



**North Hays County  
Emergency Services District #1  
P. O. Box 1604, Dripping Springs, Texas 78620**

Minutes – June 15, 2021 Regular Meeting

Approved July 20, 2021

**Commissioners Present**

Vice President Dennis Lane  
Treasurer Darrell Debish  
Secretary Bob Luddy

**Others Present**

Doug Fowler, NHCESD#1

**Commissioners Present via Teleconference**

**Commissioners Absent**

None

**Others Present via Teleconference**

Scott Collard, NHCESD#6  
David Smith, SMHC EMS  
Matt Weinberg, SMHC EMS

**A. CALL TO ORDER – 5:17 pm**

**B. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION - None**

**C. CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Consider approval of the minutes for the Special Board Meeting on May 18, 2021
2. Consider approval of the minutes for the Regular Board Meeting on May 18, 2021
3. Consider approval of the June 2021 Treasurer’s Report
4. Consider acknowledgement of June 2021 Disbursements
5. Consider acknowledgement of HdL Report
6. Consider acknowledgement of the District Calendar and Task List
7. Consider acknowledgement of the District Administrator’s Status of Projects and Repairs Report
8. Consider acknowledgement of the District Administrator’s Response Activity Report
9. Consider acknowledgement of the District Administrator’s Personal Time Log
10. Consider approval of the June 2021 mail log
11. Consider acknowledgement of Commissioner Status of Training

**Motion by Commissioner Debish to approve the consent agenda. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Luddy**

**Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lane - Yea  
Commissioner Luddy - Yea  
Commissioner Debish - Yea**

**Motion passed unanimously**

**D. REPORTS**

1. North Hays County Fire/Rescue (NHCFR)
  - a. Status of shared facilities at new Sawyer Ranch Rd station  
*Chief Collard discussed May response activity, status of construction at the new fire station, and the Grand opening scheduled for Saturday June 26, 2021 at 10:00 am.*
2. San Marcos Hays County EMS (SMHC EMS)  
*Chief Smith discussed filling the Hays County Dispatch Executive Committee vacancy that was previously filled by ESD 1 President Geoffrey Tahuahua. The position rotates as vacancies occur so a board member from another ESD will be recruited. Chief Smith also discussed they were conducting interviews to replace Jolind Tays who will be departing at the end of July. The financial report was not available due to some reporting issues encountered. Chief Smith expected the report to be forwarded later in the week. The last item to report was a high level of vehicle maintenance was occurring, mostly dealing with air conditioning issues.*



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*Chief Weinberg discussed the response data for May. The Board asked Chief Weinberg for his opinion on the need for expansion of response units in the future. He stated that based upon current trends he saw no need to plan for any changes in fiscal year 2022. However, based upon all trending factors (call volume, response time, and Zero Level incidents) he believed an additional demand unit would be justified in fiscal year 2023. That demand unit would most likely need to be scheduled from 11:00 am to 11: pm (or possibly noon to midnight) on its 12-hour shifts to provide service during the busiest twelve-hour period.*

3. District Administrator

a. Sewer connection project update

*DA Fowler updated the status of the project. All that remains is to fill the old septic tank with cement and to hydro-mulch the areas of the yard requiring excavation. The project is anticipated to be completed in late June or early July.*

b. Update on new property acquisition, site plan, and elevations

*The latest plan updates were not available by meeting time. This item will be placed on the July agenda.*

c. Domain name, website, and email address change considerations

*DA Fowler discussed the workload associated with position changes on the board and that if email address remained the same throughout a board member's tenure the flow of communication would be more efficient. Additionally, a change in Domain names would assist in raising the District's profile in internet searches. The change in domain name is approximately \$20 per year, email address would be changed but the old position addresses would still be associated with the people in those position. No emails would be lost, whether sent to the new address or the old address. The new domain name will be [NorthHaysEMS.org](http://NorthHaysEMS.org), and email addresses will be [Firstname.Lastname@northhaysems.org](mailto:Firstname.Lastname@northhaysems.org) (example - [Doug.Fowler@NorthHaysEMS.org](mailto:Doug.Fowler@NorthHaysEMS.org)). The Board took the following action:*

**Motion by Commissioner Debish to purchase domain name NorthHaysEMS.org for an amount not to exceed \$300 annually. Second by Commissioner Luddy.**

**Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lane - Yea**

**Commissioner Luddy – Yea**

**Commissioner Debish – Yea**

**Motion passed unanimously**

4. Emergency vehicle travel accommodation during future US290/TX71 interchange construction.

*Nothing new to report.*

**E. COMMITTEE UPDATES**

1. Committee Assignments

*The Board postponed changes in committee assignments until two new members were placed on the Board.*

