



MINUTES

COUNTY OF ROCKWALL EMERGENCY SERVICES CORPORATION

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

Regular Board Meeting

Wednesday, May 27, 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)
David Sweet (Rck. County)

Board Members Absent:

Debby Bobbitt (Rowlett)
Dana Lawson (Mobile City)

* arrived at 5:07 p.m. as noted below

GENERAL BOARD MEETING

1. Call to order

President of the Board, David Sweet, called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. with the above noted board members being present and absent.

2. Discuss / act on approval of the minutes from the March 25, 2015 regular ES Corp. Board Meeting

Dennis Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes. Lorne Megyesi seconded the motion, which passed unanimously of those present (Brooks, Bobbitt and Lawson absent).

3. Discuss / act on the ES Corp. Treasurer's Reports

David Peek, Treasurer, briefed the board on his monthly reports for the past two months (since the April board meeting had been cancelled due to inclement weather). After the report was presented, Steve Hatfield moved to accept the Treasurer's reports. Cliff Sevier seconded the motion, which passed unanimously of those present (Brooks, Bobbitt and Lawson absent).

- 48 4. Appointment with representative of Rutherford, Taylor & Co. PC to hear / act on FY 2014
49 audit report of the ES Corporation
50

51 **Mr. Lake of Rutherford, Taylor and Co. came forth and briefed the board members on**
52 **results of the audit of the ES Corp. that his company performed for FY2014. He generally**
53 **indicated that an ‘unmodified report,’ which is the best that can be received, has been**
54 **issued with regards to this audit.**
55

56 **Board Member Barry Brooks arrived at this point in the meeting (5:07 p.m.).**
57

58 **Mr. Lake went on to report that no internal control problems were uncovered during the**
59 **audit, and there were no compliance issues found. After his report, Lewis made a motion**
60 **to accept the audit report as presented. Sevier seconded the motion, which passed by a**
61 **unanimous vote of those present (Bobbitt and Lawson absent).**
62

- 63 5. Discuss / act on report concerning joint Law Enforcement Firearms Training Facility
64

65 **Chief Mark Moeller of the Rockwall Police Department came forth and briefed the board**
66 **on this agenda item, indicating that the storage facility installation is now totally**
67 **complete, and the various law enforcement agencies have begun storing their items**
68 **there. He reported that, despite the excessive rain we have had, no known leaks have**
69 **occurred at the facility since the roof was repaired, and no storm damage has happened.**
70 **The board took no formal action concerning Moeller’s report.**
71

- 72 6. Discuss / act on Emergency Management Program Reports
73

74 **County Emergency Management Coordinator, Joe DeLane, came forth and briefed the**
75 **board on his office’s reports for the last two months. He shared at about 30 “NIXLE”**
76 **notifications (public text alerts) are typically sent out, per year, by his office, and twenty-**
77 **one notifications have been sent out by his staff so far this calendar year because of all**
78 **of the rain/storm events we have been experiencing. He noted that in the recent ‘high**
79 **winds’ event, some damage was experienced at The Harbor boat docks, and the local**
80 **YMCA sustained some storm damage. Also, some homes in the Lake Rockwall Estates**
81 **neighborhood located in the City of Rockwall have sustained some flood damage from**
82 **Wallace Lake. He explained that, after the county has a Mitigation Plan written, approved**
83 **and in place, the county will evaluate the possibility of some mitigation grant funding;**
84 **however, we do not qualify for that type of funding until we have an approved plan. He**
85 **explained that he is still waiting on official documentation showing the county is**
86 **approved for a grant that will allow a consultant to be hired to write and submit the**
87 **county’s mitigation plan for approval. He explained that the timeline will be about one**
88 **year to write the plan, another six months or so for the State to approve it, and still**
89 **another six months thereafter for FEMA to approve it, so it is a very long process. He**
90 **explained that once the grant funds are received and the mitigation plan process actually**
91 **begins, he will be forming a multi-agency / multi-discipline planning team to assist with**
92 **developing / writing the plan and contributing input. Also, he is still awaiting about**
93 **\$38,000 in Community Readiness Initiative (CRI) grant funding, which will be used for**
94 **supplies, including upgrading generators and purchasing more up-to-date laptop**
95 **computers. The board took no formal action concerning Mr. DeLane’s report.**
96

