

MINUTES FOR BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE BRAZOS COUNTY
EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT (9-1-1)
THURSDAY, MAY 20, 2021, AT 11:30 A.M.
BRAZOS COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT
101 REGENT AVENUE, SUITE 300, BRYAN, TEXAS

Call to order.

Meeting was called to order at 11:30 AM with the following members present:

Lloyd Wassermann
Eric Buske
Duane Peters
Kenneth Utz

Others in attendance:

Chief Rich Giusti, Bryan Fire Department
Chief Ricky Van, Bryan Fire Department
Lt. Ed Ramirez, Brazos County Sheriff's Office
Cindy Synwolt, College Station Police Department
Patrick Corley, 9-1-1 District
Laura Blackburn, 9-1-1 District
Kris Fox, 9-1-1 District
David Dibello, 9-1-1 District
Halley Challis, 9-1-1 District
Ray Pheris, 9-1-1 District

1. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held March 11, 2021.

Minutes were approved on a motion and second from Judge Peters and Chief Utz, respectively.

2. Discussion / Action on District Investment Report.

The most recent Investment Report was presented to the Board. Mr. Corley noted that one of the 3 CDs matured and those funds were moved to the Money Market account. When the next CD matures in July, Mr. Corley plans to re-invest into two more CDs. Chief Buske made a motion to approve the Investment Report. The motion was seconded by Chief Utz, and passed unanimously.

3. Discussion / Action on Director's Report of Expenditures for FY 2020.

Mr. Corley presented the latest financial reports and explained that income from the Emergency Service Fees is a little low, but nothing significant enough to impact operations. Additionally, Mr. Corley reported that expenditures are also low, which is mostly a result of several capital projects that are still underway and not due to be paid until completion in a few months. The

financial reports were approved on a motion and a second by Chief Utz and Judge Peters, respectively.

4. Discussion / Action on Dispatch Quarterly Reports.

The Quarterly Dispatch Financial Reports were presented for the second quarter of FY 2021. Mr. Corley noted that even though expenditures show to be a little low, five new dispatchers were recently hired so he expects these numbers to even out later in the fiscal year. The reports were approved unanimously on a motion from Chief Buske and a second from Chief Utz.

5. Discussion / Action on HB 2911 and its potential impact on revenues.

The original intent of HB 2911 was to implement Next Generation 9-1-1 services statewide by 2025, and also raise the wireless service fee from 50 cents to 75 cents per month as a way to fund NG911. However, the bill has since been changed and instead of raising the wireless service fee, it now creates a one-time fund that uses coronavirus relief funds from the federal government to help 9-1-1 entities fund NG911. Mr. Corley expressed concerns about this change because it creates several questions about how the money is allocated and required to be spent, plus it does not create a good solution for long-term funding of NG911. The bill is still in committee at the senate level so Mr. Corley hopes that he will have more information soon. No action was taken on this item.

6. Discussion / Action on short and long-term plans for NG911 and facility upgrades

Mr. Corley gave an overview of the current situation regarding the need for a new facility and how it relates to NG911 upgrades. Since there would be a significant change to the 9-1-1 infrastructure, it would be cost effective to align the NG911 upgrades with any new facility project. Mr. Corley plans to schedule a meeting with representatives from the city and the county to discuss options for a new facility. No action was taken on this item.

7. Discussion / Action on TCDRS Plan Assessment and Summary Valuation.

The TCDRS Plan Assessment for 2022 and Summary Valuation Report was presented. Mr. Corley explained that TCDRS has lowered their investment return assumption for the first time ever from 8% to 7.5%; this means that the employer must make up the difference in their contributions. Therefore, the required employer contribution rate for 2022 is 11.91%, which is significantly higher than past rates for the District. Additionally, the District went from being 94.1% funded to being 88.9% funded. No action was taken on this item.

8. Discussion / Action on FY 2022 budget.

The FY 2022 preliminary budget was presented and Mr. Corley gave detailed explanations of the significant increases and decreases. Capital projects for FY 2022 decreased significantly from the previous year. For revenue, Mr. Corley is proposing an increase to the wireline service fee rates for the first time in the history of the District. The proposed rates are \$1.00 for

residential lines (currently \$0.54), \$2.00 for business lines (currently \$1.21), and \$2.00 for trunk lines (currently \$2.26). For the Dispatch center, Mr. Corley is proposing a pay scale increase of \$0.50 for all step levels, and he explained his future plans to expand the Training and Quality Assurance Division by adding another person. Chief Buske made a motion to approve the FY 2022 preliminary budget. The motion was seconded by Judge Peters, and passed unanimously.

9. Director's report and Board concerns, including a discussion of current staffing levels, COVID-19 response, and capital projects.

Mr. Corley presented a Dispatch staffing report showing one vacancy with one current applicant going through the background investigation process. The plan is to still do another hiring cycle before the end of the year. COVID-19 impacts have decreased significantly since January and are trending down overall.

For capital projects, Mr. Corley stated that the replacement of the Admin phone system should happen within the next two weeks, and the mid-cycle refresh of the equipment in the 9-1-1 system is still on track to be completed by the end of the summer.

10. Hear public comments.

No comments were heard.

11. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 PM.

Lloyd Wassermann
Chairman

ATTEST:

Laura Blackburn
Recording Secretary