



Cameron County Emergency Services District No. 1

Board of Emergency Services Commissioners Meeting Notice

Wednesday, June 26, 2024 – 1:30 P.M. Regular Meeting

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 EOC MEETING ROOM LOCATED ON THE 2ND FLOOR, 964 E. HARRISON STREET, IN BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS, AT 1:30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 2024.

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

Staff: Grecia Lucio –ESD Coordinator, ESD Consultant – Tom Hushen

Legal: Daniel N. Lopez, Dylbia Vega

Attendance: Los Fresnos Fire Chief Gene Daniels, CC Fire Marshal Juan Martinez, STEC Director Bill Aston, Brownsville Fire Chief Jarret Sheldon and Deputy Fire Rick Najera, SPI EMS LT. Emilio Hinojosa, CCECD Rafael Cruz, CCECD Joel Davila, DCMCFO COB Alan Guard, COB Police Chief Feliz Saucedo

MINUTES

1. Call Meeting to Order.
 - A. Quorum
 - B. Pledges of Allegiance – United States of America and Texas

Meeting was called to order by Mr. Oscar Tapia at 1:31 p.m.
Quorum was established by members present, Beverly Meyn absent.
2. Public Comments (**Each individual has up to three minutes. Board members will not engage in any discussion**).

STEC Director Bill Aston recommended to the board the possibility to include into next year's budget or the following a budget line item to purchase a vehicle for the ESD and to be utilized by the ESD Coordinator.
3. Approval of Minutes:
 - A. May 29th, 2024 – Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the May 29, 2024 Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes made by Mr. Perez, seconded by Mr. Alvarez. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Monthly Financial Report:
 - A. Presentation of May Bank Statement (Revenues)
 - B. Presentation of May Payment of Claims

Presentation of bank statement, revenues and payment of claims made by Mrs. Lucio, As of May 1, 2024 the beginning balance was of \$3,926,353.80, a total of 22 deposit/ credits in the amount of \$96,466.45, one of which was an over-the-counter deposit of check from the Tax Office for a Surplus Distribution Check No. 1246 in the amount of \$884.84, a total of 5 check/debit in the amount of \$1,552.14, total interest incurred for the month in the amount of \$6,770.33. Ending balance as of May 31, 2024 was in the amount of \$4,028,038.44. The reconciliation for the month was complete.

Total revenue for the month of May 2024 was in the amount of \$89,254.50.

Payment of Claims; Line-item Supplies and Equipment: Longhorn Steak House in person meeting with Mr. Oscar Tapia for \$121.25, said meeting took place late April but did not reflect until the May bank statement. Line-item Supplies and equipment 5.11 store for board uniforms \$921.96, Mannys uniforms expense for board uniforms \$269.00.

End of report.

Motion to approve Monthly Financial reports A. and B., made by Mr. Perez, seconded by Mr. Suarez. Motion carried.

5. Discussion about the Cameron County Emergency Services District No.1 board member credit hours.
*Motion to acknowledge report made by Mr. Alvarez seconded by Mr. Perez
Motion carried.*

6. Consideration to approve the auditing services from Burton McCumber & Longoria, LLP as part of the Cameron County Annual Audit for FY 2023.

Motion to approve the auditing services and the fee increase from Burton McCumber & Longoria, LLP to conduct the Cameron County ESD annual audit for the fiscal year 2023. Motion made by Mr. Suarez seconded by Mr. Alvarez. Motion carried.

7. Discussion about the “Special Event Fund” by and through the Cameron County Emergency Services District No. 1, the Cameron County Fire Chiefs Association, and the Cameron County EMS Providers for the upcoming fiscal year of 2024 - 2025.

