

TRAVIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 2

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

DECEMBER 12, 2024

The Board of Commissioners of Travis County Emergency Services District No. 2 held a meeting on Thursday December 12, 2024, 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 in person: April Griffin Randy Reese Mike Howe Robert Turner

Commissioners who attended via videoconference: Rico Reyes

The following persons were also in attendance:

Nick Perkins	Jennifer Schein	Dan Berger	AJ Stacer	Jessica Frazier
Sequina Allen				

1. CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER. *The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Turner at 6:01 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, in the offices of the Travis County Emergency Services District No. 2 Headquarters, and on the District’s website at <https://www.pflugervillefire.org/board-of-commissioners-agenda/>.

PUBLIC COMMENT

2. PUBLIC COMMENT: *No public comment.*

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

3. CELEBRATE SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF PERSONNEL FOR EXCEPTIONAL PERFORMANCE;

- Casey Villanueva- Promotion to Community Risk Reduction Program Manager
- Appreciation email from the public to Squad 221 Crew, Gabe Coleman, Victor Glaze and Bill Woodburn for going above and beyond.
- Appreciation email from Para Endurance to the District for supporting Para Endurance Multisport Camp & Para Endurance Adaptive Triathlon

Commissioner Turner recognized Casey Villanueva for her recent promotion. Assistant Chief Berger discussed Ms. Villanueva’s role with the District and commended her for her efforts.

Commissioner Turner read aloud the email received from the public and commended all three members of the Crew for their efforts.

Commissioner Turner read aloud the email received from Para Endurance expressing their gratitude for the District's support. Chief Perkins discussed the District's role in the event, as well as the volunteer efforts from District staff to support the event.

CONSENT ITEMS

4. APPROVE A RESOLUTION FOR THE DISPOSITION OF SALVAGE AND SURPLUS PROPERTY ITEMS;
5. APPROVE PUBLICATION OF THE DISTRICT'S NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE IN THE PFLUGERVILLE PFLAG;
6. APPROVE FILING THE DISTRICT'S 2025 ANNUAL REPORT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT;

Commissioner Howe moved to approve the consent items, Commissioner Griffin seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS

7. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS, RESPONSES TO INQUIRIES, INCLUDING;
 - COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE CITY COUNCIL OF PFLUGERVILLE, PUBLIC SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE;
 - DISTRICT PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE;
 - TRAVIS COUNTY ESD COMMISSIONERS' COUNCIL REPORT;

Commissioner Reyes renewed his invitation to the Pflugerville City Council and stakeholders to the "table" to find a resolution, for the benefit of both the District's residents and the City's residents. Commissioner Turner stated that the ESD Commissioners' Council has not met recently but believes there will be a Commissioners' Council meeting in January.

8. RECEIVE REPORT FROM TREASURER AND CONSIDER TAKING RELATED ACTION, INCLUDING:
 - a. APPROVAL OF MONTHLY BILLS AND INVOICES;
 - b. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT, INCLUDING PROCESSING OF PAYROLL;
 - c. RECEIVE MONTHLY SALES TAX ANALYSIS REPORT;
 - d. APPROVAL OF PURCHASES FOR ITEMS INCLUDED IN THE DISTRICT'S APPROVED BUDGET;

Commissioner Howe briefly discussed the list of bills and invoices, and commented that the sales tax report reflected it was up 8.6%, year over year. Commissioner Howe advised that there are two payrolls, benefits and taxes to be approved for two different pay periods. Commissioner Howe also noted the list of items for capital improvement projects that are moving forward.

Commissioner Howe moved to approve (a) payment of monthly bills and invoices, (b) the financial report, including payroll processing, (c) the monthly sales tax report, and (d) purchases of items for projects included in the budget. Commissioner Reese seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

9. RECEIVE MONTHLY REPORT FROM THE FIRE CHIEF REGARDING EMERGENCY OPERATIONS RELATED TO FIRE SUPPRESSION AND EMS, RESPONSE TIMES, CALL

VOLUME, PERSONNEL STAFFING AND TRAINING, MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES, COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC INFORMATION ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING:

