



Cameron County Emergency Services District No. 1

Board of Emergency Services Commissioners Meeting Notice

Wednesday, August 31, 2022 – 1:30 P.M. Regular Meeting

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 551, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMISSIONERS OF THE CAMERON COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 1 (CCESD) WILL BE HELD AT **THE EOC MEETING ROOM LOCATED ON THE 2ND FLOOR, 964 E. HARRISON STREET, IN BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS, AT 1:30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31, 2022.**

Quorum: Oscar Tapia, Eduardo Alvarez, Rene Perez, Beverly Meyn, Calixto Suarez

Attendance: Arroyo City Fire Chief Jon Whelan, Los Fresnos Fire Chief Gene Daniels, STEC Director Bill Aston, South Padre Island Operations Captain Oziel Garcia, Brownsville Fire Chief Jarett Sheldon, Santa Rosa Yolanda Gonzalez, and GIS for CCECD Alfonso Garrido

Staff: Grecia Lucio – Interim ESD Coordinator, ESD Consultant – Tom Hushen, Juan Martinez – Fire Marshal.

Legal: Daniel N. Lopez, Dylbia Vega

AGENDA

1. Call Meeting to Order.

Meeting was called to order by Oscar Tapia CCESD President at 1:34 P.M.

a. Quorum

Quorum was established with 5 CCESD Board members present.

b. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Public Comments (**Each individual has up to three minutes. Board members will not engage in any discussion**).

Gene Daniels, Los Fresnos Volunteer Fire Department Chief, addressed concerns of outside private companies entering Cameron County and losing contracts in Hidalgo County and the possibility that said providers would eventually want to enter the Cameron County ESD. He then stated that said private providers are not in the best interest of Cameron County constituents but in providers financial interests. Chief Daniel also addressed the CCESD Board to take into consideration that the existing providers within Cameron County work great amongst each other and that those within, indeed, have the best patient care for constituents. Chief Daniel then stated that in the event that outside providers' intent to enter the CCESD that the board deny entry. Chief Daniels also stated that he had spoken to the Cameron County Fire Marshal's office and Tom Hushen to address the high volume of mutual aid calls, and that those requesting mutual aid are not equipped with the proper equipment and resources causing an increase on county runs, decreasing the allocation of funds for providers and that should be addressed.

3. Public hearing on FY 2022-2023 Budget.

Motion to open public meeting made by Mr. Oscar Tapia.

Motion made by Mr. Alvarez

Seconded by Mr. Suarez.

Motion carried unanimously.

No public comments made regarding Proposed Budget.

Motion to close the Public Hearing made by Mr. Alvarez and seconded by Mrs. Meyn.

Motion carried unanimously.

4. Public hearing on FY 2022-2023 Tax Rate.

Motion to open public hearing by Mr. Oscar Tapia

Motion made by Mr. Alvarez. Seconded by Mr. Perez.

Motion carried unanimously.

No comments made.

Motion to close the Public Hearing made by Mr. Perez and seconded by Mrs. Meyn

Motion carried unanimously.

5. Consideration and Action setting the Tax Rate for the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 in accordance with the attached order for Tax Rate.

Mr. Tapia stated that each packet included the newspaper notice for the tax public hearings, and that the notices were also posted on the ESD webpage. All the requirements to approve the tax rate have been met.

Motion made by Mr. Alvarez, moved that that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.083067, which is effectively a 3.7 % increase in the tax rate. This tax rate will raise more taxes for maintenance and operations than last year's tax rate. The tax rate will effectively be raised by 3.7% and will raise taxes for maintenance and operations on a \$100,000 home by approximately \$3.08.

Seconded by Mrs. Meyn

Motion carried unanimously.

The governing body approved the adoption of the 2022 voter-approval rate of \$0.083067, total estimated revenues is \$4,346,437.05 at 98% collection rate.

6. Consideration and adoption of the Budget for the Cameron County ESD No.1 General Fund for the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year.

Motion made by Mrs. Meyn, on the estimated tax rate of collections for Budget FY 2022 - 2023.

The 2022 voter-approval tax rate is \$0.083067, total estimated revenue is \$4,346,437.05 at 98% collection rate. The amount budgeted for Fire/EMS is based on a 60/40 split and 15k base pay including the allocation of the First Responders 40k. The Budget Notice was posted on our ESD Webpage as well as in the paper.

Seconded my Mr. Alvarez

Motion carried unanimously.