Tom Hushen ESD Consultant reported that after meeting with both the Fire Chiefs and EMS Providers as directed by the ESD board, the participating parties would request from the ESD to approve the creation of a Special Fund Account that would allow both Fire and EMS providers to get compensated for extensive circumstances. Mr. Hushen stated that the current MOU between the state and cities is that anything over 12 hours is billable. He proceeded to discuss that the ESD would follow similar guidelines but will also depend on a case-by-case situation. Mr. Hushen stated the ESD will allocate a financial portion to said fund account, and that all providers are working together to getting all industrial entities to add additional funds to the account. He then stated, that said Fire and EMS providers will be compensated after 12 months in order to see the number of calls per provider in order to release any funds. He then stated that the logistics of any financial compensation are still being discussed amongst fire and EMS providers.

Mr. Alan Guard with the City of Brownsville stated that everyone had to find an equitable solution not only for the city of Brownsville but for everyone. He respectfully recommended for everyone to keep data so that said data can be provided to elected officials, so that they know of the real needs for the services being provided in the growing industry.

Mr. Hushen recommended to include an extra box in all providers cover sheets that helps distinguish which run falls under said circumstance and/or “special event call” and would be easier when reviewing reports. Mr. Hushen’s final recommendation was that the Special Event Fund become an action item to approve the creation of said line-item at the next ESD meeting.

8. Presentation of Monthly Action Reports:
 - A. Coordinator’s Report- Monthly Summary Report
 - B. Emergency Services Consultant’s – Monthly Assessment Report
 - C. Monthly Fire Marshal Update

Coordinator report was presented by Mrs. Lucio. Mrs. Lucio reported that she had already started preparing budgets, but said budget would not be available until after receiving certified totals from the Cameron Appraisal district and the calculation worksheet from the Cameron County Tax Office which would be after July 25, 2024. Mrs. Lucio reported that all provider reports have been up to date. End of report.

*Emergency Services Consultant was presented by Mr. Thomas Hushen.
Mr. Hushen took the opportunity to let everyone know that there was a vacant position under
Emergency Management for an Emergency Management deputy available for those who qualify.
Mr. Hushen also reported that all fire reports are currently being sent to TDEM and the ESD. He stated
that the state is creating an iStat where providers will upload their reports and will automatically be
populated to the ESD eliminating any paper reports. Potentially will become a requirement by the state
in the next year to two years.*

*Fire Marshal Report was presented by Juan Martinez.
Mr. Martinez reported that the fire marshal office has completed county school inspections and is
having continuous meetings with Space X and LNG's. He stated that the Fire Marshal office was
working on 2 fire investigation one accidental fire and another arson fire.*

*Motion to acknowledge report A., B., C., made by Mr. Alvarez seconded by Mr. Perez
Motion carried.*

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS:

- A. Confer with Cameron County Emergency Services District Board Legal Counsel regarding-legal issues with existing and or Service Contracts, pursuant to V.T.C.A., Government Code Section 551.071 (2).
- B. Confer with Cameron County Emergency Services District Board Legal Counsel regarding legal issues with the tax lawsuit settlement Cause No. 2012-DCL-5625, Amfels vs. Cameron County Appraisal District, pursuant to V.T.C.A. Government Code, Section 551.071(1).
- C. Confer with Cameron County Emergency Services District Board Legal Counsel regarding legal issues with incorporating video conferencing capabilities for future meetings, pursuant to V.T.C.A. Government Code, Section 551.071(2).

*The board entered into Executive Session at 1:34 p.m. and closed Executive Session at 2:02 p.m.
Motion made By Mr. Perez seconded by Mr. Suarez.*

10. Action Relative to the Executive Session.

- A. Possible Action
- B. Possible Action
- C. Possible Action

*Motion to proceed as discussed for item A. made by Alvarez seconded by Mr. Suarez
Motion carried.*

*Motion to proceed as discussed for item B. made by Perez seconded by Mr. Alvarez
Motion carried.*

*Motion to proceed as discussed for item C. made by Alvarez seconded by Mr. Suarez
Motion carried.*

11. Adjournment.

*Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Alvarez seconded by Mr. Suarez at 2:25 p.m.
Motion carried.*

Signed and posted on this ____ day of ____ 2024, at ____ a.m./p.m., in Brownsville, Texas.

Oscar Tapia, Board President
Cameron County Emergency Services District No. 1