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MINUTES

COUNTY OF ROCKWALL EMERGENCY SERVICES CORPORATION

ROCKWALL HISTORIC COURTHOUSE 101 EAST RUSK ROCKWALL, TEXAS 75087 972-204-6000

Regular Board Meeting

Wednesday, September 28, 2016 5:00 p.m.

GENERAL BOARD MEETING

Board Members Present:

Barry Brooks (Heath)
Jim Pruitt (Rockwall)
Chisholm
Dennis Lewis (Rockwall)
Cliff Sevier (Rck. County)
Lorne Megyesi (Fate)
Janet Nichol (Royse City)
David Sweet (Rck. County)
David Billings (Fate)

Board Members Absent:

Debby Bobbitt (Rowlett)
Nathan Hodges (McLendon)

Dana Lawson (Mobile City)

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1. Call to order

David Sweet, President of the ES Corp., called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. with the above named board members being present and absent.

2. Discuss / act on approval of the minutes from the July 27, 2016 regular ES Corp. board meeting

Board Member Nichol made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Board Member Sevier seconded the motion, which passed unanimously of those present (Bobbitt, Hodges and Lawson absent).

3. Discuss / act on ES Corp. Treasurer's Report

David Peek, Treasurer of the ES Corp., provided the board with a monthly update on the bank account balances as well as payments made to the Corporation and payments made by the Corporation. He shared that the final debt payment was made mid-August pertaining to debt owed on the law enforcement training (gun range) facility. So the Corporation is officially debt free. Also, Rutherford & Taylor will likely begin a fiscal year 2016 audit of the ES Corp. in the January / February timeframe. Board Member Billings made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. Board Member Lewis seconded the motion,

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49 which passed unanimously of those present (Bobbitt, Hodges and Lawson
50 absent).

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52 4. Discuss / act on approval of resolutions to adopt the following budgets of the ES
53 Corporation for Fiscal Year 2017:

- 54 a) Administrative / Operating Budget
- 55 b) Law Enforcement Training Facility Operating Budget
- 56 c) Emergency Management Program Budget
- 57 d) Ambulance (EMS) Budget

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60 **Mary Smith, Finance Director/Assistant City Manager for City of Rockwall, briefed**
61 **the board on the budget proposals, indicating that each member entity has**
62 **reviewed them. At this time, it is recommended that the Corporation's board take**
63 **action to approve the budgets for FY17. Board Member Pruitt made a motion to**
64 **approve the resolutions adopting each of the above named budgets (a – d). Board**
65 **Member Sevier seconded the motion, which passed unanimously of those present**
66 **(Bobbitt, Hodges and Lawson absent).**

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68 5. Discuss / act on approval of the following contracts/agreements between the ES
69 Corp. and Rockwall County for FY 2017:

- 70 a) Emergency Mgmt. Administrative & Consulting Operating Costs
- 71 b) Emergency Mgmt. Services
- 72 c) Emergency Medical Services

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75 **Assistant Board Secretary, Kristy Cole, indicated that these agreements are**
76 **standard ones that the Corporation enters into annually with the County. They are**
77 **essentially a means by which the County agrees to pay the Corporation its share**
78 **of funding due during FY2017. Board member Lewis made a motion to approve all**
79 **of the agreements (a – c). Board Member Billings seconded the motion, which**
80 **passed unanimously of those present (Bobbitt, Hodges and Lawson absent).**

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82 6. Discuss / act on the Emergency Management program report

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84 **Joe DeLane, County Emergency Management Coordinator, came forth and briefed**
85 **the board on his monthly reports, indicating that there will be an upcoming**
86 **disaster exercise held on November 11. Also, a training concerning a basic**
87 **overview of Emergency Operations Center roles and responsibilities will be held**
88 **with various County elected officials on October 13 and October 14 from 9:00 –**
89 **11:00 a.m., with the same information being provided both days. He explained**
90 **that a donations advisory group was formed after the December tornados that**
91 **affected Rowlett and Garland, and it has been meeting regularly. On November 18**
92 **from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. this group will meet again, and Mayor Gottel from the City**
93 **of Rowlett will be speaking. All mayors are encouraged to attend. President of**
94 **the Corporation, David Sweet, indicated that he believes all area mayors will be in**
95 **attendance, and he stressed the important role that this planning group plays**
96 **regarding coordination of volunteers and donations. General discussion took**
97 **place related to the importance of managing social media and the messages**
98 **conveyed to the public following a disaster. The board took no action concerning**
99 **this agenda item.**

101 7. Adjournment

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103 **Sweet adjourned this portion of the meeting at 5:11 p.m.**
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108 **AMBULANCE SERVICES BOARD MEETING**

109 **Board Members Present:**

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112 **Barry Brooks (Heath)**
113 **Chisholm)**
114 **Jim Pruitt (Rockwall)**
115 **Dennis Lewis (Rockwall)**
116 **Cliff Sevier (Rck. County)**
117 **Lorne Megyesi (Fate)**
118 **Janet Nichol (Royse City)**
119 **David Sweet (Rck. County)**
120 **David Billings (Fate)**
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Board Members Absent:

Nathan Hodges (McLendon
Dana Lawson (Mobile City)

122
123 1. Call to order

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125 **Sweet called the meeting to order at 5:11 p.m.**

126
127 2. Discuss / act on monthly reports from Medic Rescue related to EMS contract
128 compliance, including any road construction impacts

