

TRAVIS COUNTY
EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 2
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

January 14, 2021

The Board of Commissioners of Travis County Emergency Services District No. 2 held a meeting on Thursday, January 14, 2021 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 Mike Howe Robert Turner April Griffin Rico Reyes

The following persons were also in attendance via video conference:

Ron Moellenberg Nick Perkins John Carlton Jessica Frazier Victor Gonzalez

Rob Humphrey Josh Stubblefield Michael Anderson

1. THE MEETING *was called to order by Commissioner Bessner at 6:00 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.

PUBLIC COMMENT

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

- *Josh Stubblefield – PPFA Local 4137 President*
- *Doug Weiss – Councilmember & Resident 1316 Town Center Drive, Pflugerville*
- *Trevor Stokes – PPFA Local 4137 Representative*

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

3. CELEBRATE SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF PERSONNEL FOR EXCEPTIONAL PERFORMANCE:

- ***Battalion Chief Michael Anderson*** – *Committee Member for the National Fire Protection Association Standard 1700 guiding tactics for structure fires nationally using latest evidence, technology and best practices.*
- ***Fire Captain Tory Thompson*** – *authored article published in Firehouse Magazine last month titled Just Culture: Standardizing Accountability in the Fire Service.*
- ***Dan Berger, Community Risk Reduction Manager*** – *interviewed by the National Fire Protection Association and contributed to an article published on Community Risk Assessment and Planning; they noted that the District is one of only a few departments nationally that have conducted such a task.*
- ***A Shift, Station 3, November 29 Medical Response*** – *Lieutenant Segura, Firefighter/Paramedic Edlin, Firefighter Mitchell, Firefighter Haier, Firefighter Deal, Firefighter/Paramedic Coleman, Firefighter Voge.*
- ***Austin Regional Clinic*** – *Dr. Anas Daghestani, Chief Executive Officer, and Gwendolyn Penson, Hutto Clinic Manager, in support of the District’s COVID-19 vaccination program.*

CONSENT ITEMS

4. APPROVE MEETING MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER 10, 2020 REGULAR MEETING
5. APPROVE PUBLICATION OF LEGAL NOTICE OF ADDRESS FOR DISTRICT'S ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE;

A MOTION was made by Commissioner Howe for both consent items. Commissioner Reyes made a SECOND to the motion; the motion carried.

REPORTS

6. COMMISSIONERS REPORT, INCLUDING RESPONSES TO INQUIRIES: *Public Comment from Josh Stubblefield - PPFA Local 4137 President expressing concerns about the last City of Pflugerville City Council Meeting. Trevor Stokes – PPFA Local 4137 Representative, also expressed concerns about the City Council Meeting. Each member of the Board gave their remarks about the City Council Meeting.*
7. TREASURER'S REPORT: *Public comment was made by Josh Stubblefield - PPFA Local 4137 President and Trevor Stokes – PPFA Local 4137 Representative. Commissioner Howe stated sales tax revenue is up due to people shopping online. Commissioner Howe explained when you shop online the sales tax is credited to your zip code versus when you travel out of the city to shop and the sales tax is credited to the zip code of the store's location.. A MOTION was made by Commissioner Howe to accept payment of bills and invoices, processing of payroll, financial report, and monthly sales tax analysis report. Commissioner Turner made a SECOND to the motion; the motion carried.*
8. REPORT FROM THE DISTRICT'S FIRE CHIEF; Chief Moellenberg's report was included in the board packet;
 - *Public comment was made by the following individuals:*
 - *Josh Stubblefield – PPFA Local 4137 President*
 - *Melody Ryan – Resident, 1012 Ripley Castle Cove, Pflugerville*
 - *Anthony Nguyen – Resident, 19905 Tree Sap Lane, Round Rock*
 - *Trevor Stokes – PPFA Local 4137 Representative*
 - *The Fire Chief stated call volume continues to rise. The District responded to 1,007 alarms, of which 699 were EMS, in the month of December 2020.*
 - *The Fire Chief explained the trending lines for both Fire and EMS were concerning as they are on the upward incline.*
 - *The Fire Chief reports the average daily ILI (influenza Like Illness) responses have increased.*
 - *The Fire Chief reports the District currently has 2 firefighters in quarantine, 5 in isolation, and 3 in a monitoring status. The Fire Chief stated he was told we are one of the few departments still trying to manage and help the firefighters with all that is going on. The Fire Chief reports doing this to try and maintain a healthy workforce.*
 - *The Fire Chief stated the District was trying to find an innovative way to get all the firefighters wanting a COVID vaccine one in a timely manner. Chief Perkins worked with Austin Regional Clinic to get the vaccinations done and approximately 70% have received their first vaccine and second dose will occur next week.*
 - *The Fire Chief announced that the District will possibly work with Travis County and Austin Public Health to operate mass vaccination clinics in the area, provided they can receive funding for the necessary overtime.*

- *The Fire Chief expressed a potential concern for Austin’s alternate care facility at the Convention Center. The Convention Center is quite the distance from Pflugerville and can tie up ambulances for long periods of time.*
 - *The Fire Chief reports the District has \$413,000+ in unbudgeted funds tied directly to COVID-19. The District is unable to receive funds directly from the CARES Act and did not accept the \$10,000 amount the City of Pflugerville offered due to the potential of eliminating other funding opportunities.*
9. RECEIVE MONTHLY REPORT FROM THE DISTRICT’S LEGAL COUNSEL REGARDING PENDING LITIGATION MATTERS, CONTRACT ISSUES, AND LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS AND CONSIDER TAKING RELATED ACTION; *Attorney Carlton updated the Board on the status of the legislature and will report back monthly.*
10. RECEIVE REPORT FROM THE PFLUGERVILLE FIREFIGHTER’S PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTER’S ASSOCIATION, LOCAL #4137 AND CONSIDER TAKING RELATED ACTION; *Public comment was made by Josh Stubblefield - PPFA Local 4137 President and Trevor Stokes – PPFA Local 4137 Representative. Association President, Josh Stubblefield had nothing further to report.*

