

MINUTES

COUNTY OF ROCKWALL EMERGENCY SERVICES CORPORATION

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

Regular Board Meeting

Wednesday, March 1, 2006 5:00 p.m.

General Board Meeting

1. Call to order

Bruce Beaty called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. Discuss and consider approval of the minutes from the January 25, 2006 ESC Board Meeting.

* Bill Cecil made a motion to approve the minutes.

** David Hill seconded the motion.

*** The minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Hear update regarding status of the joint law enforcement gun range facility process and take any action necessary.

Julie Couch, Rockwall City Manager, indicated that all jurisdictions have responded to either express or decline interest in participating in the project. Leroy Grawunder, Bond Counsel for the Corporation, spoke briefly regarding the processes that should be followed in order to move forward with the project. The facilities contract would outline the provisions for constructing the facility. The operation agreement would outline how the facility will be run. The actual operation of the facility would be "governed" by a committee of representatives from each jurisdiction who utilize the facility on a regular basis.

Couch explained that contracts would be sent out to each jurisdiction for their review and consideration and a response from each jurisdiction is necessary to then submit the agreements for official action by each entity.

4. Discuss and consider adoption of a resolution authorizing the implementation of a special purpose services plan for the firearms training facility project and providing for agreements related thereto; and resolving other matters related thereto.

* Scott Self made a motion to pass the resolution

** Dennis Alsup seconded the motion.

***The resolution passed unanimously

5. Hear update regarding countywide Animal Adoption Center / Animal Shelter and take any action necessary.

Couch reminded the board that a subcommittee was appointed to evaluate the feasibility of a joint animal adoption center and shelter. The subcommittee met and a draft concept of operations was submitted to members of the full board for their review.

Jeffrey Widmer, Director of Animal Services for the City of Rockwall, briefly summarized the draft document and explained that the operating procedures would need to be expanded once interested jurisdictions are identified and a decision is made to move forward with the project.

Couch explained that the first project for the ES Corporation was the EMS Service contract, which required no operating or capital expenses. The second project for the Corporation is the joint gun range which requires debt service and capital obligations. The third potential project for the Corporation might be the Animal Adoption Center / Shelter, which would have a combination of operational and capital obligations.

Couch gave a brief overview of the existing City of Rockwall facility and explained that the joint project would include construction of a new facility that focuses on adoptions as well as sheltering animals. All participating jurisdictions would own the facility, much like the gun range project. A contractual agreement would be created between the Corporation and the City of Rockwall, who would be the operating agency for the facility. The method for allocating costs is still up for discussion and consideration. Rockwall has a cap on how much it can spend, as was indicated by voters in the last bond election. Various entities currently have different laws governing animal services within their own entity, and each may be at a different level in its animal services program.

Grawunder explained that moving forward with the project would require an amendment to the by-laws and articles of incorporation. This is a public health related project, and all entities would have to approve appropriate amendments in those documents.

Self spoke in support of this joint project.

Beaty stated that the County already has a contractual relationship with the City of Rockwall to provide some animal services in the County. He wanted to know if this type of relationship would continue. It was indicated that existing programs not associated with adoption/shelter services would remain in place.

Mayor Bill Cecil, City of Rockwall, indicated that the animals would be delivered to the shelter by other cities through their own animal control programs.

Beaty asked for input from Royse City. Karen Phillipe, Royse City City Manager, indicated that they would still keep an animal control officer on staff. However, this project would provide Royse City with a more modern, more efficient shelter quickly. The ongoing expenses are considerably more than what Royse City is paying now; however, the shelter is too small, it is not well ventilated, and it is not appealing to the public. Construction of an animal shelter in Royse City alone would probably not be a capital project any time soon. City Council would have to decide if this is a priority for Royse City or not.

Couch clarified that costs, if they were calculated on a per capita basis by population, would be adjusted accordingly as the population grows.

Steve Hatfield from McClendon Chisholm indicated that his city has not really made this issue a large priority, but the City Council would have to decide on the issue.

Mayor David Hill, City of Fate, suggested that the information be sent out to each of the entities' governing bodies for review and consideration. Fate is interested, but more information is needed.

Cecil stated that each entity should go back to their respective jurisdiction and share this idea with their other elected officials.

*Self made a motion to send information to each of the ESC members and request an indication of interest.

