

TRAVIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 2

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

AUGUST 19, 2024

The Board of Commissioners of Travis County Emergency Services District No. 2 held a meeting on Monday, August 19, 2024 at 8:00 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 in attendance:

April Griffin Mike Howe Randy Reese Rico Reyes Robert Turner

The following persons were also in attendance:

Nick Perkins Mark Moellenberg Sequina Allen Jessica Frazier Brian Fairbanks
John Carlton Jim Cousar

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER. *The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Reyes at 8:00 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:

Melody Ryan: *Spoke on the petition on the ballot for the election and about respecting the will of the people.*

Terry Newsom: *Spoke on the petition to reduce the ESD 2 tax rate and on the court suit.*

David Rogers: *Councilmember Rogers noted that he was present in his capacity as a private citizen and not in his capacity as Councilmember. Mr. Rogers thanked the board for fulfilling their duties and commitment to the constitution and urged them to restore ambulance service to the citizens and rebuild trust and confidence of the community.*

Trevor Stokes: *Mr. Stokes was present in his capacity as President of the Firefighters Association and discussed the lawsuit and noted it was lost 3 or 4 times due to hiding the people behind the petition. He discussed the ILA and how this department helped try to find solutions.*

Chris Wolfe: *Brought up the constitution and accountability and noted it’s important to not to spread misinformation. He noted the community needs trust and accountability to function.*

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

3. RECEIVE MONTHLY REPORT FROM THE DISTRICT’S LEGAL COUNSEL REGARDING PENDING LITIGATION MATTERS, CONTRACT ISSUES, AND LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS AND CONSIDER TAKING RELATED ACTION;
 - CAUSE NO. D-1-GN-23-000748; DAVID ROGERS, JENNIFER PAKENHAM, AND KRISTI POWELL, PLAINTIFFS V. TRAVIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 2 BOARD, DEFENDANT

Mr. Carlton noted that this item should be discussed in Executive Session.

At this time, the Board went into Executive Session to receive legal advice from counsel pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071. Executive Session convened at 8:18 p.m. and ended at 8:49 p.m., at which point the special meeting was re-convened. No action was taken during Executive Session.

4. SEE SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA FOR ELECTION ITEMS.

Supp Agenda Item 4: DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE ORDER CALLING ELECTION TO ABOLISH AND REDUCE SALES TAX COLLECTED BY THE DISTRICT FOR NOVEMBER 5, 2024;

Commissioner Reyes moved to approve the order with minor edits, Commissioner Howe seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEM:

Terry Newsome: *Shared the Supreme Court is the highest court and discussed the right of free speech.*

Trevor Stokes: *Discussed accountability and noted there is no smoking gun for impropriety. He noted this group has kept the community in good hands during an ice storm, wildfires, and drought.*

Supp Agenda Item 1: DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AN ORDER ADOPTING AND IMPLEMENTING THE USE OF VOTING SYSTEMS IN ADDITION TO PAPER BALLOTS IN DISTRICT ELECTIONS;

Supp Agenda Item 2: DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SECRETARY'S APPOINTMENT OF AGENT TO PERFORM DUTIES DURING ELECTION PERIOD;

Supp Agenda Item 3: DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT FOR ELECTION SERVICES AND JOINT ELECTION AGREEMENT FOR THE NOVEMBER 5, 2024, ELECTION, AND APPROVAL OF REQUIRED PAYMENT FOR THOSE SERVICES;

Supp Agenda Item 5: DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE ORDER ADOPTING AND IMPLEMENTING BILINGUAL ELECTION REQUIREMENTS;

Supp Agenda Item 6: AUTHORIZE DISTRICT'S ATTORNEY TO GIVE NOTICE OF ELECTION FOR THE NOVEMBER 5, 2024, ELECTION;

Supp Agenda Item 7: DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ADOPTION OF AN ELECTION CALENDAR FOR THE DISTRICT'S NOVEMBER 5, 2024, ELECTION;

Commissioner Griffin moved and Commissioner Turner seconded to approve Supplemental Agenda Items 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, and 7, and the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEM:

Terry Newsom: *Noted some of his team has been verbally abused and assaulted by being blocked and physically pushed by their employees.*

Mr. Stokes: *Noted the serious allegations and would like to see the evidence. He noted he has been attacked personally but noted it's a burden of his position.*

Supp Agenda Item 8: DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ANY OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION WITH THE DISTRICT'S NOVEMBER 5, 2024, ELECTION.

No action.

5. ADJOURN THE MEETING.

Board President Reyes adjourned the meeting at 9:16 p.m.
The next Board meeting is scheduled for September 12, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Sequina Allen
Board Recorder