



MINUTES

COUNTY OF ROCKWALL EMERGENCY SERVICES CORPORATION

ROCKWALL HISTORIC COURTHOUSE 101 EAST RUSK ROCKWALL, TEXAS 75087 972-882-2840

Regular Board Meeting

Wednesday, April 23, 2014 5:00 p.m.

GENERAL BOARD MEETING

Board Members Present:

Board Members Absent:

- 16 **Debby Bobbitt (Rowlett)**
- 17 **Bill Broderick (Fate)**
- 18 **Barry Brooks (Heath) (Mobile City)**
- 19 **Lorie Grinnan (Rck. County)**
- 20 **Steve Hatfield (McLendon Chisholm)**
- 21 **Dennis Lewis (Rockwall)**
- 22 **Janet Nichol (Royse City)**
- 23 **Cliff Sevier (Rck. County)**
- 24 **David Sweet (Rockwall)**

Dana Lawson

- 25 1. Call to order

26
27
28 **Lorie Grinnan called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. with the above listed board members**
29 **being present and absent.**

- 30
31 2. Discuss / act on approval of the minutes from the March 26, 2014 ES Corporation Board
- 32 Meeting

33
34 **David Sweet made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Debby Bobbitt seconded**
35 **the motion, which passed unanimously of those present (Lawson absent).**

- 36
37 3. Discuss / act on ES Corporation Treasurer's Report

38
39 **David Sweet made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Janet Nichol**
40 **seconded the motion, which passed unanimously of those present (Lawson absent).**

- 41
42 4. Discuss / act on Emergency Management Program report

43
44 **Rockwall County Emergency Management Coordinator, Joe DeLane, reported that he is**
45 **working on a mass fatality plan and may hold a tabletop exercise to test it sometime around**
46 **October. He reported that the Texas Animal Health Commission recently held a Community**
47 **Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training focused on animals in disasters, and about thirty**
48 **CERT members attended. The Department of State Health Services is holding an upcoming**
49 **regional training exercise to test the Strategic National Stockpile. Mr. DeLane reminded the**
50 **board that we are in the midst of stormy weather season. No action was taken regarding this**
51 **item.**

52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65
66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79
80
81
82
83
84
85
86
87
88
89
90
91
92
93
94
95
96
97
98
99
100
101
102
103
104
105

5. Adjournment

The regular board meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

AMBULANCE SERVICES BOARD MEETING

Board Members Present:

Board Members Absent:

- Bill Broderick (Fate)
- Barry Brooks (Heath) (Mobile City)
- Lorie Grinnan (Rck. County)
- Steve Hatfield (McLendon Chisholm)
- Dennis Lewis (Rockwall)
- Janet Nichol (Royse City)
- Cliff Sevier (Rck. County)
- David Sweet (Rockwall)

Dana Lawson

1. Call to order

Lorie Grinnan called the meeting to order at 5:11 p.m. with the above listed board members being present and absent.

2. Discuss / act on update from technical subcommittee and EMS board consultant regarding EMS contract review, including improvement of response times

President Grinnan indicated that EMS consultant to the board, Steve Athey, would provide an update on this topic. Mr. Athey reminded the board that any potential changes to the current EMS contract prior to its expiration would need to be mutually agreed upon by both the board and Medic Rescue. Since the contract does not expire until 2017, some things the board may wish to consider tweaking between now and then include: general clean up regarding response time standards (even though contractor is typically in compliance with contract regulations); elimination of the 'first 100 calls' rule; elimination of the supervisor 'stopping the clock;' dividing IH-30 in half (in lieu of "rural" and "urban" response times) and stipulating response time compliance of 85% North of IH-30, 85% South of IH-30 and 90% overall; and hiring a medical director who reports to the board itself (in advisory role). Mr. Athey described that some changes that could be made, for example related to additional vehicles and personnel, could add up to as much as a half-a-million dollars due to the associated increase in unit hours that would be needed. He suggested that Medic Rescue may consider looking into increasing patient fees, and an increase in the subsidy the board pays may be imminent. He explained the average patient charge could reasonably be raised from \$900 to \$1,200 compared to a quick, simplistic market comparison that Mr. Athey recently conducted in the DFW area. Mr. Athey went on to explain that increasing fees by \$300 only results in about \$50 actually coming into the system because, for example, Medicare and non-paying customers will still continue to only pay out so much or not pay at all. Mr. Crowley asked Mr. Athey to evaluate how much an EMS dispatch function costs annually. A rough estimate provided by Mr. Athey was between \$250,000 - \$350,000, but he will try to get a more concrete number. Mr. Ownby of Medic Rescue indicated that his dispatchers currently serve in the role of administrative staff too (i.e. answering non-emergency calls and handling walk ins), and an administrative staff person would still be needed. Mr. Athey indicated that \$25 per person annually is typically the per capita cost associated with EMS service. He reported that it would cost the board an estimated \$1,500 per month to hire a consultative medical director to report to the board. General discussion took place regarding possibly increasing patient rates.

106
107
108
110
111
112
113
114
115
116
117
118
119
120
121
122
123
124
125
126
127
128
129
130
131
132
133
134
135
136
137
138
139
140
141
142
143
144
145
146
147
148
149
150
151
152
153
154
155
156

Board member Steve Hatfield asked Mr. Athey to research more accurate costs regarding adding one, additional, 24-hour ambulance and evaluate where it would be staged and how much this would cost each participating entity.

Mr. Crowley, City Manager of Rockwall, suggested that perhaps the costs associated with whatever changes may need to be made could be phased in over a timeframe spanning the upcoming, several years.

Brief discussion took place regarding how often someone calls for an ambulance and none is available to be sent. Mr. Athey explained the board may wish to evaluate requiring that the contractor either not run transport calls or that they can, but only at its own, independent expense.

No formal action was taken regarding this discussion item.

- 3. Discuss / act on reports from Medic Rescue regarding EMS contract compliance and all related issues

Mr. Mitch Ownby of Medic Rescue provided an update to the board regarding reports for the month of March. He shared that a new child abuse / fatality prevention review board was formed, and the work of this board continues. He stated that the Baylor Emergency Center that recently opened is seeing an increase in activity; however, they have indicated to him that they do not wish to receive ambulatory patients. He indicated that they will likely be transporting more patients out of that facility rather than into the facility at the request of the facility's emergency room director and nursing staff. General discussion took place related to facilities like this one and the Presbyterian facility in the North part of the City of Rockwall, with Mr. Athey explaining they are popping up everywhere all over the country, and they generally prefer to not receive patients who arrive by ambulance.

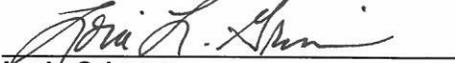
Mr. Ownby provided an update on recent billing and response time activity, indicating that call volume north of IH-30 and south of IH-30 are about equal, percentage-wise.

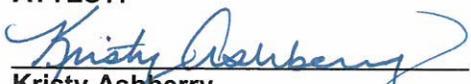
After additional, brief discussion, President Grinnan indicated that the technical subcommittee that has been charged with reviewing this topic will continue its evaluation and report back to the board at a later date.

- 4. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:58 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COUNTY OF ROCKWALL EMERGENCY SERVICES CORPORATION on this the 28th day of May, 2014.


Lorie Grinnan
President, Board of Directors
County of Rockwall ESC

ATTEST:

Kristy Ashberry
Assistant Secretary, Board of Directors
County of Rockwall ESC

