



MINUTES

COUNTY OF ROCKWALL EMERGENCY SERVICES CORPORATION

Rockwall Historic Courthouse 101 East Rusk Rockwall, Texas 75087 972-204-6000

Regular Board Meeting

Wednesday, August 17, 2022 - 5:00 PM

PRESENT

James Branch (Royse City)
David Billings (Fate)
Heather Buegeler (Fate)
Clay Ellis (Royse City)
Kevin Fowler (Rockwall)
Trace Johannesen (Rockwall)
Bryan McNeal (McLendon Chisholm)
Frank New (Heath)
Janet Nichol (Rockwall County) (arrived 5:06 p.m.)
Debra Shinder (Rowlett)
David Sweet (Rockwall County)

ABSENT

Kenny Phillips (Mobile City)

I. GENERAL BOARD MEETING

1. Call public meeting to order

President of the ESC, David Sweet called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. with the above-listed board members being present and absent.

2. Open Forum / Public Comments

Sweet asked if anyone would like to come forth and speak at this time. There being no one indicating such, he then moved to the next agenda item.

3. Discuss / act on approval of the minutes from the July 20, 2022 regular ESC board meeting

Board Member New moved to approve the minutes. Board Member Billings seconded the motion, which passed unanimously of those present (Phillips – absent).

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

David Peek, ESC Treasurer updated the board on financials through July 31st. Thereafter, Board Member Johannesen moved to accept the monthly report, and Board Member McNeal seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously of those present (Phillips – absent).

5. Discuss / act on monthly Emergency Management program report

Jarod Rosson, Rockwall County Emergency Mgmt. Coordinator provided updates to the board on various topics. He indicated that the NIXLE (countywide texting notification system) will likely begin charging Rockwall County to utilize its service starting next year (note: this has always been a free service in years past). It may end up being a 'per message' fee, but his staff will be looking into this further and possibly vetting an alternative. He briefly spoke of a recent, successful 'tabletop' exercise that was held that identified some areas of needed improvement (i.e. communications). (Note: ESC Vice President, Janet Nichol joined the meeting at this point (at 5:06 p.m.)). His staff will be working with participants to identify 'lessons learned' and incorporate appropriate details in written Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). Board Member Billings expressed an eager desire to get the 'lessons learned' vetted soon and get SOPs updated, as needed. Rosson indicated that a full-scale emergency management exercise will occur in the summer of next year. In addition, he and his staff have been assisting with the ESC subcommittee efforts to review and make recommended changes to the existing, countywide ambulance services contract. Following comments, Sweet moved to accept the report as presented. Board Member Billings seconded the motion, which passed unanimously of those present (Phillips – absent).

6. Brief update re: subcommittee's review of ESC's Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws and related documents

Indication was given that this subcommittee (of New, Ellis, Billings and Teague) will be meeting on August 30. No action was taken at this time.

7. Adjournment

Sweet adjourned this portion of the meeting at 5:21 p.m.

II. AMBULANCE SERVICES (EMS) BOARD MEETING

1. Call public meeting to order

Sweet called this portion of the meeting to order at 5:21 p.m.

2. Brief update re: subcommittee's review of existing ambulance services contract

County Sheriff, Terry Garrett, who is "Chair" of this ESC-appointed subcommittee provided an update to the board concerning the work that has transpired thus far. An initial meeting was held August 1 with subcommittee members, the contractor (Medic Rescue/Rockwall County EMS) and the consultant from Healthcare Visions, Steve Athey. A subsequent meeting took place on August 15, and a third meeting is scheduled for September 12. The work of the subcommittee is progressing well, and the hope is that recommended changes to the contract can be brought before the ESC Board within the next couple of months.

The board took no formal action concerning this agenda item at this time.

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

Mitch Ownby of Medic Rescue / Rockwall County EMS (the contractor) came forth and briefed the board on his various reports for the month of July, 2022. Brief dialogue took place pertaining to death-

related calls (picking up deceased persons); however, Judge Sweet let Board Member Branch know that the ESC's contract with Medic Rescue does not address that topic – rather, the County has a separate, stand-alone contract in place for that service. Board Member Buegeler asked for and received clarification on what “system overload” and “call clusters” mean within Mr. Ownby's report(s), indicating those seem to show up more than usual in this July report. Ownby went on to share that his company will likely be adding more ‘unit hours’ soon in order to handle EMS service calls and maintain contractual compliance. ESC Vice President, Nichol asked for clarification on an “out of shoot delay” associated with an EMS call for service related to a woman who was passed out in Royse City. She was concerned because the arrival of the ambulance seemed to be delayed. General discussion ensued pertaining to cell phones and how dispatch and other technology can impact time delays associated with ‘getting the wheels (ambulance boxes) rolling.’ Board Member Billings shared that he has concerns about future IH-30 reconstruction and how that may impact the contractor's response times. He would like to see a plan for how the contractor plans to operate when the construction is underway. Rockwall's City Manager, Mary Smith pointed out that TXDOT has not yet released certain details concerning the project, details that will be necessary before Medic Rescue or the cities along IH-30 can even begin making proper plans. Board Member Branch shared that he would like to see Medic Rescue provide a “5 year growth plan” to the ESC Board. General discussion ensued related to how the contractor has traditionally moved units (ambulances) around the county, placing them in strategic locations when certain roadways have been under construction and/or when significant traffic back-ups occur.

Following the discussion, Sweet moved to accept Medic Rescue's monthly report. Johannesen seconded the motion, which passed unanimously of those present (Phillips – absent).

4. Adjournment

Sweet adjourned the meeting at 5:49 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COUNTY OF ROCKWALL EMERGENCY SERVICES CORPORATION ON THIS 21st DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2022.



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

ATTEST:



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



