



MINUTES

COUNTY OF ROCKWALL EMERGENCY SERVICES CORPORATION
Rockwall Historic Courthouse 101 East Rusk Rockwall, Texas 75087 972-204-6000

Regular Board Meeting **Wednesday, October 19, 2022 - 5:00 PM**

PRESENT

David Billings (Fate)
Heather Buegeler (Fate)
Clay Ellis (Royse City)
Kevin Fowler (Rockwall)
Bryan McNeal (McLendon Chisholm)
Frank New (Heath)
Janet Nichol (Rockwall County)
Kenny Phillips (Mobile City)
Deb Shinder (Rowlett) (joined at 5:05 p.m.)
David Sweet (Rockwall County)

ABSENT

James Branch (Royse City)
Trace Johannesen (Rockwall)

I. GENERAL BOARD MEETING

1. Call public meeting to order

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

2. Open Forum / Public Comments

No one came forth to speak during Open Forum.

3. Discuss / act on approval of minutes from the Sept. 21, 2022 Regular ESC Board mtg.

Board Member Nichol moved to approve these minutes, as presented. Board Member New seconded the motion, which passed unanimously of those present.

4. Discuss / act on monthly ES Corp. Treasurer's Report

Billings moved to accept the monthly Treasurer's Report, as presented. Board Member Ellis seconded the motion, which passed unanimously of those present.

5. Discuss / act on monthly Emergency Management program report

Board Member Billings made a motion to accept the report, as presented. Board Member Nichol seconded the motion, which passed unanimously of those present.

6. Discuss / act on approval of the following agreements between the ESC and Rockwall Co. for Fiscal Year 2023:

- a) Emergency Mgmt. Administrative Operating Costs
- b) Emergency Management Services
- c) Emergency Management Ambulance Consulting Operating Costs

Board Member New moved to approve all three of the agreements (a, b, and c). Board Member Johannesen seconded the motion, which passed unanimously of those present.

7. Discuss / act on future meeting dates of the ESC for the remainder of this calendar year

Indication was given that the ESC Board typically has a combined Nov./Dec. board meeting in early Dec. each year; however, due to efforts related to the updating of the ambulance contract, it is likely necessary for the board to meet in both November and December this year. Indication was given that a meeting will likely end up being scheduled for Nov. 17 to discuss "ambulance services" issues only.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:16 p.m.

I. AMBULANCE SERVICES (EMS) BOARD MEETING

1. Call public meeting to order

Sweet called this portion of the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m.

2. Discuss / act on monthly ambulance services reports and associated contract compliance, including 'major breach' from 09/06/22

Mitch Ownby of Medic Rescue/Rockwall County EMS briefed the board on his monthly reports, including community related events and response time compliance. President Sweet moved to accept the report, as presented. Board Member Johannesen seconded the motion, which passed unanimously of those present.

Mr. Athey, the ESC's EMS consultant, briefly spoke about the topic of 'major breach' associated with an ambulance services contract. He generally explained that declaring a contractor to be in 'major breach' should be used on an extremely limited, rare basis (if ever at all). He explained that a 'major breach' is very serious and is essentially akin to an 'atomic bomb.' So it should in fact be avoided if at all possible. Issuance of a major breach is a very serious matter because it triggers the possibility of the ESC Board firing the contractor, taking the keys to their ambulances, and taking over their business/operations within a short period of time if the breach is not rectified / cured. Following Athey's comments, Sweet made a motion for the ESC to lift the 09/06/22 'major breach' but require that the contractor continue to monitor dispatch-related phone transfer issues and report to the ESC in writing once every 7 days. Board Member Fowler seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

3. Appointment with Rck. Co. Sheriff, Terry Garrett and EMS Consultant, Steve Athey of Healthcare Visions to discuss/act on sub-committee's work related to an updated countywide ambulance services contract between the ESC and Medic Rescue

Sweet provided introductory comments, indicating that several months ago, the ESC board appointed a subcommittee to review the existing (2017) countywide ambulance services contract with the assistance of the ESC's ambulance-related consultant, Steve Athey of Healthcare Visions and with Sheriff Terry Garrett chairing the subcommittee. Sheriff Garrett then briefed the board on the work of the subcommittee and staff, in conjunction with Mr. Athey, over the last several months. The goals were to essentially clean up some of the contract language, try and shorten the document if possible, address the current needs (countywide) especially in light of growth (since 2017), address countywide (EMS) training needs for First Responder Organizations (FROs) and look into resources the contractor may need while allowing the ESC and its member entities to remain paying 'zero subsidy' to the contractor. Garrett explained that one of the noteworthy recommendations that member entity municipalities are being asked to consider is instituting provisions within their own cities that call for exclusive use of the ESC's ambulance contractor for not only 9-1-1 calls but also for non-emergency transfers/transports.

Following Garrett's briefing, Board Member New thanked Sheriff Garrett and the subcommittee for its work, generally commenting that he believes the updated suggestions being brought forth at this time do reflect a 'cleaned-up' document that has less 'legalese.' Sweet also thanked the subcommittee for all of its hard work, ideas and input.

Indication was given that each municipality (minus Rowlett) is being asked to visit with their city councils about the topic of exclusivity of ambulance services within their jurisdiction and be ready to report back to the board by Monday, November 14 in anticipation of a Thursday, November 17 (special/ambulance only) ESC meeting. Also, the redlined version 16 of the countywide contract will be emailed out to all ESC board members, city managers/administrators, and subcommittee (fire chiefs) members. If anyone has additional comments concerning the marked-up contract, they are asked to submit those comments and also report on their city's sentiments regarding 'exclusivity' to Kristy Teague on/before Monday, November 14. On that date, Mrs. Teague will need to post a public meeting agenda/notice for a Thurs., November 17 ESC (ambulance services) board meeting.

No formal action was taken by the board concerning this agenda item.

4. Discuss / act on Medic Rescue's last and final one-year ambulance services contract extension request

Board Member Billings made a motion to table this item until the January 2023 ESC board meeting. Board Member New seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

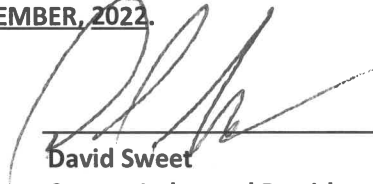
5. Discuss / act on Medic Rescue's request for a 3% adjustment to the Maximum Average Bill (the "MAB") as discussed in the countywide ambulance services contract

Mitch Ownby came forth and briefly explained that the countywide ambulance services contract allows for this annual adjustment if the ESC board approves it. Board Member Billings moved to approve the 3% MAB increase, as requested. Board Member Fowler seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

6. Adjournment

Sweet adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COUNTY OF ROCKWALL EMERGENCY SERVICES CORPORATION ON THIS 15th DAY OF DECEMBER, 2022.



David Sweet
County Judge and President, County of Rockwall
ESC Board of Directors

ATTEST:



Kristy Teague - Assistant Secretary,
Board of Directors - County of Rockwall ESC