- AN UPDATE ON THE DISTRICT'S EMS BILLING POLICY;
- AN UPDATE ON THE DISTRICT'S PLANNING DEVELOPMENT;
- AND CONSIDER TAKING ANY RELATED ACTION;

Chief Perkins stated that the District is returning to a number of projects that were put on hold due to the election and evaluating the impact to costs, given the expense of the election. Chief Perkins noted that call volume is steadily increasing. An additional ambulance is expected to be staffed and put into service by late February at Station 6. Chief Perkins briefly discussed the grand opening of Station 6, noting that it was well attended by residents of the community. Chief Perkins then discussed the opioid crisis, noting that a decline in deaths has been reported and, while that is significant and good news, it is too early to tell the cause of the decrease and he will continue to monitor. Chief Perkins also mentioned a statewide lawsuit that has been brought, involving opioids and aimed at providing relief to local governments. Further discussion of this is expected at the next Board meeting. Chief Perkins also advised that he has participated in meetings held with SAFE-D in preparation for the upcoming legislative session. Chief Perkins noted that complaints and discussions with respect to Allegiance have continued and that information is provided to Mr. Chacon with the City of Pflugerville. Chief Perkins then discussed the "C4" program, which is a program run by Austin-EMS, funded by Travis County, and provides alternative transportation and treatment methods for low priority calls. It has been reported that a significant number of new hires have occurred to implement the program throughout Travis County. Chief Perkins is cautiously optimistic about the program, as it could reduce their call volume by 13-14%, and Travis County is paying for it, not the ESD; however, many questions remain. Finally, Chief Perkins noted that the District was invited by Mr. Chacon to participate in a winter-weather tabletop exercise with the City of Pflugerville.

Commissioner Howe inquired about Austin Fire and the issues related to wildfire. Chief Perkins shared that a meeting was held with Chief Baker with Austin Fire. Chief Perkins is optimistic but also noted there will likely be another meeting. Commissioner Howe also inquired if an update has been provided as to Travis County's review of ambulance service. Chief Perkins responded that a meeting was recently held but it is an ongoing process.

Commissioner Reyes discussed the staffing levels and training and noted that, earlier in the year, the District raised taxes to prepare for the possibility of losing revenue and encouraged the team to take a look at the tax rate and adjust as necessary to protect the residents, when the time comes. He added that solar power should be investigated as a power source in preparing for winter. He also briefly commented on utilizing artificial intelligence solutions, noting that a review of the benefits and dangers should be evaluated, perhaps at the next planning conference.

Commissioner Turner briefly discussed the opioid overdose crisis, noting that the recent decrease does not equate to a complete decline. Commissioner Turner expressed his appreciation in the District continuing efforts.

Commissioner Reyes departed the meeting at this time.

10. RECEIVE MONTHLY REPORT FROM ASSISTANT CHIEF OF COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION REGARDING STATUS OF FIRE CODE VIOLATIONS AND ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE DISTRICT AND AUTHORIZE ACTION AS NECESSARY, INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING PROPERTIES AND OWNERS:

- A. VAHID KHAMISI, 15505 N. IH-35, PFLUGERVILLE, TEXAS, 78660 (“CLUB MIAMI”);
- B. GLENN WILLIAMS, 6511 BRATTON LANE, AUSTIN, TEXAS 78728 (“PERFECT 10”);
- C. BRIANA STRINGER, 20818 MARTIN LANE, PFLUGERVILLE TEXAS 78660 (“DOGJOY”);
- D. JOHN MELFI, 13800 DRAGLINE DR., AUSTIN, TEXAS 78728 (“COLETTE AUSTIN”);
- E. SHAWN THAI, 13422 DESSAU RD, AUSTIN, TEXAS 78754 (“FOOD TRUCK PARK”)

Assistant Chief Dan Berger provided a brief update on community risk reduction efforts, noting that the properties identified in A through D all face significant challenges and the District is making efforts to work with the property and business owners. With regard to E, that is a food truck park that did not go through the proper channels, and the District has notified the business that it is not in compliance.

11. RECEIVE REPORT REGARDING STATION #7 AND TRAINING FIELD CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS, AND DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ACTION REGARDING AGREEMENT WITH CORE CONSTRUCTION SERVICES OF TEXAS, INC., INCLUDING ANY CHANGE ORDERS OR REQUESTS FOR PAYMENT;

Matter will be addressed in executive session. No action taken.

