

MINUTES

COUNTY OF ROCKWALL EMERGENCY SERVICES CORPORATION

ROCKWALL HISTORIC COURTHOUSE 101 EAST RUSK ROCKWALL, TEXAS 75087 972-882-2840

Regular Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 02, 2015 5:00 p.m.

GENERAL BOARD MEETING

Board Members Present:

Barry Brooks (Heath)
Steve Hatfield (McLendon Chisholm)
Dennis Lewis (Rockwall)
Lorne Megyesi (Fate)
Janet Nichol (Royse City)
Jim Pruitt (Rockwall)
Cliff Sevier (Rck. County)

Board Members Absent:

Debby Bobbitt (Rowlett)
Dana Lawson (Mobile City)

1. Call to order

David Sweet (Rck. County)

The meeting was called to order with the above mentioned board members being present and absent.

Discuss / act on approval of the minutes from the October 28, 2015 ES Corp. Board Meeting

Board Member Dennis Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Board Member Janet Nichol seconded the motion, which passed unanimously of those present.

3. Discuss / act on the ES Corp. Treasurer's Report(s)

David Peek, Treasurer, provided a brief, verbal report to the board, indicating that all entities are current on payments due to the Corporation, and the Corporation is current on its payments due as well. Board Member Cliff Sevier made a motion to accept the report as presented. Board Member Barry Brooks seconded the motion, which passed unanimously of those present.

4. Discuss / act on Emergency Management Program Report(s)

Joe DeLane gave a report regarding a grant his office is working on. A public survey is underway concerning the Mitigation planning project that is underway. His office is currently working to complete the medical annex now. This will be presented to the cities and the county for review, approval/signatures at some point once it is completed. Faith

based organizations will be involved in these planning efforts too. Currently there are about 86 CERT volunteers, and they have logged about 3,100 hours of time. Judge Sweet asked Mr. DeLane to brief the board on the emergency management plan. Mr. DeLane explained that Rockwall has a multijurisdictional plan right now, and we are very lucky to have that in place. He offered that he is willing to visit each of the cities to brief the various city councils on his role. He mentioned that the last time he did this was 5 years ago, so it is likely time to do this again since elected officials change over time.

5. Discuss / act on engagement letter with Rutherford, Taylor & Company, P.C. for performance of FY 2015 audit of the ES Corporation

Mr. Peek explained that this is a standard engagement letter, and he recommended that the board consider authorizing Judge Sweet, President of the ES Corporation, to sign it. Board Member Janet Nichol made a motion to do so (authorize Sweet to sign the engagement letter). Board Member Cliff Sevier seconded the motion, which passed unanimously of those present.

Board Members Absent:

Dana Lawson (Mobile City)

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:12 p.m.

AMBULANCE SERVICES BOARD MEETING

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Board Members Present:

Barry Brooks (Heath)
Steve Hatfield (McLendon Chisholm)

Lorne Megyesi (Fate)

Dennis Lewis (Rockwall)

Janet Nichol (Royse City)

Jim Pruitt (Rockwall)

Cliff Sevier (Rck. County)

David Sweet (Rck. County)

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Sweet at 5:12 p.m.

including any road construction impacts

Mitch Ownby of Medic Rescue provided a verbal update regarding his written, monthly reports. He explained that they continue to shift district 3 to the east, explaining that this will change when FM551 opens. He shared that collections have been pretty standard recently, and he briefed the board on recent response times. Board Member Brooks provided brief comments regarding response times to Heath. No action was taken

2. Discuss / act on monthly reports from Medic Rescue related to EMS contract compliance.

concerning this agenda item.

 3. Hear update from Medic Rescue, the current emergency ambulance service provider on contract with the ES Corporation, regarding possible sale of or partnership(s) associated with the company, and take any action necessary.