7. Approval of Minutes

- a. August 1st, 2022 Special Meeting minutes

*Motion to approve made by Mr. Perez and seconded by Mr. Alvarez.
Unanimous approval by the board members present.*

8. Financial Report:

a. Bank Statement (Revenues/Expenditures)

Ms. Grecia Lucio read the balance statement ending date July 29, 2022 from Lone Star National Bank, which was \$2,392,524.89, and the interest earned for the month was \$1,720.76.

b. Budget Amendments

Ms. Grecia Lucio stated there was no budget amendments.

c. Payment of Claims

Ms. Grecia Lucio stated that the payment of claims was included in the board's packet for their review, and moved forward to mention that there was still pending payments since June and additional payments for the last quarter which will take place in September.

Motion made by Mr. Tapia for items A, B, and C.

Motion to acknowledge made by Mr. Alvarez.

Seconded by Mr. Suarez.

Motion carried unanimously.

9. Reports:

a. Coordinator's Report- Monthly Summary Report

Mr. Hushen stated that there had been bank accommodations to reflect the existing board members and that the old debit card had been canceled. Upon finalizing changes the CCESD can proceed with the last quarterly payment for the end of the FY.

b. Emergency Services Consultant's Report- Emergency Management Assessment Report

Mr. Hushen stated that the Cameron County infusion remains ongoing since the commencement a year and half ago. Cameron County allocated funds had almost reached exhaustion, but the possibility of an extension will be brought up before the Cameron County commissioner's court. Mr. Hushen then spoke about hand sanitizer distribution every Wednesdays at 1135 E. Van Buren St., in Brownsville, Texas 78520.

c. Fire Marshal's Report- Monthly Fire Inspections

Juan Martinez reported that for the past three months the Fire Marshals Office had been doing school inspection for the new school year and are pointing in the right direction fixing any deficiencies. Mr. Martinez reported one fire fatality in the county. Mr. Martinez stated that the following departments are pending to submit fire run report: Brownsville, La Feria, Port Isabel, South Padre Island, Santa Rosa, Rio Hondo and Arroyo City.

Motion to acknowledge made by Mr. Tapia for Item 9 Reports A, B, and C.

Motion to approve made by Mr. Perez.

Seconded by Mr. Alvarez.

Motion carried unanimously.

10. Consideration and Approval of the Texas Association of Counties (TAC) Liability Insurance for FY 2022.

Mr. Tapia stated that included in the boards' packet the TAC liability renewal insurance for the upcoming Fiscal Year was included.

Ms. Grecia Lucio informed the board that there had been no changes and amounts remained the same as the last fiscal year.

Motion to acknowledge made by Mr. Tapia

Motion to approve made by Mr. Alvarez.

Seconded by Mr. Perez.

Motion carried unanimously.

11. Discussion and Possible action for FY 2021-2022 Fire/EMS Service Providers Contracts.

Legal Counsel Daniel Lopez addressed the Board to approve the submittal of Fire Service Provider Contracts.

Motion to approve made by Mr. Perez

Seconded by Mrs. Meyn

Motion carried unanimously

Mr. Alvarez abstain from any action on item 11

Counsel Daniel Lopez stated to table item for EMS Service Providers Contracts for the next meeting.

Motion to table item for EMS Service Provider Contract made by Mr. Alvarez

Seconded by Mr. Suarez

Motion carried unanimously

Mr. Rene Perez abstain from any action on item 11

12. **EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS:**

- A. Confer with Cameron County Emergency Services District Board Legal Counsel regarding legal issues with personnel issues, pursuant to V.T.C.A., Government Code, and Section 551.071(2).
- B. Confer with Cameron County Emergency Services District Board Legal Counsel regarding legal issues with the Contract for Fire Services with the City of Santa Rosa, pursuant to V.T.C.A., Government Code, and Section 551.071(2).

The Board Members entered into Executive Session at 1:59 p.m. and closed Executive Session at 2:40 p.m.

Motion to enter Executive Session made by Mr. Alvarez and seconded by Mr. Perez.

Motion carried unanimously.

13. Action Relative to the Executive Session

A. Possible Action

B. Possible Action

Motion to return to open session made by Mr. Eduardo Alvarez and seconded by Mr. Suarez at 2:40 p.m.

Motion to acknowledge the reports and to proceed as discussed.

Motion made by Mr. Alvarez seconded by Mrs. Meyn.

Motion carried unanimously.

14. Adjournment.

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Perez and seconded by Mrs. Meyn at 2:43 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