12. 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;

No update provided. No action taken.

13. RECEIVE REPORT FROM THE PFLUGERVILLE PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTER’S ASSOCIATION, LOCAL NO. 4137 AND CONSIDER TAKING RELATED ACTION;

Item was not addressed. No action taken.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM

14. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSAL FOR CONTRACTED SERVICES FROM BRYCOMM LLC TO PROCURE AND INSTALL ACCESS CONTROL AND SECURITY CAMERA SYSTEMS AT THE NEW TRAINING FIELD AND FIRE STATION #7;

Chief Perkins provided an overview of the security items needed for Station #7, for a total cost of \$189,129.65. This amount does not include the annual cloud fee of \$16,351.52, which will be included in the annual budget.

Commissioner Howe moved and Commissioner Reese seconded to approve and authorize the purchase. The motion passed 4-0.

15. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER A CONTRACT FOR UNIFORM PURCHASES AND TAKE ANY RELATED ACTION;

Chief Perkins stated that the costs for uniforms have been rising, and there have been issues with uniforms not fitting. Proposals were sought; one vendor provided a complete bid for the RFP. The

FY2025 approved budget included \$391,000 for uniform expenses and he anticipates the cost being \$400,000 per contract-year going forward.

Commissioner Howe moved and Commissioner Reese seconded to approve the negotiation. The motion passed 4-0.

16. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER PURCHASE OF A LADDER TRUCK AND A REIMBURSEMENT RESOLUTION AND TAKE ANY RELATED ACTION;

Chief Perkins noted supply chain issues and rising costs have contributed to the delay in the build and delivery of all fire apparatuses, with expected delivery being up to 48 months. A stock apparatus has become available for purchase, with an expected delivery of May 2025. The estimated total cost is currently \$1,859,661; however, specifications are still being reviewed so the amount requested is not to exceed \$2,068,094. The District will finance the purchase with debt and there was a chance to approve a reimbursement resolution in order to get the sale on its way.

Commissioner Howe emphasized that the apparatus costs are rising.

Commissioner Howe moved and Commissioner Griffin seconded to approve the purchase and reimbursement resolution. The motion passed 4-0.

Commissioner Turner noted that this purchase will help to maintain the department's ISO rating.

17. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER A REIMBURSEMENT RESOLUTION FOR THE PURCHASE OF A FIRE ENGINE AND TAKE ANY RELATED ACTIONS;

Ms. Frazier briefly discussed the reimbursement resolution, noting that it is associated with the purchase of an apparatus that was approved in August 2024.

Commissioner Griffin moved and Commissioner Reese seconded to approve the reimbursement resolution. The motion passed 4-0.

18. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR THE DISTRICT RELATED TO FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONAL PROJECTIONS, INCLUDING:

- REVIEW OF 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;

Matter was not addressed. No action taken.

19. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER PURCHASE OF A COMMAND VEHICLE AND TAKE ANY RELATED ACTION;

Chief Perkins discussed purchasing an additional command vehicle to be added to the existing fleet for an amount not to exceed \$105,000, which is the amount appropriated for the purchase in the FY2025 budget.

Commissioner Howe moved and Commissioner Griffin seconded to approve the purchase. The motion passed 4-0.

20. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER THE PROPOSED PROVISION OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES TO OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES, COST ALLOCATION, AND TAKE ANY RELATED ACTION;

Chief Perkins briefly discussed the process of staffing an additional ambulance for Station #6.

21. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ANNUAL FIRE CHIEF EVALUATION AND TAKE ANY RELATED ACTION;

Matter will be discussed in executive session. No action taken.

The Board went into executive session to receive legal advice from counsel on Item 11 pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071, and to discuss Item 21 pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.074. Executive session convened at 7:05 p.m. and ended at 8:18 p.m., at which point the regular meeting was reconvened. No action was taken during executive session.

22. ADJOURN THE MEETING.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for January 9, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

There being no further business, Commissioner Turner adjourned the meeting at 8:19 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Sequina Allen
Board Recorder