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Leslie Mueller with AMR (American Medical Response) came forth, again introducing herself to the board as she did back in October. She explained that she is the President of the Southwest Region of AMR. Tim Wolf of Medic Rescue briefed the board on negotiations with AMR, indicating that AMR now has a contract to purchase Medic Rescue; however, the sale is predicated on extension of the ambulance services contract with the County of Rockwall ES Corporation. He explained that Medic Rescue is ready and eager to begin negotiating with the ES Corporation at this point. President/Judge Sweet asked about employees, specifically inquiring as to who all will remain at Medic Rescue. Mr. Wolf assured the board that all existing employees at Medic Rescue would be retained. Sweet asked what sort of timeframe the board has to act on negotiations, specifically what deadline is in place. Mr. Ownby answered that no deadline is in place at this point. Board Member Pruitt of Rockwall asked if this would be a brand new contract with new terms or simply an extension of the existing contract. Mr. Wolf indicated that it would be a new contract with new terms. Board Member Hatfield of McClendon Chisholm asked if the deal would be dependent on an extension of the contract or a "request for proposals" (RFP) process. Mr. Wolf indicated that the deal would be "dead" if an RFP process were introduced. Board Member Lewis of Rockwall asked if ambulance dispatch would be centralized elsewhere, or if it would remain here local. Mr. Wolf indicated that it would be up to the Board to decide on that matter, clarifying that the decision regarding location of dispatch would have both a financial and technological component to it. Pruitt asked if exclusivity would be part of the deal, and Sweet asked for clarification regarding what the board should be working on at this point. Mr. Wolf indicated that the various cities passing 'exclusivity' type ordinances would be part of the deal, in a way that would be satisfactory to all concerned. Mrs. Mueller indicated that they have had meetings to gauge the needs, including evaluating changes in health care. AMR has Dallas offices, with operations in surrounding counties. She explained that AMR is not looking to change the operations in Rockwall, only bring in new resources. It was again stated that an "RFP" process would not allow the deal to make sense, so it would likely not come to fruition if that were to happen. Discussion took place regarding possibly forming a committee of the board to think through possible terms of a new contract, suggesting that the parties the move forward in 30-60 days to begin contract discussions. Sweet asked Steve Athey, EMS Consultant to the Board (Healthcare Visions) to speak a bit about the process and timing from his perspective. Mr. Athey indicated that various options are still possible, stating that the board has time to work towards a March timeframe and decide whether or not it wants to do an "RFP." After various comments, indication was given that the ES Corporation will select a technical subcommittee to discuss the board's preferences and desires, while Mr. Ownby, Mr. Wolf and AMR work through their own issues, with an ultimate deadline of March 15. Pruitt of Rockwall indicated that if the cities do not have a desire to consider exclusivity, then these discussions do not even need to move ahead. Brooks of Heath expressed a desire to have a very good idea of what the contract will look like. Hatfield of McLendon Chisholm expressed that he would like for the issues the board has had with Medic Rescue to be dealt with, including private transfers. Ed Thatcher, City Manager of Heath, asked if each of the city councils has addressed transfers. Michael Kovacs, City Manager of Fate, indicated that he does not feel the need to approach his Council in order for negotiations to begin/progress. Various comments were made concerning "exclusivity" of ambulance service provision and whether or not that would be part of these negotiations or any future contract. Sweet indicated that he believes some level of non-emergency service provision will need to be addressed, and he does not believe that the City of Rockwall will agree to

exclusivity like perhaps some of the other entities may. Mr. Kovacs of Fate suggested that "exclusivity" may need to be evaluated regarding its effect on cost.

4. Discuss/act on the contract for emergency transportation and ambulance services between Medic Rescue and the Rockwall County Emergency Services Corporation, including forming a sub-committee to review the contract for any recommended changes, and take any action necessary

Mr. Rick Crowley, City Manager of Rockwall, suggested that other terms of a potential contract, such as service expectations, will have to be addressed as well as the topic of a medical director. Pruitt of Rockwall asked if each entity needs to again speak with its own city council on the topic of exclusivity. Janet Nichol, Royse City Board Member, indicated that Royse City's attorney has not changed his mind regarding exclusivity, indicating that their city has no problems with Medic Rescue, though. Sweet asked Mr. Crowley if he recalls how past subcommittees of the ES Corporation have worked. Mr. Crowley indicated that the elected officials would need to serve on any subcommittee with staff being available to provide support if/when requested of them. Some discussion took place regarding what legal counsel may be needed concerning a new contract as well as if an ambulance-related consultant would be needed moving forward. Lewis of Rockwall expressed that he believes the board should be able to audit the EMS company because it has a right to be privy to its financials. Mrs. Mary Smith, Assistant City Manager/Finance Director for the City of Rockwall, suggested that the board might search for a regional firm that is willing to conduct a business audit. Some discussion took place regarding whether a future meeting would be held with only a subcommittee of the board (less than a quorum) or with the full board and whether or not Executive Session could take place regarding 'contract negotiations.' Sweet indicated a desire to have all entities be part of the process as the board moves forward, and he indicated that he will schedule a meeting for the board to discuss this after the holidays.

5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COUNTY OF ROCKWALL EMERGENCY SERVICES CORPORATION ON THIS THE 27th DAY OF

JANUARY, 2016.

David Sweet

County Judge and President, County of Rockwall **ESC Board of Directors**

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Kristy Cole

Assistant Secretary, Board of Directors -

County of Rockwall ESC