

TRAVIS COUNTY
EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 2
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

May 14, 2020

The Board of Commissioners of Travis County Emergency Services District No. 2 held a meeting on Thursday, May 14, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Travis County Emergency Services District No. 2 Headquarters located at 201 East Pecan Street, Pflugerville, Texas, for the following purposes.

Commissioners who attended via video conference:

Mike Bessner Rico Reyes Robert Turner April Griffin

The following persons were also in attendance via video conference:

Ron Moellenberg Nick Perkins John Carlton Jessica Frazier Victor Gonzalez

Rob Humphrey Cliff Avery Josh Stubblefield Katelyn Hammes Liz Davidson

Michael Anderson

1. THE MEETING *was called to order by Commissioner Bessner at 6:03 p.m. and the minutes were recorded by mechanical means.* The meeting was held pursuant to a formal Notice of Meeting, which had been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act at the Travis County Clerk's Office and in the offices of the Travis County Emergency Services District No. 2 Headquarters.
2. Public Comment: *There was no public comment; no action was taken on this item.*

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

3. Celebrate special recognition of personnel for exceptional performance: *The promotion of Marcus Kieschnick from Firefighter/Paramedic to Apparatus Specialist/Paramedic and Battalion Chief Michael Anderson for earning his Master of Public Affairs degree.*

CONSENT ITEMS

4. APPROVAL REGARDING MARCH 26, 2020 SPECIAL MEETING AND APRIL 9, 2020 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES *Commissioner Bessner asked if any consent items required discussion. There were none. Commissioner Bessner asked if there was any objection to the consent agenda. There was no objection. Commissioner Bessner then announced that the Consent Agenda was adopted and approved.*

REPORTS

5. COMMISSIONERS REPORT, INCLUDING RESPONSES TO INQUIRIES: *Commissioner Bessner asked the Commissioners if they had anything to report. There were none.*

6. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** *Commissioner Howe was not present, Commissioner Griffin filled in. Commissioner Griffin asked the Board if they had any questions on the checks written and the statement provided. No one had any questions regarding the checks.*
A MOTION was made by Commissioner Griffin to accept payment of bills and invoices, processing of payroll, financial report, and monthly sales tax analysis report. Commissioner Reyes made a SECOND to the motion; the motion carried.
7. **REPORT FROM THE DISTRICT'S FIRE CHIEF;** Chief Moellenberg's report was included in the board packet;
- *The Fire Chief mentioned the Fire Department continues to run about 3 ILI (Influenza Like Illness) cases or more each day.*
 - *The Fire Department had a small downturn in total call volume for the last month but overall call volume is 8.5 % higher than this time last year.*
 - *A Standard of Cover study was submitted to the Fire Department for review. It will help future planning for new station locations beyond stations 6 and 7.*
 - *Station 5 is expected to have minimal impact on response times. Station 5 will help relieve the call volume for three other stations.*
 - *The Fire Department has begun to draft a chronical documenting our COVID-19 operations that will eventually be made available to the public.*
 - *Conversations are being held about what it looks like to return to 'normal'. The Fire Chief's approach will be slow and cautious.*
 - *The Department still has 5 furloughed employees, 2 employees were brought back to serve as caseworkers.*
 - *The Fire Department continues to focus on Emergency Operations. Public education is not a highlight right now.*
 - *The Fire Department pushed back hiring firefighters for Station 6 to September.*
 - *The Fire Department received a notice from the Commission on Fire Protection suggesting the Department start working with the District's nursing homes and senior care facilities.*
 - *Chief Kidd from TDEM (Texas Division of Emergency Management) wants Fire Departments to test all residents and staff in local nursing homes for COVID-19. The District has two facilities totaling about 400 people and both have committed to testing their own residents and staff. The Fire Department is looking to assist these facilities with administrative functions. Because ESDs are not eligible for the CARES funding, Chief Kidd said to submit any expenses related to this topic to TDEM and he will make it good.*
 - *A planning meeting via video conference is scheduled for May 30, 2020.*
8. **RECEIVE MONTHLY REPORT FROM THE DISTRICT'S ATTORNEY REGARDING PENDING LITIGATION MATTERS, CONTRACT ISSUES, AND LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS;** *Attorney Carlton mentioned Senate Bill 2 and the provision that allows if there is a disaster we calculate our voter approval rate with the 8% increase. The commissioners and executive team were told by Attorney Carlton that the budget for next year needs to be done by mid-July. Katelyn Hammes was introduced. Katelyn is an associate from Attorney Carlton's office and was listening in.*
9. **REPORT FROM THE PFLUGERVILLE FIREFIGHTER'S PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION, LOCAL #4137;** *Josh Stubblefield informed the Commissioners the Association has been meeting with the Chiefs weekly to ensure effective communication during this time.*

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

10. **DISCUSS AND CONSIDER BALANCED MEDICAL BILLING PRACTICES AND TAKE ANY RELATED ACTION;** *No action was taken; this was tabled for future action.*

11. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER A BUDGET AMENDMENT IN RELATION TO THE FY18 FEMA AFG GRANT AND TAKE ANY RELATED ACTION; *The Fire Chief stated this is for balancing the books for the FEMA grant the District received. A MOTION was made by Commissioner Turner, Commissioner Griffin made a SECOND to the motion; the motion carried.*

The Board went into Executive Session pursuant to Chapter 551.071 of the Texas Government Code for the purpose of consultation with legal counsel at 6:40pm. The Board re-convened from Executive Session at 7:04pm; no action was taken during Executive Session.

12. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT TO PROVIDE COMMUNITY RELATIONS SUPPORT AND TAKE ANY RELATED ACTION;

A MOTION was made by Commissioner Turner to approve the contract with the not to exceed amount of \$25,000. Commissioner Reyes made a SECOND to the motion; the motion carried.

13. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ACTIVITY IN SUPPORT OF OPERATIONS COMBATting THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND TAKE ANY RELATED ACTION; *no action was taken on this item.*

President Bessner adjourned the meeting at 7:10pm.
The next Board meeting is scheduled for June 11, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.