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

11. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER THE DISPOSITION OF QUINT 280, AND TAKE ANY RELATED ACTION INCLUDING;
- ACCEPTANCE OF THE INSURANCE SETTLEMENT AMOUNT FOR THE DAMAGES;
 - APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION TO SALVAGE;
- Public comment was made by Josh Stubblefield - PPFA Local 4137 President and Trevor Stokes – PPFA Local 4137 Representative. The Fire Chief requested the Board approve the insurance settlement amount of \$227,750.47 for damages done to Quint 280 and approve the resolution to salvage Quint 280. A MOTION was made by Commissioner Howe, Commissioner Griffin made a SECOND to the motion; the motion carried.*
12. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER A CONTRACT WITH PUBLIC CONSULTING GROUP FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES, AND TAKE ANY RELATED ACTION; *No action was taken on this item.*
13. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER THE PURCHASE OF NEW FIREFIGHTER PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT, AND TAKE ANY RELATED ACTION; *The Fire Chief request the Board approve staff to purchase \$64,502 worth of protective gear as approved in the FY21 budget. A MOTION was made by Commissioner Reyes, Commissioner Griffin made a SECOND to the motion; the motion carried.*
14. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER THE CITY OF PFLUGERVILLE REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR CONSULTING SERVICES FOR A FIRE AND EMS ASSESSMENT, AND TAKE ANY RELATED ACTION; *Public comment was made by Josh Stubblefield - PPFA Local 4137 President and Trevor Stokes – PPFA Local 4137 Representative. The Fire Chief stated the District has recently completed an ISO audit, resource deployment, and Community Risk Assessment, all of which are available to the public. The District is willing to share the relevant information with the City’s consultant. Commissioner Reyes supported the Fire Chief’s position to share relevant information and reaffirmed the District has nothing to hide. No action was taken on this item.*

15. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING FIRST TEXAS BANK AS A DEPOSITORY FOR THE DISTRICT, AND TAKE ANY RELATED ACTION; *The Fire Chief explained this account is to track funds related to the regional FEMA grant the District has been awarded. The purpose of this account is to keep all funds separate from our current accounts for financial transparency. A MOTION was made by Commissioner Howe, Commissioner Griffin made a SECOND to the motion; the motion carried.*
16. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR THE DISTRICT RELATED TO FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONAL PROJECTIONS, INCLUDING:
- REVIEWING PROJECTED GROWTH IN REVENUE, POPULATION, SERVICE DEMAND, AND IMPACT ON RESPONSE TIMES AND PROVISION OF SERVICE,
 - PRESENTING REPORTS FROM THE COMMISSIONERS CONCERNING COMMUNITY INTERACTIONS AND RELATIONS,
 - AND TAKE ANY RELATED ACTION; *Public Comment was made by the following:*
 - *Josh Stubblefield – PPFA Local 4137 President*
 - *Melody Ryan – Resident, 1012 Ripley Castle Cove, Pflugerville*
 - *Anthony Nguyen – Resident, 19905 Tree Sap Lane, Round Rock*
 - *Trevor Stokes – PPFA Local 4137 Representative*

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 8:08 pm. The Board re-convened from Executive Session at 8:39 pm; no action was taken during Executive Session.

Each member of the Board gave remarks on their support of the District. A MOTION was made by Commissioner Reyes for the Board to follow-up with the City of Pflugerville Council with a letter, restating the Board's disappointment in the lack of communication, restating the history of the communication regarding the financial situation, restate the options previously provided that are still on the table, provide the costs necessary to continue EMS; restate the Board's willingness to meet and solve the problem together. The Board will also send a similar letter to the County Commissioners. Commissioner Griffin made a SECOND to the motion; the motion carried. A MOTION was made by President Bessner to publish a press release expressing the Board's disappointment in not being invited to the City Council meeting and emphasize the Board's willingness to meet with the City and the County, restate the petition facts and process, and commend the Association for their efforts. Commissioner Howe made a SECOND to the motion; the motion carried.

17. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER THE STATEMENT OF SERVICES FOR THE PROPOSED OVERLAY DISTRICT, AND TAKE ANY RELATED ACTION; *Public Comment was made by the following:*
- *Josh Stubblefield – PPFA Local 4137 President*
 - *Melody Ryan – Resident, 1012 Ripley Castle Cove, Pflugerville*
 - *Trevor Stokes – PPFA Local 4137 Representative*
 - *No action was taken on this item.*
18. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ACTIVITY IN SUPPORT OF OPERATIONS COMBATTING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, AND TAKE ANY RELATED ACTION; *The Fire Chief reminded the Board that the District will begin planning for mass distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine as it comes available. No action was taken on this item.*

19. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVING AND ACCEPTING THE OATH OF OFFICE FOR COMMISSIONER GRIFFIN AND COMMISSIONER REYES, AND TAKE ANY RELATED ACTION; *No action was taken on this item.*
20. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, AND TAKE ANY RELATED ACTION; *No action was taken on this item.*

President Bessner adjourned the meeting at 9:06 p.m.
The next Board meeting is scheduled for February 11, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Rob Humphrey
Board Recorder