**Hill seconded the motion.

***The motion passed unanimously.

6. Hear update regarding countywide Emergency Management Program and take any action necessary.

Kristy Ashberry, City of Rockwall Emergency Management Coordinator, gave an overview of the memo that was handed out to each board member. She also referred them to the preliminary / draft cost figures related to this project. Lieutenant David Davis, Rockwall County Emergency Management Coordinator, spoke regarding the various tasks involved with Emergency Management, including heavy grants management.

Beaty felt that the County is very much in support of moving forward with this project. Self echoed this support.

Couch indicated that the countywide Emergency Management Plan document has to be updated since it is to be used in an emergency response. She indicated that while grants management is a part of the program the main focus should be ensuring that the County and all of the jurisdictions are prepared to adequately respond to a large emergency. It was pointed out that FEMA funding in the event of an emergency may be withheld if the plans and documentation are not in place.

*Cecil made a motion to send this information to each entity for consideration.

**Straughan seconded the motion.

***The motion passed unanimously.

Sheriff Eavenson stated that centralization of duties plays a key role if and when a disaster occurs.

Beaty recessed the general board meeting at 5:53 p.m.

7. Discuss updating the Corporation by-laws and take any action necessary.

Beaty called the general board meeting back to order at 6:08 p.m.

Couch explained that there is a need to review and update the Articles of Incorporation and the By-laws.

Grawunder indicated that some processes need to be streamlined and made less rigid. One of the main adjustments will probably include the consideration of adding Public Health-related projects as acceptable special services of the Corporation. Each entity would have to review and approve the changes to each of these documents.

Couch suggested that the board may want to appoint a subcommittee to review these two documents.

Beaty appointed the following to serve on the By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation Subcommittee:

Bill Cecil

Jim Mellody

The technical subcommittee will consist of city managers.

8. Other business

Cecil encouraged each board member to be communicative with each of their elected bodies regarding business conducted at the ES Corporation Board Meetings.

9. Adjournment

*Self made a motion to adjourn.

**Straughan seconded the motion.

***The motion passed unanimously, and the regular board meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Special Services Board Meeting

1. Call to order

Beaty called the special services board meeting to order at 5:53 p.m.

2. Hear update from Medic Rescue regarding contract compliance, reports, and audit and take any action necessary.

Mitch Ownby, Rockwall County EMS/Medic Rescue, stated that the audit is on schedule and should be completed next week, according to their accountant. Beaty indicated that if the audit is not completed on time, he may choose to make a motion to reduce Medic Rescue's monthly subsidy. Ownby indicated that he understood.

Straughan noticed that response times have improved. EMS was called last week to assist his mother, and they handled it very well. Sometime in the near future, it may be necessary to consider adding a day location or an additional ambulance. The shift change in Royse City is an issue. He asked Ownby to run numbers on adding more ambulances and more personnel since first responders are limited in their capability to provide aid. Ownby reminded the board that the expectations for service levels were set at the beginning of the contract. The number of personnel and level of service can always be improved, but it would be at an increased cost.

Phillipe asked how response times were decided. Mark Poindexter, Fire Chief City of Rockwall, stated that the technical subcommittee appointed by the ES Board created the response time requirements based on national standards.

Couch stated that this is something that will need to be considered at some point since the cities are growing.

Tim Wolf, Rockwall County EMS / Medic Rescue, indicated that many of these questions may be answered by Steven Athey, in his report.

3. Appointment with Steven Athey of Health Care Visions to hear update on Phase II of the EMS study and take any action necessary.

Athey indicated that he had intended to have a full report prepared, however some unforeseen issues delayed completion of the report. He will have it ready for the board to review and discuss at the next board meeting. Athey anticipates that the board will find the information to be useful. He does not believe that additional ambulances and personnel need to be added at this time. Rockwall County EMS has been very cooperative and forthcoming with information during this process.

A full report will be discussed with the board at the March 22nd board meeting.

4. Discuss and consider approving Medic Rescue's subsidy increase through the month of March and take any action necessary.

*Cecil made a motion to continue the increased subsidy through March.

**Self seconded the motion.

***The motion passed unanimously.

5. Other business

6. Adjournment

*Self made a motion to adjourn the special services board meeting.

**Hill seconded the motion.

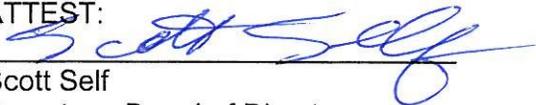
***The motion passed unanimously, and the special services board meeting adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 22nd day of March, 2006.



Bruce Beaty
President, Board of Directors
County of Rockwall ESC

ATTEST:



Scott Self
Secretary, Board of Directors
County of Rockwall ESC