

# COUNTY OF ROCKWALL EMERGENCY SERVICES CORPORATION MINUTES



**August 4, 2005 - Regular Board Meeting**

ROCKWALL HISTORIC COURTHOUSE 101 EAST RUSK ROCKWALL, TEXAS 75087

---

**Board Members Present:**

Dennis Alsup  
Bruce Beaty  
Bill Cecil  
Steve Hatfield  
David Hill  
Jim Mellody  
John Ratcliffe  
Scott Self  
Stephen Straughan

**Board Members Absent:**

Wanda Cooper

**General Board Meeting**

**1. Call to Order**

Bruce Beaty called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

**2. Introduction of new Emergency Services Corporation board members**

Bruce Beaty asked each person to introduce him/herself.

**3. Discuss and consider selection of new officers for the Emergency Services Corporation Board and take any action necessary.**

\* Bruce Beaty made a motion to re-elect existing officers.

\*\* Stephen Straughan seconded the motion.

\*\*\* The motion passed unanimously.

The re-elected officers are as follows:

**President**

Bruce Beaty

**Vice President**

Bill Cecil

**Secretary**

Scott Self

*\* The board unanimously agreed that Julie Couch will serve as the Assistant Secretary and will maintain minutes for the corporation as well as possession of all documents.*

**Treasurer**

Steve Hatfield

*\* The board unanimously agreed that Sheree Jones, Rockwall County Treasurer, will serve as the Assistant Treasurer and will maintain all financial records for the Corporation.*

**4. Discuss and consider approval of the minutes from the June 30, 2005 ESC Board Meeting and take any action necessary.**

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

\*\*Bill Cecil seconded the motion.

\*\*\*The motion passed unanimously.

**5. Hear update from Julie Couch regarding the joint, law enforcement gun range facility.**

Couch indicated that the technical subcommittee members recently met and reviewed the original architectural features and associated cost estimates for the facility. Rockwall Police, Chief Mark Moeller, indicated that the committee will meet with the architect again in the next few weeks to discuss revisions to the original, draft plans. Couch indicated that the committee decided to do away with the training classroom that was originally proposed in order to cut down on the cost. Couch explained that cost estimates and distributions would soon be presented to each jurisdiction that has expressed interest in participating in the joint gun range. Moeller indicated that cutting out the classroom will save an estimated one million dollars on construction costs. Bruce Beaty expressed an interest in visiting the gun range facility in Lewisville to get an idea of what the facility might be like. Moeller said that he would arrange this. Couch reminded the board that about two months ago various City Managers met with the architect and decided that the cost estimates were too high. They will now meet again and revise the original estimates and a second meeting will be called with the architect.

Bruce Beaty recessed the Regular Board meeting at 5:18 p.m.

**6. Other business**

**7. Adjournment**

**Special Services Board Meeting**

## **1. Call to order**

Bruce Beaty called the Special Services Board Meeting to order at 5:18 p.m.

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

Mitch Ownby gave a brief overview of his regular, monthly reports. He indicated that they are meeting response times and that education in the community has been somewhat busy but not as busy as in past months.

Beaty indicated that some Fire Departments in the County have submitted subsidy requests from the County for first responder calls. He expressed that the County does not want to pay for first responder calls.

Ownby indicated that they are required to maintain reserve ambulances for six years or 200,000 miles (whichever comes first). Couch indicated that there should be date changes made to the contract for reserve ambulances as well as the annual audit due date.

The due date for the audit that is currently being conducted is August 19. Ownby expressed that he believes the audit is on track and will be completed by the due date. It will be sent to Mary Smith and John Ratcliffe as well as John Blackwood.

Ownby indicated that an EMS study is being conducted right now to review procedures, protocols and billing practices. They are working with their medical director to do so. This was to have been completed in July. The medical director would like to begin attending ES board Meetings.

## **3. Discuss and consider EMS study and take any action necessary.**

Couch expressed a desire to hire a consultant to conduct a comprehensive study of the EMS system to determine if the subsidy being paid is fair. The board has chosen not to go out for bid on the service since it has been relatively satisfied with the level and quality of service delivered by Rockwall County EMS; however, the board needs to be sure that the subsidy being paid and any increase in the future is justifiable, reasonable, and fair.

Couch indicated that Mary Smith has found a gentleman, Steven Athey, who specializes in this area. He has a strong background in reviewing EMS service providers. He is currently out of town. Otherwise he would have been present at the meeting, but he would be glad to meet with the board at a subsequent meeting. A two part proposal has been developed by Mr. Athey to help identify cost saving methods on things such as billing and collections. The cost of the two studies is about \$21,000 combined. It is \$10,000 for him to conduct just the rate study to ensure that the subsidy and requested increase in subsidy is fair. He can begin this study in September and could complete it within two weeks.

Beaty asked about the second phase.

Couch indicated that Phase 2 would be a more in-depth study to evaluate operations and make recommendations in improving revenues. She expressed that each of these studies would be beneficial for both Rockwall County EMS and the Emergency Services Corporation.

Scott Self indicated that he is in favor of the studies. He said it would be worth the money to do so since it could help identify areas to cut, capital improvement needs, etc. It would be a "win-win" situation.

John Ratcliffe echoed Self's points.

Couch stated that the board does not have to act on this today. She encouraged board members to review Athey's proposals for consideration at the next board meeting.

Beaty asked if the consultant could get the cost study completed in time for entity budgets. Couch indicated that he could.

Ratcliffe wanted Rockwall County EMS to have a chance to look over the proposals as well. He stated that Mitch Ownby and Mr. Athey might want to meet to discuss the process as well before hand.

\*David Hill made a motion to authorize Julie Couch to contact Health Care Visions, Steven Athey's company, to set up a meeting and discuss his proposals. \*\*Scott Self seconded the motion. \*\*\*It passed unanimously.

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

Bruce Beaty tabled this item until a later date.

Mary Smith pointed out that a memo is included in board member packets to show a comparison between the existing subsidy and proposed subsidy and the impact that each will have on each participating entity.

**5. Other business**

Couch indicated that the previous Rowlett board member was to serve as the chair of the subcommittee that has been charged with researching a joint fire training facility. Bruce Beaty suggested that the new Rowlett representative, Dennis Alsup, be assigned to take the previous chair's place. It was clarified that the subcommittee for the fire training facility would include the following board members:

Dennis Alsup, City of Rowlett – Chair  
Stephen Straughan, City of Rockwall  
David Hill, City of Fate.

**6. Adjournment**

Scott Self made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:42 p.m.  
Steve Hatfield seconded the motion.

It passed unanimously.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 25<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2005.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bruce Beaty". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Bruce Beaty  
President, Board of Directors  
County of Rockwall ESC

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott Self". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Scott Self  
Secretary, Board of Directors  
County of Rockwall ESC