- 97 7. Adjournment
98

99 The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.
100
101

102
103 **AMBULANCE SERVICES BOARD MEETING**
104

105 **Board Members Present:**
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107 **Barry Brooks (Heath)**
108 **Steve Hatfield (McLendon Chisholm)**
109 **Dennis Lewis (Rockwall)**
110 **Lorne Megyesi (Fate)**
111 **Janet Nichol (Royse City)**
112 **Jim Pruitt (Rockwall)**
113 **Cliff Sevier (Rck. County)**
114 **David Sweet (Rck. County)**
115

Board Members Absent:

Dana Lawson (Mobile City)

- 116
117 1. Call to order
118

119 The meeting was called to order at 4:20 p.m. with the aforementioned board members
120 being present and absent from the meeting.
121

- 122 2. Discuss / act on reports from Medic Rescue related to EMS contract compliance,
123 including road construction impacts
124

125 Mitch Ownby of Medic Rescue came forth and briefed the board on EMS-related reports
126 for the months of March and April. He indicated that his company participated in a mock
127 mass casualty incident drill in Hunt County recently. Also, they assisted with some
128 Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training for citizens participating in that
129 program. He reported that response times, billing and collections were all favorable. Mr.
130 Ownby shared that the City of Rockwall's 9-1-1 Dispatch recently implemented "Smart 9-
131 1-1," which will help provide great information to first responders during an emergency.
132 He shared that members of the public must register themselves and share whatever
133 information they wish to make available to first responders in order to participate in and
134 potentially get value from this new dispatch program. After his report, Hatfield made a
135 motion to approve the EMS reports for March and April as presented. Nichol seconded
136 the motion, which passed unanimously of those present (Lawson absent).
137

- 138 3. Discuss / act on ambulance service related exclusivity provisions in place among
139 member cities
140

141 David Sweet began discussion of this item, indicating that the City of Rockwall has an
142 ordinance in place that essentially equates to an 'exclusivity' arrangement regarding
143 ambulance service provision in its city. Specifically, no EMS company, other than the
144 one under contract with the County of Rockwall ES Corporation, may conduct
145 emergency or non-emergency transports within the city. Also, though it is not a
146 requirement of the contract that is in place between the ES Corp. and Medic Rescue,
147 participating jurisdictions are 'encouraged' within the contract to pass similar exclusivity
148 ordinances. He explained that Royse City, Fate, and McLendon Chisholm, all do not have

