

# COUNTY OF ROCKWALL EMERGENCY SERVICES CORPORATION

## MINUTES



**August 25, 2005 - Regular Board Meeting**  
ROCKWALL HISTORIC COURTHOUSE 101 EAST RUSK ROCKWALL, TEXAS 75087

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### **Board Members Present:**

Bruce Beaty  
Scott Self  
Bill Cecil  
Stephen Straughn  
John Ratcliffe  
Steve Hatfield  
David Hill

### **Board Members Absent:**

Dennis Alsup  
Jim Mellody  
Wanda Cooper

### **General Board Meeting**

#### **1. Call to Order**

Bruce Beaty called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

#### **2. Discuss and consider approval of the minutes from the August 4, 2005 ESC Board Meeting and take any action necessary.**

\*Scott Self made a motion to approve the minutes.

\*\* Steve Hatfield seconded the motion.

\*\*\* The motion passed unanimously.

#### **3. Other business**

Beaty opened discussion regarding the need for a County Emergency Management Coordinator.

Sheriff Eavenson believes the idea is good; however one person is not sufficient. Lt. Davis spends 70% of his time on emergency management related issues. Eavenson proposed funding an Emergency Services Manager for Rockwall County

with one staff member and one coordinator budgeted under the Emergency Services Corporation.

Julie Couch, City Manager for the City of Rockwall wants to work with the ESC on developing a budget and thinks it is a great idea.

Eavenson stated the individual should have an Emergency Management degree.

Scott Self indicated the position needed to office at City Hall or County offices near the dispatch center.

Eavenson advised the position be located at the County because Lt. Davis would need to train the individual. Judge Holloway would relocate and make space.

Beaty discussed the need to lease space because it would be at least three years before the new Government Center is complete.

Lt. Davis commented that he and Kristy Ashberry, City of Rockwall Emergency Management Coordinator, spend 75 – 80% of their time on EM related issues/grants/deadlines/attending conferences, etc. There is not enough time. Davis indicated the need for three positions stating without the proper help the deadlines would be missed and funding potentially would be forfeited. Davis stated this is a highly labor intensive job that requires attendance at a lot of meetings. Davis summarizes with two issues to be addressed: 1) Hire enough people; 1 coordinator and 2 support staff and 2) Workspace

Ashberry encouraged the County to hire a full-time Emergency Management Coordinator stating that we need to continue to be progressive. She reiterated the months of preparation required to organize for tabletop exercises, which are an important part of preparedness.

Beaty asked if all the board members were interested in pursuing a County EMC position. All that were present agreed they were interested.

Self suggested 50% funding by the County and then City participation based on ESC budget allocation.

Davis added all equipment acquired through grant funds is available County-wide, not just the agency that procured it.

Beaty asked if Rowlett would be interested and instructed Davis and Couch to contact Rowlett.

Davis indicated Rowlett would rather partner with Rockwall County, however being in Dallas County allows them the option and Dallas is allocated more funding due to size.

\*Scott Self made a motion to authorize Lt. Davis to work with county-wide entities to research a joint County Emergency Management Coordinator funded through the ESC. \*\*Bill Cecil seconded the motion. \*\*\*The motion passed unanimously.

Bruce Beaty recessed the Regular Board meeting at 5:17 p.m.

Beaty reconvened the Regular Board meeting at 5:50 p.m.

Beaty asked for opinions on the consortium meeting schedule. The board agreed EMS would be first at 5:00 p.m. followed by the Consortium at 6:00p.m.

#### **4. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:54 p.m.

#### **Special Services Board Meeting**

##### **1. Call to Order**

Bruce Beaty called the Special Services Board Meeting to order at 5:17 p.m.

##### **2. Appointment with Steven Athey, President of Health Care Visions, to discuss an EMS study and take any action necessary.**

Athey stated he was asked by Julie Couch and Mary Smith to submit a proposal to review the EMS subsidy amount. He introduced himself and spoke about his qualifications adding that he will look at the subsidy amount and provide a window for a legitimate subsidy. In addition, he submitted a proposal for a contract compliance audit.

