MINUTES

COUNTY OF ROCKWALL EMERGENCY SERVICES CORPORATION

ROCKWALL HISTORIC COURTHOUSE 101 EAST RUSK ROCKWALL, TEXAS 75087 972-204-6000

Regular Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 28, 2018 5:00 p.m.

GENERAL BOARD MEETING

Board Members Present:
David Billings (Fate)
Debby Bobbitt (Rowlett)
Dennis Lewis (Rockwall) - (arrived at 5:16 p.m.)
Lorne Megyesi (Fate)
Janet Nichol (Royse City)
Jim Pruitt (Rockwall)
Cliff Sevier (Rck. County)
Robert Steinhagen (McLendon-Chisholm)
David Sweet (Rck. County)

Board Members Absent:
Brian Berry (Heath)
Dana Lawson (Mobile City)

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1. Call to order

David Sweet called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. with the above listed board members being present and absent.

2. Discuss / act on approval of the minutes from the Jan. 24, 2018 ESC board meeting

Board Member Sevier moved to approve the minutes as presented. Board Member Nichol seconded the motion, which passed unanimously of those present (Berry, Lawson and Lewis absent).

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

David Peek, Treasurer of the ES Corp., came forth and provided brief comments to the board pertaining to his monthly report. He indicated that the audit of the Corporation for FY2017 starts tomorrow. Board Member Billings moved to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Board Member Bobbitt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously of those present (Berry, Lawson and Lewis absent).

4. Discuss / act on Emergency Management Program Report

Melanie Jensen briefed the board on the emergency management monthly report, including details pertaining to upcoming training. The board took no action as a result of her comments.

5. Adjournment

This portion of the meeting was adjourned at 5:06 p.m.

AMBULANCE SERVICES BOARD MEETING

Board Members Present:
David Billings (Fate)
Dennis Lewis (Rockwall) - (arrived at 5:16 p.m.)
Lorne Megyesi (Fate)
Janet Nichol (Royse City)
Jim Pruitt (Rockwall)
Cliff Sevier (Rck. County)
Robert Steinhagen (McLendon-Chisholm)
David Sweet (Rck. County)

Board Members Absent:
Brian Berry (Heath)
Dana Lawson (Mobile City)

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1. Call to order

Sweet called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m. with the above listed board members being present and absent.

2. Discuss / act on Medic Rescue's monthly EMS contract compliance reports, including any assessments under "Section 9. Liquidated Damages" of said contract

Mitch Ownby of Medic Rescue came forth and briefed the board on his monthly EMS (ambulance services) related reports. Board Member Billings questioned what "system overload" means on the response time report(s). Mr. Ownby explained that when the system is busy, the centrally located ambulance cannot get to the particular call on time. Billings wanted to put the liquidated damages in a restricted, basic account so that the money cannot be spent and have an agenda item on the April ESC meeting agenda to consider establishing a process by which Medic Rescue may be able to get back money previously paid to the board for liquidated damages. It was pointed out that the current contract does not include a clause or language related to the company potentially earning back (or receiving back) money paid to the ESC. Sweet stressed that the board has not yet had discussions regarding what the money could potentially be utilized for, and he would like the board to have such discussions. Board Member Pruitt asked if there are restrictions on use of said money. Mrs. Smith (Assistant City Manager/Finance Director from Rockwall) and Grant Brenna (ESC's legal counsel) indicated that the contract spells out no answer(s) to this question.

Board Member Lewis joined the meeting at this point (5:16 p.m.).

The board took no formal action as a result of this agenda item discussion.

3. Discuss / act on hiring of a medical director by/for the ES Corporation

Joe DeLane, County Emergency Management Coordinator and "contract administrator" on behalf of the ES Corporation (regarding the ambulance contract) briefed the board on recent discussions with a prospective medical director. He indicated that the proposal was received today; however, he has not yet had time to review it.

No questions were asked, and the board took no action concerning this agenda item.

4. Discuss / act on formation of a Medical Physicians Advisory Board (MPAB) for the ES Corporation

Sweet explained that this item is tied closely to the previous item. Following brief comments, the board took no action regarding this agenda item.

5. Discussion regarding countywide "exclusivity" of ambulance service

Sweet began discussion of this item, acknowledging that this topic reflects a decision that will need to be made by each, individual city represented on the ESC board (that participates in the provision of ambulance service through the ESC's contract with Medic Rescue). Board Member Megyesi expressed disappointment with regards to a letter that the ESC previously received from Careflite, indicating that the City of Fate and its attorney is "on board" with instituting an 'exclusivity ordinance' in Fate pertaining to ambulance service. Board Member Pruitt shared that the City of Rockwall is ready to discuss (again) the possibility of instituting an exclusivity ordinance as well; however, he would like to have a better understanding of the potential financial impact (savings). Board Member Lewis expressed disagreement with the possibility of instituting exclusivity ordinances, indicating that he believes it is not the government's business to decide what company a private business can employ / use to perform its non-emergency ambulance (patient) transfers / transports. City Manager of Fate, Michael Kovacs, expressed a desire to hear more about the potential financial impacts as well. Board Member Nichol of Royse City stated that she will need to speak further to her city's legal about the matter, and Pruitt offered to assist in said conversation(s). Mr. Kovacs shared that he is interested in a franchise fee to reduce the cost (to taxpayers) of ambulance services or to be a potential revenue source to the corporation. Board Member Steinhagen of McLendon-Chisholm expressed a desire to hold further conversations in an effort to determine if "exclusivity ordinances" would or would not benefit the citizens. Mr. Ownby of Medic Rescue shared that his company feels certain that instituting 'exclusivity' countywide could save $1.5 million in fees per year, and that that could possibly increase to $2 million. It was pointed out that Lakepointe Hospital is becoming "Baylor" tomorrow (ownership change), and Baylor owns Careflite. So, it is unclear how "exclusivity" would be transitioned in that regard. Board Member Megyesi expressed concern about how the change in ownership of Lakepointe Hospital will affect Medic Rescue's ability to provide that hospital's service(s).

Indication was given that the ESC board would like to further discuss "exclusivity ordinances" at the March board meeting. No formal action was taken at this meeting as a result of this agenda item discussion.

6. Adjournment

Sweet adjourned the meeting at 5:28 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COUNTY OF ROCKWALL EMERGENCY SERVICES CORPORATION ON THIS THE 28th DAY OF MARCH, 2018.

County of Rockwall ES Corporation
TEXAS

David Sweet
County Judge and President, County of Rockwall ESC Board of Directors

ATTEST:

Kristy Cole

Kristy Cole
Assistant Secretary, Board of Directors
County of Rockwall ESC