2. Community Outreach Committee (\_\_\_\_ & Luddy)

*DA Fowler reported that the File of Life refrigerator pouches were received positively online and by citizens at the Dripping Springs Senior Activity Center.*

3. Website/Facebook Committee (\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_)

*This item was discussed earlier by DA Fowler.*

4. Finance Committee (Lane & Debish)



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*This item was reviewed in the Special Meeting that preceded this meeting.*

5. Budget & Long-Range Planning Committee (Lane & Debish)

*This item was reviewed in the Special Meeting that preceded this meeting.*

6. Future property acquisitions and stations (\_\_\_\_\_ & Lane)

*This item will be discussed later in the meeting.*

7. Hays County Dispatch Center Oversight Committee. (\_\_\_\_\_)

*Based upon completion of the new dispatch facility this agenda item will be removed in the future. Any issues that need to be reported to the board will be included in Chief Smith's report.*

8. Public Information Officer (Luddy)

*Nothing new to report.*

**F. STANDING AGENDA ITEMS**

1. Legal update. Input from and legal questions for John Carlton

*DA Fowler reported that the Carlton Law Firm was drafting a contract for future property acquisitions.*

2. Items of interest from the 87<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature (Debish)

*Commissioner Debish reviewed the status of several bills of interest. Of high interest to ESD's was the community paramedic bill which never emerged from committee and was effectively dead for the session. Additionally, there appears to be several issues that will require a special session of the Texas Legislature.*

**G. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Election of Officers

*Due to the resignation of President O'Brien, a new President needed to be elected.*

**Motion by Commissioner Luddy nominating Vice President Lane as President. Second by Commissioner Debish.**

**Roll Call Vote:** Commissioner Luddy - Yea  
 Commissioner Debish - Yea  
 Commissioner Lane - Yea                      **Motion passed unanimously**

2. Review resolution regarding public participation at open meetings and make changes as appropriate.

*This item was recommended for action by legal counsel. The item is a resolution by the board promoting public participation in open meetings.*

**Motion by Commissioner Debish to approve resolution regarding public participation at open meetings. Second by Commissioner Luddy.**

**Roll Call Vote:** Commissioner Luddy - Yea  
 Commissioner Debish - Yea  
 Commissioner Lane - Yea                      **Motion passed unanimously**

3. Conduct annual review of the investment policy, investment strategies, and adopt resolution.

*This item was recommended for action by legal counsel. This is a clean-up of previously used language for this annual item.*

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**Motion by Commissioner Debish to approve the Investment Policy, Investment Strategies and adopt the**



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resolution. Second by Commissioner Luddy.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Luddy - Yea  
Commissioner Debish - Yea  
Commissioner Lane - Yea                      **Motion passed unanimously**

4. Discussion and possible action regarding contracting with an Owner Advocate for the RR 12 EMS Station construction.

*DA Fowler reported there was currently only one quote for this item and several more were needed before action could be taken. This item will be placed on the July agenda.*

5. Discussion and possible action regarding the acquisition of property for an east EMS station.

*Pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 - consultation with legal counsel; 551.072 - discussion of real estate acquisition, and 551.074 - discussion of personnel matters, the Board retired to executive session at 5:55 pm.*

*The Board returned to the regular session at 6:39 pm. The following action was taken by the Board.*

**Motion by Commissioner Luddy to approve the purchase of 2.22 acres on Heritage Oaks, just north of US HWY-290 in the amount of \$760,000.00 in addition to settlement charges. President Lane and DA Fowler are to represent the District in property acquisition. Second by Commissioner Debish.**

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Luddy - Yea  
Commissioner Debish - Yea  
Commissioner Lane - Yea                      **Motion passed unanimously**

**Motion by Commissioner Debish to approve \$1,000 in earnest money payable to Independence Title for the Heritage Oaks property. Second by Commissioner Luddy.**

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Debish - Yea  
Commissioner Luddy - Yea  
Commissioner Lane - Yea                      **Motion passed unanimously**

**Motion by Commissioner Luddy to approve \$500 for the option period payable to TKT Properties for the Heritage Oaks property. Second by Commissioner Debish.**

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Luddy - Yea  
Commissioner Debish - Yea  
Commissioner Lane - Yea                      **Motion passed unanimously**

**Motion by Commissioner Debish to approve due diligence engineering work for the Heritage Oaks property in the amount of \$3,500.00, with \$2,500 retainer paid up front). Second by Commissioner Luddy.**

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Debish - Yea  
Commissioner Luddy - Yea  
Commissioner Lane - Yea                      **Motion passed unanimously**

**ADJOURNMENT – 6:41 pm**