

TRAVIS COUNTY

EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 2

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES September 9, 2021

The Board of Commissioners of Travis County Emergency Services District No. 2 held a meeting on Thursday, September 9, 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:

Mike Bessner Mike Howe Robert Turner April Griffin

Commissioner who attended via video conference: Rico Reyes

The following persons were also in attendance:

Rob Humphrey Nick Perkins Michael Anderson Brian Fairbanks John Carlton
Blake Brown Lauren Brown Drew Dilworth AJ Stacer Mark Moellenberg
Susan Moellenberg Victor Gonzalez Jessica Frazier Ron Moellenberg

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: *There was no public comment; no action was taken on this item.*

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

3. CELEBRATE SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF PERSONNEL FOR EXCEPTIONAL PERFORMANCE.
 - CERTIFICATES OF ACHIEVEMENT- BATTALION CHIEF DOYLE, LIEUTENANT LUCAS, FIREFIGHTER WELLS, APPARATUS SPECIALIST TRAVIS
 - LETTERS OF PROMOTION - DEPUTY CHIEF MARK MOELLENBERG, DEPUTY CHIEF STACER, BATTALION CHIEF BARKLEY, BATTALION CHIEF THOMPSON, CAPTAIN SEGURA, CAPTAIN HARLOW, LIEUTENANT MEGLOSSON, LIEUTENANT BROWN, APPARATUS SPECIALIST TIEMANN, AND APPARATUS SPECIALIST DILWORTH
 - ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE NEW FIRE CHIEF
 - CERTIFICATE OF PROCLAMATION - FIRE CHIEF MOELLENBERG

CONSENT ITEMS

4. APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST 9, 2021 REGULAR MEETING, AND THE AUGUST 26, 2021 SPECIAL MEETING;

5. APPROVE FISCAL YEAR 2021 BUDGET AMENDMENTS AS PRESENTED;
6. APPROVE AN ADMINISTRATIVE AMENDMENT TO THE TRAVIS COUNTY ESD NO. 17 INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT;

A MOTION was made by Commissioner Turner to approve the Consent Agenda, Commissioner Howe made a SECOND to the motion; the motion carried.

REPORTS

7. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS, RESPONSES TO INQUIRIES, INCLUDING;
 - COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE CITY COUNCIL OF PFLUGERVILLE PUBLIC SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE; (GRIFFIN/HOWE) *There was nothing to report.*
 - TRAVIS COUNTY ESD COMMISSIONERS' COUNCIL REPORT; (BESSNER) *ESDCC meeting is meeting virtually this Saturday and Commissioner Turner plans to attend.*
8. TREASURER'S REPORT: *Commissioner Howe stated sales tax is up 4% but has rolled off from the significantly high numbers we were seeing. Commissioner Griffin confirmed a check written to PNC Equipment Finance LLC was a vehicle payoff and Finance Director Jessica Frazier confirmed it was. Commissioner Griffin asked who Total Stryker Sales Corp was; she was informed it was the company that provides ambulance stretchers. 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 Griffin made a SECOND to the motion; the motion carried.*
9. REPORT FROM THE DISTRICT'S FIRE CHIEF; Chief Moellenberg's report was included in the board packet;
 - *The Fire Chief stated the District is starting to see a tiny dip down in the average number of ILI (Influenza Like Illness) calls.*
 - *The City of Austin has issued a letter stating they will be vacating the automatic aid agreement. The Fire Chief and the Assistant Fire Chief met with the Austin FD Chief and were pleased with the outcome.*
 - *The Fire Chief presented the Board with the Fire Department's response to the City of Pflugerville's AP Triton report. The District worked with true experts in the field to draft its response.*
 - *The City of Pflugerville is vacating their occupancy at the CEC. The original contract states they must return the space back to the way it was prior to them occupying it, which means moving walls. The City Manager sent a letter to The Fire Chief asking for consideration that they be allowed to leave their modifications. The letter was sent too late to make this an agenda item for this meeting, so a response is not expected today.*
 - *The Fire Chief received a Request for Proposal for Emergency Medical Services in the City of Pflugerville and it's ETJ. This was not received in time to place on the agenda for this meeting but the timeline for the RFP is September 24, 2021. The Department at the Command Staff level have reviewed the RFP and have identified several significant issues. Commissioner Howe asked if The Fire Chief knows the rationale for the City putting out the document and in such a state. Commissioner Reyes was surprised that the City, who reports to have a great deal of expertise in this matter, would have such an unskilled document reach the Fire Chief's desk. Commissioner Reyes asked if this was possibly an error from a particular staff member that doesn't have the expertise the rest of the council does. The Fire Chief stated this was under the cover of Deputy City Manager, Trey Fletcher. Attorney Carlton recommended The Fire Chief have staff review the RFP, determine a response, and bring that back to the Board for a special meeting to consider before the City's deadline. Commissioner Reyes thinks Attorney Carlton's advice is wise because we don't want to people in the City of Pflugerville to suffer because staff made a mistake. Commissioner Howe reiterated that the Board's job is to make sure the service gets delivered. The issue is they keep running into incompetency's with the City so he likes the idea of giving the City a mulligan. Commissioner Reyes*

