

#### **MINUTES**

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

# Regular Board Meeting Wednesday, January 19, 2022 - 5:00 PM

#### **PRESENT**

David Billings (Fate)
James Branch (Royse City)
Brian Davis (McLendon Chisholm)
Clay Ellis (Royse City)
Kevin Fowler (Rockwall)
Trace Johannesen (Rck)
Janet Nichol (Rockwall County)
Kenny Phillips (Mobile City)
Brownie Sherrill (Rowlett)

#### **ABSENT**

Christopher Ash (Fate) Frank New (Heath) David Sweet (Rockwall County)

## I. GENERAL BOARD MEETING

1. Call public meeting to order

Vice President of the ES Corp., Janet Nichol, called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. with the above named board members being present and absent.

2. Open Forum / Public Comments

No one indicated a desire to speak at this time, so Nichol closed Open Forum.

3. Discuss / act on approval of the Dec. 1, 2021 ES Corp. meeting minutes

Board Member Branch made a motion to approve the minutes from Dec. 1. Board Member Sherrill seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 9 ayes with 3 absences (Ash, New and Sweet).

4. Discuss / act on monthly ESC Treasurer's Reports

Nichol indicated that ES Corp. Treasurer, David Peek, was not able to attend the meeting this evening; however, his monthly report has been included in the informational meeting packet. Board Member Sherrill then moved to accept the Treasurer's Report, as presented. Board Member Johannesen seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 9 ayes with 3 absences (Ash, New and Sweet).

5. Discuss / act on engagement letter with Rutherford, Taylor & Co. to conduct the FY2021 audit of the ES Corp.

Board Member Billings moved to approve the engagement letter and authorize its execution. Board Member Branch seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 9 ayes with 3 absences (Ash, New and Sweet).

6. Discuss / act on monthly countywide Emergency Management Program Report

County Emergency Management Coordinator, Jarod Rosson, along with Vice President Nichol and Board Member Billings provided updates related to COVID testing sites and infusion centers, including lack of supply for medications. Rosson went on to provide a general update on other (non COVID-related) aspects of his department's monthly report. He indicated that NIXLE (a countywide text notification system utilized by his office) notices will be sent via text message with additional details being made available on the county's website (in lieu of on Facebook, since not every person is on Facebook). Discussion ensued pertaining to recent use of NIXLE for election related purposes. Board Members participating in the discussion generally indicated disagreement with NIXLE being utilized for election-related purposes.

Rosson went on to indicate that Kaufman and Ellis Counties are interested in a possible partnership with Rockwall County for "public health." Kaufman County has been spearheading the efforts, and possible funding is being evaluated via the Texas Department of State Health Services. Also, discussions have been taking place regarding what services might be offered by a joint public health department. Board Member Billings generally expressed concerns about this tri-county collaboration idea. Board Member Johannesen indicated that he is interested in hearing additional information about this potential collaboration. Mayor Elam of Heath shared that he is very interested in continuing these discussions, as he believes it could be a good solution for the need for a public health department.

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

7. Discussion regarding possible creation of a countywide 'Health Coordinator'

These discussions transpired as part of the agenda item just above (#6).

8. Adjournment

Nichol adjourned this portion of the board meeting at 5:28 p.m.

### II. AMBULANCE SERVICES (EMS) BOARD MEETING

1. Call public meeting to order

Nichol called this portion of the meeting to order at 5:28 p.m.

2. Discuss / act on request from Medic Rescue/Rockwall County EMS to adopt 'Amendment 1' to the current ambulance services contract, specifically to modify language in Section 16. related to the cumulative mileage associated with vehicle replacement

Mitch Ownby of Rockwall County EMS/Medic Rescue came forth and shared that, due to supply chain issues in the vehicle market, new ambulances that have been on order have been extremely delayed. Furthermore, it is difficult to know when those new vehicles will actually arrive, as expected delivery dates have been repeatedly delayed. Therefore, he is asking the Board to consider amending the existing ambulance services contract to increase the 'mileage cap' on ambulances from 250,000 miles to 300,000 miles. (Note: Board Member Johannesen left the meeting at this point). Discussion ensued pertaining to the possibility of increasing the mileage cap even more than 300,000 (i.e. 325,000 miles). Board Member Billings indicated that he is more in support of a 325,000 mile cap (instead of 300,000 miles). Mr. Ownby indicated that he prefers a waiver to the contract, in lieu of a contract amendment. He pointed out that if it is handled as an amendment, once new ambulances finally do arrive, an additional amendment will likely need to occur to change the mileage cap back (to lower it).

Following additional, brief discussion Board Member Billings moved to approve Amendment 1 to the ambulance services contract, calling for said amendment to reflect the mileage cap at 325,000 miles. Board Member Branch seconded the motion, which passed unanimously of those present (Ash, New and Sweet absent).

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

Ownby briefed the Board on monthly ambulance service related reports for the months of November and December, 2021. No deliberation took place, and the board took no action related to his monthly reports.

4. Adjournment

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

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COUNTY OF ROCKWALL EMERGENCY

SERVICES CORPORATION ON THIS 16th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2022,

**David Sweet** 

County Judge and President, County of Rockwall

**ESC Board of Directors** 

Kristy Cole - Assistant Secretary,

ATTEST:

**Board of Directors - County of Rockwall ESC** 

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