Bill Cecil asked how much time would be needed to complete this process.

Athey answered Phase 1 (subsidy review) would be two to three weeks depending on access.

Beaty questioned whether the contract allows us to examine the books.

Couch stated the contract did allow for review adding this process with benefit both the ESC and EMS to develop reasonable response.

Self advised that any recommendation should be backed up with documentation and the board should allow the EMS to dispute the conclusion or proof. He added that he also wants to see industry standards and why things are different in other areas.

Couch said this would be procedural in terms of budget. The City of Rockwall will carry Phase 1 then wrap it into next year's ESC budget.

Beaty clarified Phase 1 cost is \$7,000 and Phase 2 cost is \$14,000.

\*Scott Self made a motion to accept the proposal from Health Care Visions and hire Mr. Athey for both Phase 1 and 2 at a total cost of \$21,000.

\*\*Stephen Straughan seconded the motion

\*\*\*The motion passed unanimously.

Tim Wolf with Medic Rescue added they would participate with full cooperation

Athey stated he would be here Thursday and Friday next week (9/1-2) to begin the review.

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

Mary Smith, City of Rockwall Finance Director, stated the audit submitted by Medic Rescue was incomplete and a full review was not possible. It is up to the board if the information submitted can be used for their purposes.

Beaty suggested hiring the consultant will solve the question about the subsidy amount.

Couch asked when the full audit will be complete.

Wolf answered within 30 days and added estimates would be used to complete the audit if confirmation letters are not received by the auditors.

Mitch Ownby added that nothing would change with a complete audit than what had been presented.

Self saw no shortcomings and only questions whether the information is reasonable and comparable to other EMS.

Smith explained she still cannot evaluate without notes to explain the numbers.

John Blackwood added he did not evaluate the audit because it was presented incomplete and considered only preliminary.

Ownby stated they were limited until the auditors can finalize the report.

Couch explained the current contract states an annual audit must be complete by April 30 but would consider amending the contract changing the date to June 30. We were going to use the audit for some of the items for which we just hired Mr. Athey. Regardless, it still needs to be completed stating they are in violation of the contract.

Ownby reiterated the auditors were waiting on confirmations to complete the audit.

Hatfield commented that if the audit were complete, we are still making a decision based on information ending December 2004 adding we need to make decisions based on current information.

Beaty expressed it was incumbent upon the EMS to cooperate with Athey and get the audit complete.

**4. Discuss and consider approval of the proposed FY 2005 – 2006 Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Budget and take any action necessary.**

Discussion on this item was tabled until a report regarding the subsidy is presented by Mr. Athey.

**5. Other business**

Radio discussion

Medic Rescue is not operating on the new radio system.

Ownby advised that additional software needed to be installed before the radios would work.

Mark Poindexter, City of Rockwall Fire Chief, explained that everything has been installed but the EMS staff has not been trained and won't attend the training that has been offered.

Ownby stated he was under the impression he could train his staff since he had been through the training.

Couch instructed Poindexter to meet with John Vermillion, City of Rockwall Radio system administrator, to resolve any additional issues with Medic Rescue.

## 6. Adjournment

\*Scott Self made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:50 p.m.

\*\*Steve Hatfield seconded the motion.

\*\*\*The motion passed unanimously.

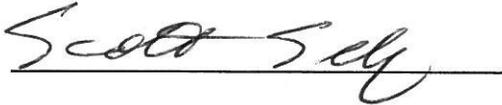
Beaty then reconvened the Regular Board meeting.

**ADOPTED AND APPROVED** this 28<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2005.



Bruce Beaty  
President, Board of Directors  
County of Rockwall ESC

ATTEST:



Scott Self  
Secretary, Board of Directors  
County of Rockwall ESC