agreed. Commissioner Griffin asked if the District was the only one to receive this. Assistant Chief Perkins stated the District did not know.

- Commissioner Howe asked if the Board had to accept the rebuttal to the AP Triton report. The Board discussed posting it on ESD 2's website and releasing it to the press and all other interested parties. Commissioner Howe mentioned it took the City six months to complete this report and it took ESD 2 sixty days to refute it. Commissioner Howe made a MOTION to accept the report and direct staff to publish it on the website and distribute it to all interested parties. Commissioner Griffin made a SECOND to the motion; the motion carried.
- Commissioner Turner asked if there were any additional costs or anticipated costs for responding to Amazon and the Blackland Solar Project.
- The Fire Chief stated the District has had several citizens reaching out about emergency response through residential neighborhoods. Traffic delays due to construction has caused some of the crews to alter response pattern during particular times of day. And we've seen an explosion of call volume, up 29%.
- Commissioner Turner gave kudos to Community Risk Reduction and all operational staff for their efforts in installing over 3,000 smoke and CO alarms.
- The Board thanked The Fire Chief for his last official report as Chief. Commissioner Howe pointed out The Fire Chief is not resigning, he is retiring.

10. 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 mentioned the third special session has been called. He explained SAFE-D is trying to have the legislature set aside funds for ESD's due to costs associated with COVID. ESD's were not directly in line to receive funds like the City and County were. The city of Pflugerville received six million dollars or more. Attorney Carlton discussed the ESD 17 proceedings from the 200th district court earlier in the day.
11. RECEIVE REPORT FROM THE PFLUGERVILLE PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTER' S ASSOCIATION, LOCAL NO. 4137 AND CONSIDER TAKING RELATED ACTION; No representative was present.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

12. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVING AN EXTENDED LEASE FOR THE USE OF PFLUGER HALL BY THE AUSTIN CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP OF INDIA; AND TAKE ANY RELATED ACTION; *The Austin Christian Fellowship of India is looking to conduct services every Sunday for a six-month period at Pfluger Hall. Staff have reviewed the request for potential conflicts. Staff advises the request is reasonable and recommend approving it. Staff also recommend negotiating a contract that includes a 30% discount. Attorney Carlton would like to review the contract before proceeding. Commissioner Howe made a MOTION to approve the contract pending legal review. Commissioner Griffin made a SECOND to the motion; the motion carried.*
13. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVING A DRAINAGE EASEMENT ON THE STATION 6 PROPERTY, AND TAKE ANY RELATED ACTION; *see next agenda item.*
14. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVING A WASTEWATER EASEMENT ON THE STATION 6 PROPERTY, AND TAKE ANY RELATED ACTION; *Commissioner Howe made a MOTION to approve both a drainage and wastewater easement on the Station 6 property. Commissioner Reyes made a SECOND to the motion; the motion carried*
15. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ACCEPTING A FIRE PREVENTION & SAFETY GRANT FROM THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY, AND TAKE ANY RELATED ACTION; *This grant is to continue installing smoke alarms in high risk homes. The grant is for a total of \$107,526.36 with the District's obligation of \$5,120.26 and a performance period of 8/23/2021-8/22/2022. Commissioner Griffin made a MOTION to approve staff to accept the FP&S grant. Commissioner Turner made a SECOND to the motion; the motion carried.*

16. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVING A CONTRACT WITH PUBLIC SECTOR PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS AND A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE PROJECT PARTICIPANTS IN SUPPORT OF THE REGIONAL FIRE SERVICE SALARY SURVEY, AND TAKE ANY RELATED ACTION; *As previously reported, the District is taking the lead on this project. HR Director Rob Humphrey publicly thanked SAFE-D for picking up a third of the cost of the survey. Commissioner Howe made a MOTION, Commissioner Reyes made a SECOND to the motion; the motion carried.*
17. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER THE PROVISION OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES IN FISCAL YEAR 2022 TO OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES, AND TAKE ANY RELATED ACTION; *See next agenda item.*
18. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR THE DISTRICT RELATED TO FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONAL PROJECTIONS, INCLUDING:
- RESPONSE TO THE CITY OF PFLUGERVILLE COMMISSIONED AP TRITON REPORT,
 - 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;

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 6:51 pm. The Board re-convened from Executive Session at 7:52 pm; no action was taken during Executive Session.

Commissioner Turner made a MOTION to direct staff to develop a response to the City of Pflugerville's request for proposal and to have it ready for consideration at a Special Meeting on Wednesday, September 22, 2021. Commissioner Howe made a SECOND to the motion; the motion carried.

Commissioner Turner made a MOTION that President Bessner with the assistance of District staff to draft a letter to the City of Pflugerville as a follow up to the letter sent on August 12, 2021 indicating the actions that have been taken, but also to take into consideration the new developments that have occurred and to let them know we will not meet until litigations are over. Commissioner Griffin made a SECOND to the motion; the motion carried.

Commissioner Howe made a MOTION directing staff to draft an appropriate response in accordance with the terms of the CEC lease contract. Commissioner Turner made a SECOND to the motion; the motion carried.

19. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER TAKING ACTION REGARDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2022 BUDGET FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 1, 2021 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2022, INCLUDING:
- DISTRICT FINANCIAL POLICIES
 - FEE SCHEDULE
 - FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE) AUTHORIZATIONS
 - OPERATING BUDGET
 - CAPITAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS
- A MOTION was made by Commissioner Reyes approving the FY 22 budget, financial policies, fee schedule, and FTEs. Commissioner Howe made a SECOND to the motion; the motion carried.*

20. TAKE A RECORD VOTE ON THE DISTRICT'S 2021 TAX RATE, INCLUDING:

- ADOPTING AN ORDER LEVYING TAXES;
- AUTHORIZING FILING THE ORDER WITH THE TRAVIS COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR/COLLECTOR;
- OR AUTHORIZING THE DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF THE MEETING TO VOTE ON THE TAX RATE;

Commissioner Howe made a MOTION to adopt an order levying taxes with a tax rate of \$0.09 per \$100 of property valuation and to authorize filing the order with the Travis County Tax Assessor/Collector. Commissioner Reyes made a SECOND to the motion; the motion carried.

The Board took a record vote:

Rico Reyes- Aye

April Griffin- Aye

Robert Turner- Aye

Mike Howe- Aye

Mike Bessner- Aye

21. AUTHORIZE POSTING OF STATEMENT REGARDING THE ADOPTED 2021 TAX RATE TO HOME PAGE OF DISTRICT'S WEBSITE; *A MOTION was made by Commissioner Griffin, Commissioner Reyes made a SECOND; the motion carried.*

22. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ACTIVITY IN SUPPORT OF OPERATIONS COMBATTING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, AND TAKE ANY RELATED ACTION; *There was nothing to report.*

President Bessner stated there will be a special meeting on September 22, 2021.

Commissioner Howe thanked Chief Moellenberg for everything he has done.

President Bessner adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for September 22, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Rob Humphrey

Board Recorder