



MINUTES

COUNTY OF ROCKWALL EMERGENCY SERVICES CORPORATION
Rockwall Historic Courthouse 101 East Rusk Rockwall, Texas 75087 972-204-6000

Regular Board Meeting **Wednesday, August 18, 2021 - 5:00 PM**

PRESENT

Christopher Ash (Fate)
David Billings (Fate)
James Branch (Royse City)
Brian Davis (McLendon Chisholm)
Clay Ellis (Royse City)
Kevin Fowler (Rockwall) (5:07 p.m. arrival)
Frank New (Heath)
Janet Nichol (Rockwall County)
Kenny Phillips (Mobile City)
Brownie Sherrill (Rowlett)
David Sweet (Rockwall County)

ABSENT

Trace Johannesen (Rck)

I. GENERAL BOARD MEETING

1. Call public meeting to order

Sweet called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

2. Open Forum / Public Comments

No one came forth to speak during Open Forum.

3. Discuss / act on approval of the minutes from the July 21, 2021 regular ESC board meeting

Nichol made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Sherrill seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 9 in favor, 1 abstention (New) and 2 absent (Johannesen and Fowler).

4. Discuss / act on monthly ES Corp. Treasurer's Report

David Peek, ESC Treasurer, provided a brief update to the board concerning the July monthly financial report. Sweet moved to accept the report, as presented. Sherrill seconded the motion, which passed unanimously of those present (Johannesen and Fowler absent)

5. Discuss / act on monthly Emergency Management program report

Barbara Neville, County Emergency Management Coordinator, gave a verbal report on the various departmental activities over the past month (i.e. COVID related requests, including working with Rockwall Fire Dept. to set up tent at Presby Hospital; attending Founder's Day Festival; assisting a family that lost everything in a fire; public education team out doing training, etc.).

Board Member Kevin Fowler joined the meeting at this time (5:07 p.m.).

Sweet discussed the tent that has been set up at the Presby Emergency Room and the temporary closure of Presby's north E.R., indicating that their tent is being used as relief for overflow due to the influx of COVID related patients. Regarding the north E.R., the resources compared to foot traffic did not justify opening during peak times. Both Presby and Baylor are experiencing staffing shortages. The vaccination deadline for staff has not yet come. Hospitals are doing a good job of communicating with city leaders. Board Member Billings asked that information on hospital situations be shared with him once it is known. Board Member New asked if it was a staffing issue or a COVID surge. Sweet shared that there are notable staffing shortages everywhere. Board Member Fowler pointed out that Presby and Baylor have handled the crisis in different ways. Dr. Perritt (County Health Authority) discussed that the hospital system is overwhelmed due to a lack of nurses. Some retired, others left for other states to seek more pay. He indicated that additional nurses may leave the workforce in the near future. He also shared that he is looking for a location to set up and provide Monoclonal Antibody Treatment for COVID-19 patients who get such treatment pre-approved by their doctor. More information on this effort will be available at a later date.

6. Adjournment

Sweet adjourned the meeting at 5:40 p.m.

II AMBULANCE SERVICES (EMS) BOARD MEETING

.

1. Call public meeting to order

Sweet called this meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

2. Discuss / act on monthly ambulance services reports and associated contract provisions and compliance

Mitch Ownby with Medic Rescue / Rockwall Co. EMS provided an update on his monthly reports, including community-related events, response times and other issues related to contract compliance. Board Member Billings asked what the plan is for adding an ambulance into the system. Mr. Ownby explained that they recently did a demand analysis, and more units on the street will stabilize operations. The topic of "exclusivity" of ambulance service was brought up, and Sweet indicated that historically, exclusivity was in Rockwall and Heath (by local ordinance), but Rockwall lifted its exclusivity ordinance before the "RFP" process for ambulance service took place. Board Member Ellis of Royse City asked about constitutionality of 'exclusivity,' indicating that if the only

way to get better service is by instituting exclusivity, then that's not good. Sweet indicated that a summary and update will be added to the next month's agenda.

Sweet then moved to accept the ambulance related monthly compliance reports, as presented. Billings seconded the motion, which passed unanimously of those present (Johannesen absent).

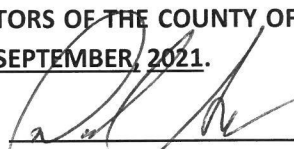
3. Discuss / act on appointment of new Medical Director (Dr. Eric Pearlman) for Medic Rescue/Rockwall County EMS

Mr. Ownby indicated that Medic Rescue is wanting to have a new Medical Director – Dr. Eric Pearlman – appointed to oversee its operations. He went on to share Dr. Pearlman's qualifications. Following brief discussion, Board Member New moved to approve appointment of Dr. Pearlman as the new Medical Director. Board Member Billings seconded the motion, which passed unanimously of those present (Johannesen absent).

4. Adjournment

Sweet adjourned the meeting at 5:46 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COUNTY OF ROCKWALL EMERGENCY SERVICES CORPORATION ON THIS THE 15th DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2021.



David Sweet

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

ATTEST:



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