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130 **Mitch Ownby of Medic Rescue came forth and spoke to the board about his**
131 **monthly reports for the months of July and August, including community events,**
132 **billing and response time compliance.**

133
134 **Board Member Brooks indicated that on May 23, the Heath City Council approved**
135 **a location for an EMS (ambulance) station in Heath, and indication was given at**
136 **the time by Medic Rescue that it would be up and operational within 60 days**
137 **thereafter. It has now been 128 days, and he would like to know why the station is**
138 **still not operational at this point. He stressed that the Heath Council approved the**
139 **location despite the Planning & Zoning Commission and several citizens being**
140 **opposed to the location. He indicated that Medic Rescue had promised the City of**
141 **Heath and its residents a new location that would be operational within 60 days**
142 **and better response times, and he would like to know why Mr. Ownby has not**
143 **followed through with what he said he would do. Mr. Ownby shared that a**
144 **supervisor's vehicle is at the location occasionally, but he understands it is not**
145 **the same as an ambulance. He went on to explain that some construction on the**
146 **facility is needed, namely because the vehicle(s) will not fit into the garage**
147 **(neither the Expedition nor an ambulance), and, with one year left on a service**
148 **contract, it is very difficult to get the new location operational. Board Member**
149 **Brooks indicated that he read in today's newspaper that Mr. Ownby's company**
150 **has no immediate plans to get the Heath location operational unless or until the**
151 **ES Corp. board approves a new service contract with Medic Rescue. Brooks**

152 explained that he and many others, including citizens, were left with the
153 impression that the new location in Heath would be up and running within 60
154 days. He shared that he has received a lot of calls about this today. He is also
155 disappointed that response times to Heath still have not improved, expressing
156 that a person has about a 60 percent chance of an ambulance getting to you on
157 time if you have a (medical) issue come up within Heath.

158
159 President of the ES Corp., David Sweet, engaged with Mr. Ownby, generally
160 expressing discomfort in Medic Rescue recently proposing a significant
161 commitment to increased services with a reduction in subsidy when we currently
162 have a contract in place with Medic Rescue that has one year left on it, and it
163 requires a significant amount of subsidy. Sweet explained that “exclusivity” has
164 been lifted at this point; however, he generally has concerns as to why the ES
165 Corporation board is having to heavily subsidize Medic Rescue for the last year of
166 the contract.

167
168 Mr. Ownby generally explained that non-emergency call volume and associated
169 work provided for an income stream that paid for a vast majority of emergency-
170 related services hours on the street. Subsidy has traditionally paid for roughly ¼
171 of that, and the rest has been paid for by user fees, both emergency and non-
172 emergency. Ownby expressed that subsidy has traditionally allowed for lower tax
173 rates, and the system capitalized on non-emergency call volume. However, he
174 explained, that changed in the fall. He generally expressed that the system in
175 place today is not the same system that was designed twelve years ago.

176
177 Board Member Dennis Lewis questioned Mr. Ownby regarding a request for
178 ambulance service that occurred on September 12, 2016. Lewis indicated that
179 after an ambulance was called seeking assistance there seemed to be a delay in
180 the ambulance arriving and also that the Rockwall Fire Department was involved
181 since someone came to Station #2 to inquire why the ambulance had not arrived.
182 General discussion took place pertaining to this incident, with Mr. Ownby
183 indicating that he will look into the matter and report back to the Board.

184
185 At 5:26 p.m., Sweet called for a brief break. Sweet called the meeting back to
186 order at 5:29 p.m. He then read the below listed discussion item (#3) into the
187 record before recessing the public meeting to go into Ex. Session at 5:29 p.m.
188 Sweet called Ex. Session to order at 5:34 p.m.

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190 3. Recess public meeting to hold Executive Session under Section 551.071 of
191 Texas Government Code to discuss the following:

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193 *Pursuant to Section 551.071(2) of the Open Meetings Act:*

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195 *Consultation with attorney with regard to a matter that it is the duty of the*
196 *attorney to consult with the ES Corporation pursuant to the Attorney Client*
197 *Privilege under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the*
198 *State Bar of Texas and regarding legal advice concerning the current and*
199 *proposed contract for EMS (ambulance) transportation services.*

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201 4. Reconvene public meeting, and take any action as a result of Executive Session.
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203 Sweet adjourned Ex. Session at 5:58 p.m. and then reconvened the public meeting
204 at 6:03 p.m. No formal action was taken as a result of Ex. Session.

205
206 5. Discuss / act on a "request for proposals" (RFP) document to solicit bids for a
207 countywide ambulance services contract, including discussion of associated
208 timeframes

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210 Sweet generally explained that a draft RFP is being discussed by board members
211 at this time. Feedback concerning the draft document is to be provided to Grant
212 Brenna, legal counsel for the ES Corp., on or before Oct. 12. Then, by Oct. 19, Mr.
213 Brenna will distribute comments and an updated draft to all ES Corp. board
214 members. The RFP will be discussed further by the board at its October 26
215 regular board meeting.

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217 6. Adjournment

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219 Sweet adjourned the public meeting at 6:04 p.m.

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222 PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COUNTY OF
223 ROCKWALL EMERGENCY SERVICES CORPORATION ON THIS THE 26th DAY OF
224 October, 2016.

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227 **David Sweet**
228 County Judge and President, County of
229 Rockwall ESC Board of Directors

229 ATTEST:
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231 _____
232 **Kristy Cole**
233 Assistant Secretary, Board of Directors -
234 County of Rockwall ESC



