



Wylie City Council

AGENDA REPORT

Department: Fire Account Code: _____
Prepared By: Brandon Blythe

Subject

Wylie Fire Rescue Life Save Award.

Recommendation

Presentation.

Discussion

On February 4, 2026, Jill Walker was working at Capital Title of Texas in Wylie when she suffered a sudden cardiac arrest. In those first critical moments, her coworkers immediately recognized the emergency, activated 911, and began CPR—initiating the first and most vital links in the American Heart Association Chain of Survival. The call was answered by Paige Gentry and dispatched by Christiana Gomez, who ensured a rapid response. Ms. Gentry provided clear, calm instructions to guide the caller through high-quality CPR, sustaining life-saving efforts until responders arrived.

Medic 142 arrived on scene within four minutes of the 911 call. Firefighter EMT Josh Ludeman and Firefighter Paramedic Daniel Shepherd immediately resumed CPR and initiated advanced cardiac life support. At the time, the city was managing a high call volume, and no fire apparatus was available to respond. Recognizing the urgency, Fire Investigator William Sullivan, a paramedic who was nearby, responded to assist.

Together, the three responders worked seamlessly to deliver critical interventions. They secured an advanced airway, established intraosseous access, and delivered defibrillation to treat a lethal cardiac rhythm. Within 15 minutes, Ms. Walker achieved stabilization and was prepared for rapid transport.

Battalion Chief Matthew Tripp arrived to assume command of the scene, ensuring coordination and continuity of operations. Additionally, a fire engine from Murphy Fire Rescue responded to a mutual aid request. Firefighters Beny Cano and Shaun Jackson assisted with ongoing patient care during transport. She was transported to Medical City Plano, an ECMO-capable facility, representing the next link in the Chain of Survival—advanced and post-cardiac arrest care.

This incident is a powerful example of how survival from cardiac arrest depends on a system working together. From early recognition and bystander CPR, to dispatcher-assisted instructions, rapid response, advanced life support, and hospital-based care—every link in the chain played a critical role.

Because of this coordinated effort, a critically ill patient is now back home with her family and has returned to work. This outcome reflects the dedication, training, and teamwork of everyone involved—and reinforces the importance of a strong, connected Chain of Survival in our community.