

MINUTES FOR BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE BRAZOS COUNTY
EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT (9-1-1)
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2017, AT 11:30 A.M.
BRAZOS COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT
101 REGENT AVENUE, SUITE 300, BRYAN, TEXAS

Call to order.

Public Hearing was called to order at 11:32 am with the following members present:

Lloyd Wassermann
Sammy Catalena
Eric Buske
Kenneth Utz

Others in attendance:

Chief Deputy Jim Stewart, Brazos County Sheriff's Office
Chief Ricky Van, Bryan Fire Department
Chief Joe Ondrasek, Bryan Fire Department
Patrick Corley, 9-1-1 District
Laura Blackburn, 9-1-1 District
Greta Norton, 9-1-1 District
Kris Fox, 9-1-1 District
Kathi Koppenhaver, 9-1-1 District

PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Hear public comments regarding the participation of the District in the regional plan for 9-1-1 service as outlined in Chapter 771 of the Texas Health & Safety Code.

There were no comments during the statutorily required hearing.

2. Close public hearing.

The Public Hearing was closed at 11:33 am.

REGULAR MEETING TO CONVENE IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING PUBLIC HEARING.

1. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held September 21, 2017.

The minutes of the September 2017 meeting were approved on motion and second from Chief Buske and Commissioner Catalena, respectively.

2. Discussion / Action on District Investment Report.

Mr. Corley presented the reports and outlined the changes to the figures. Going forward, the District will provide the most recent 6 months of earnings to the Board. Mr. Utz moved to accept the report with a second from Chief Buske. Motion passed.

2. Discussion / Action on resolution approving the continuation of the Brazos County Emergency Communications District and its service fee.

Mr. Corley explained the requirements for the Public Hearing and illustrated the various types of 9-1-1 authorities in Texas and the history behind their creation. Commissioner Catalena moved to approve the resolution approving the continuation of the District and its service fee. The motion was seconded by Mr. Utz and the resolution was passed unanimously.

4. Discussion / Action on FY 2017 year-end dispatch financial reports.

Mr. Corley presented the year end dispatch financial reports for FY 2017 showing that the District expenditures closely mirrored the budget. With prior approval of the Board, he illustrated that the salary savings were used to replace CAD computers nearing end of life and still kept to within a fraction of budgeted funds. The reports were accepted on motion and second from Chief Buske and Mr. Utz, respectively.

5. Discussion / Action on Director's Report of District Expenditures for September, 2017.

For the District overall, the September 2017 report showed that budgetary controls were maintained throughout the fiscal year with income exceeding expenditures. Commissioner Catalena moved to approve the report with a second from Mr. Utz. Motion carried.

6. Presentation on the implementation of non-emergency texting services.

Mr. Corley reported on the development of the Text to 9-1-1 and how that resulted in the implementation of Texting to non-emergency numbers for the public safety entities. New technology allows the District to send and receive text, pictures, and video messages using the non-emergency landline phone number that has been in existence for over 25 years. This technology allows the District to improve communication by offering other options for contact. A public information campaign will commence in January 2018.

6. Director's report and Board concerns, including a discussion of current staffing levels, dispatch hiring process, FY 2017 financial audit, 9-1-1 system improvements, the addition of a new radio console, new CAD workstations, and the recent recognition of the District by the Brazos County Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

With the advent of the newly approved position in FY 2018, the District is once again opened up hiring to fill that spot. There are 4 trainees ready to be cut loose within weeks putting the District in an enviable staffing position going into the New Year. The Auditors are here at the District offices examining the financial records and will report their findings to the Board in January. The District is in the process of installing two new 9-1-1 positions here and one new position in College Station as well as the new radio console which will be staffed on a limited basis at this time.

The District was recognized by the Brazos County Coalition Against Domestic Violence with the presentation of the Robert "Bob" Wiatt Award for assisting in the prosecution of domestic violence cases and aiding in the development of a bond conditions database.

7. Hear public comments.

None heard.

8. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:11 pm.

Lloyd Wassermann
Chairman

ATTEST:

Greta Norton
Recording Secretary