



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

Minutes – March 16, 2021 Regular Meeting

Approved April 20, 2021

Commissioners Present

President Geoffrey Tahuahua
Secretary Bob Luddy
Assistant Treasurer Darrell Debish

Commissioners Present via Teleconference

Vice President Dan O'Brien
Treasurer Dennis Lane

Commissioners Absent

None

Others Present

Doug Fowler, NHCESD#1

Others Present via Teleconference

Scott Collard, NHCESD#6
Jim Swisher, SMHC EMS
Matt Weinberg, SMHC EMS
Jolind Tays, SMHC EMS

A. CALL TO ORDER – 5:11 pm

B. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION - None

C. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Consider approval of the minutes for Regular Board Meeting on February 22, 2021
2. Consider approval of the March 2021 Treasurer's Report
3. Consider approval of March Disbursements
4. Consider acknowledgement of HdL Report
5. Consider acknowledgement of the District Calendar and Task List
6. Consider acknowledgement of the District Administrator's Status of Projects and Repairs Report
7. Consider acknowledgement of the District Administrator's Response Activity Report
8. Consider acknowledgement of the District Administrator's Personal Time Log
9. Consider approval of the mail log
10. Consider acknowledgement of Board Member Training Status

Commissioner Debish requested that Consent Agenda Items #2 and #3 be pulled for discussion.

Motion by Commissioner Debish to approve consent agenda items 1, and 4 through 10. Second by Commissioner Lane.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Tahuahua – Yea
Commissioner O'Brien - Yea
Commissioner Luddy – Yea
Commissioner Lane – Yea
Commissioner Debish – Yea

Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Debish reviewed several items from the Treasurers report and Disbursements.



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Motion by Commissioner Debish to approve consent agenda items #2 and #3. Second by Commissioner Luddy.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Tahuahua – Yea
Commissioner O’Brien - Yea
Commissioner Luddy – Yea
Commissioner Lane – 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 reported on call volume and progress with the new fire station on Sawyer Ranch Road.
2. San Marcos Hays County EMS (SMHC EMS)
Chief Swisher reported on the vaccination effort.
Chief Weinberg reported on response activities.
Jolind Tays reviewed the financial information for February and year-to-date.
3. District Administrator (DA)
 - a. Sewer connection project for 111 EMS Drive – Discuss and consider funding of \$850.00 to The Alderson Group and \$974.25 to Whitecap Survey Company for City of Dripping Springs required survey and documentation of the wastewater easement agreement.

DA Fowler reported the wastewater easement agreement was complete and submitted to the City. The City requested that a survey be included. A survey with appropriate documentation was requested from the Alderson Group. No further action was required as Motion #49 from the September 15, 2020 meeting covered the authority for the DA to pay all necessary costs up to \$30,000 for the sewer connection project.

The Board directed DA Fowler to contact Accent Plumbing to let them know approval from the City was imminent, with optimism Accent Plumbing will be able to start the project soon after City approval.
 - a. Update on new property
This item was moved to executive session.
4. Emergency vehicle travel accommodation during future US290/TX71 interchange construction.
Commissioner Tahuahua reported he was attending a meeting with TXDOT in the near future and would bring this item up for discussion.

E. COMMITTEE UPDATES

1. Community Outreach Committee (Tahuahua & Luddy)
Nothing new to report.
2. Website/Facebook Committee (Tahuahua & O’Brien)
Nothing new to report.



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3. Finance Committee (Lane & Debish)

Commissioner Lane reported the Quarterly Investment Report for the first quarter of FY 2021 was complete with appropriate signature blocks.

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

Nothing to report

5. Future property acquisitions and stations (O'Brien & Lane)

Nothing new to report.

6. Hays County Dispatch Center Oversight Committee. (Tahuahua)

Commissioner Tahuahua reported on issues with the Dispatch Center during the winter storm in February.

7. Public Information Officer (O'Brien)

Nothing new to report

F. STANDING AGENDA ITEMS

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

Nothing to report.

2. Items of interest from the 87th Texas Legislature (Debish)

Commissioner Debish reviewed information received in the last SAFE-D legislative update.

G. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consider approval of a new ambulance to replace Medic 71 in an amount not to exceed \$290,000.00.

DA Fowler advised the Board that Medic 71 was nearing the point of recommended replacement due to mileage and increasing maintenance costs. Ten months is the current turnaround time from ordering until the unit is built and ready to be placed in service. If an order is placed soon, the new unit could be available in January of 2022. San Marcos Hays County EMS has a standard profile for units ordered from Frazer. DA Fowler discussed the new unit with the crews assigned to NHCESD #1 and requested their input on additions to the replacement for Medic 71. With the exception of 4-wheel drive, all the additional items were acceptable to the Board.

Motion by Commissioner Debish to approve the purchase of a new ambulance, without 4-wheel drive, in an amount not to exceed \$290,000.00. Second by Commissioner Luddy.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Tahuahua – Yea

Commissioner O'Brien - Yea

Commissioner Luddy – Yea

Commissioner Lane – Yea

Commissioner Debish – Yea

Motion passed unanimously

2. Discussion and possible action on a new ambulance color scheme for the next ambulance purchased.

The Board discussed the examples provided but were not completely satisfied with the design. A new set of designs will be ordered. No action taken.



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3. Discussion and possible action on equipment purchases for the reserve ambulance (M-74).

DA Fowler presented the Board with the equipment that was not currently assigned to the reserve unit. If the reserve unit must be placed in service the Captains must take a monitor/defibrillator, a Lucas Device, portable radios, and portable suction off another unit to completely outfit the reserve unit. If a fourth unit was needed to place in service, it would be without the equipment listed or taken from other resources. After discussion the Board took the following action:

Motion by Commissioner Luddy to approve purchase of a monitor/defibrillator and Lucas Device for the reserve unit in an amount not to exceed \$65,000. Second by Commissioner Debish.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Tahuahua – Yea
Commissioner O’Brien - Yea
Commissioner Luddy – Yea
Commissioner Lane – Yea
Commissioner Debish – Yea

Motion passed unanimously

4. Discussion and possible action regarding recognition of staff, businesses, and members of the community for their support and assistance during the February winter storm.

DA Fowler presented several options for recognition of staff, businesses, and members of the community for actions in support of the mission of NHCESD#1. The question of cost and what is allowable was sent for recommendation from The Carlton Law Firm, but an answer had not yet been received. The Board discussed the options and decided to wait for legal advice on the issue before taking any action. The item will be discussed again at the next District meeting.

5. Discussion and possible action regarding the East Station lease.

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 6:46 pm.

The Board returned to the regular session at 6:59 pm.

Motion by Commissioner Lane to exercise the 1st renewal term of the lease for property located at 14121 Hwy 290, Building 11C, Austin, Texas. Second by Commissioner Luddy.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Tahuahua – Yea
Commissioner O’Brien - Yea
Commissioner Luddy – Yea
Commissioner Lane – Yea
Commissioner Debish – Yea

Motion passed unanimously

ADJOURNMENT – 7:02 pm.