a similar ordinance in place; however, McLendon Chisholm's city attorney is currently reviewing a possible ordinance for city council's consideration. The City of Heath expressed that they are unsure if they do or do not have such an ordinance in place currently, but they will check to see. It was indicated that Presbyterian Hospital in Rockwall has been questioning Rockwall's exclusivity ordinance, and has requested that it be lifted / revoked. Lengthy discussion ensued regarding the ordinance, including its impacts on EMS companies (other than Medic Rescue), the potential financial impact its revocation may have on Medic Rescue, as well as the impact its revocation may have on the requested subsidy amount that may come forth to the ESC Board from Medic Rescue in future years. It was explained that Medic Rescue makes money off of non-emergency EMS transports, which ends up saving the ES Corporation money in the form of lower subsidy requests to the ES Corp. Board. Board Member Lewis explained that Rockwall's ordinance was passed years ago when the City of Rockwall did not have a hospital located within its city limits. Ed Thatcher, City Manager of Heath, suggested that perhaps a 'first right of refusal' provision could be put in place for non-emergency hospital transfers to satisfy Presby's concerns. Martin Ramirez of Medic Rescue spoke briefly, explaining that about two years ago, Presby Rockwall Hospital chose Medic Rescue as its primary ambulance provider and entered into a contract with the company, similar to the one Medic Rescue has in place with Lakepointe Hospital in Rowlett. He generally indicated that, up until recently, communication between Medic Rescue and Presby and within the Presby Hospital itself was not optimal; however, Medic Rescue recently met with Presby and feels that communication has improved. He explained that they receive about 100-120 calls per month from Presby requesting transports, and that Medic Rescue either responds or coordinates response from an alternate EMS company on everyone's behalf should Medic Rescue be otherwise unavailable to do so. Mayor Pruitt of Rockwall explained that the ordinance in place basically creates a monopoly, and Presby wants the freedom to call whomever they want to conduct transports. Sweet explained that Presby's space is limited, so they need to be able to transport patients as soon as possible to free up beds. Lewis cautioned that Rockwall doing away with its city ordinance may result in Medic Rescue's future subsidy amount requests increasing. Steve Athey of Healthcare Visions, EMS consultant to the board, pointed out that Medic Rescue's subsidy amounts requested for the last three years have gone down monetarily, which has mainly been due to an increase in call volume in the county. He shared that about fifty percent of Medic Rescue's 'business' is transports. Board Member Nichol of Royse City explained that their city attorney has a huge issue with passing an exclusivity ordinance in their city because he believes it creates a 'monopoly.' Mr. Athey shared that the 'worst case' impact on Medic Rescue, should ALL transport business go to other companies, would be about \$900,000 in lost revenue to Medic Rescue. Sweet and Mr. Crowley (Rockwall City Manager) both indicated that the ER Director at Presby, Dr. Crowley, thinks Medic Rescue is a good company; however, he would like to have some flexibility. Mitch Ownby of Medic Rescue explained that the City of Heath does in fact have an exclusivity ordinance in place, and he estimated that one out of every 4-5 calls for transport does get passed off to another company. He urged that these types of ordinances are in the best interest of the ES Corporation, and he shared that these sorts of ordinances are not unheard of. He explained that all fourteen cities that are part of the MedStar system in and around Fort Worth, for example, all have these types of ordinances in place.

After the lengthy discussion, the board took no formal action concerning this agenda item.

200 President Sweet then read the below listed discussion items into the public record before
201 recessing the meeting into Executive Session at 5:55 p.m.

202
203 **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

204
205 THE COUNTY OF ROCKWALL EMERGENCY SERVICES CORPORATION WILL RECESS INTO
206 EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING MATTERS AS AUTHORIZED BY CHAPTER 551
207 OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE:

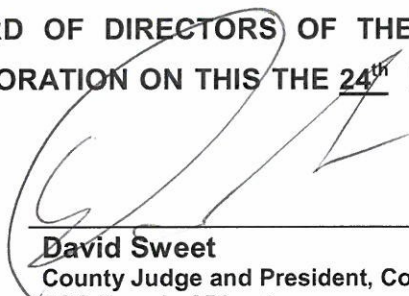
- 208
209 1. Discussion regarding legal suit/claim: Jack R. Athey vs. Rockwall Police Chief Mark
210 Moeller, Rockwall County Emergency Services Corporation, and the City of Rockwall
211 pursuant to Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney)
212
213 2. Reconvene public meeting and take any action as a result of Executive Session
214

215 Sweet called the meeting back to order at 5:59 p.m. and announced that no action would
216 be taken as a result of Executive Session.

- 217
218 3. Adjournment
219

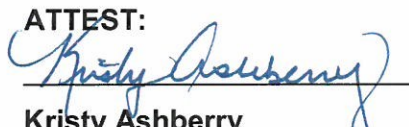
220 The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

221
222
223 PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COUNTY OF
224 ROCKWALL EMERGENCY SERVICES CORPORATION ON THIS THE 24th DAY OF JUNE,
225 2015.

226
227
228 
229 _____
230 David Sweet

231 County Judge and President, County of Rockwall
232 ESC Board of Directors

233 ATTEST:

234 
235 _____
236 Kristy Ashberry

237 Assistant Secretary, Board of Directors -
238 County of Rockwall ESC

