "rhetoric" surrounding the ESD, and its inaccuracy, that are too many to list. He says he is going to publish his comments by the end of the week being 7/24/26. As of the writing of this public comment, I have received nothing via email nor, is there any public post on his community facebook page, that he is the administrator for. Mayor Evans does not administer a public political page. The statements that were made by Mayor Evans are concerning to our citizens and our council. They are also contradictory to what our Commissioners Court, Judge, Fire Chief Biggers, and his position as President of the Hunt County Fire Association have stated publicly, verbally, and in writing.

Any clarity from our Commissioners Court and Fire Chief Biggers, in regards to Hawk Cove's current fire services, with the termination, and inoperability of Quinlan Volunteer Fire, who Hawk Cove Administration and City Attorney, Ronna Hodges, has stated, is still in a contract with and has contracted a piggy back with Tawakoni Fire unbeknownst to our City Council. Concerns regarding the ESD future, if passed, and with an established board, the future with Hawk Cove being cut out, and the actions to be taken on petitioning and fire protections services contracting. The other concern on the contracting, of our volunteer fire department services, with the ESD, and the fire protection of Hawk Cove. Your comments and information are welcomed by our citizens and community. If an Agenda item can be placed on your next or, upcoming Commissioners Court session, in regards to these concerned questions would be greatly appreciated.

Respectfully,

Rebecca Bernardi
Councilwoman Place #1
Mayor Pro Tem 2019-2021
2025-26
City of Hawk Cove

Hawk Cove