

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
BEXAR COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 5
JANUARY 16, 2025

In accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, the Board of Commissioners of Bexar County Emergency Services District No. 5 had a REGULAR MEETING at 7120 E. 6th Street, Somerset, TX 78069 on JANUARY 16, 2025 immediately following the meeting of the Board of Directors of Bexar County ESD5 Fire and Rescue scheduled for 6:00 pm.

- 1) Call the Bexar County Emergency Services District 5 meeting to order and establish a quorum.**

Meeting was called to order at 6:23 pm and a quorum was established. Board members in attendance were Herschel Postert, Howard Dalros, Andrew Flores, Becky Schneider, and Robert Pierce.

- 2) Invocation: Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.**

Pledge recited.

- 3) Citizens to be heard: This item will be open for a maximum of 30 minutes with 3 minutes per speaker. (If there are more than 10 speakers, each will be given 2 minutes.)**

There were no citizens to speak.

- 4) Report on the ESD Association meeting, with action taken, if necessary**

Commissioner Dalros said the focus was on the new ambulance service and the legislative process kicking off. No action taken.

- 5) Report from Art Martinez de Vara on legislative topics and local matters, with action taken, if necessary**

Art Martinez was present and began with saying Burrows was elected Texas Speaker of the House. He said he has met with Representatives Cortez, Lujan, and Campbell. He has meetings next week regarding the fixed border issue. Art said he attended the Supreme Court ruling and it seemed favorable to us. He would like to see a constant presence in Austin. Chief Estep said he was told to avoid the Tuesdays with Safe-D and that smaller groups on Wednesdays are better. No action taken.

- 6) Report from the General Manager, with action taken, if necessary**

GM clarified that the November 14th meeting was the one that did not happen so there are no minutes for that meeting. No action taken.

The Bexar County Emergency Services District No. 5 reserves the right to adjourn into closed session at any time during the course of the meeting to discuss any of the matters listed above should such action be necessary as authorized by the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), 551.074 (Personnel Matters) or 551.087 (Economic Development) and any other provision under Texas Law that permits this governmental body to discuss a matter in a closed session. Action, if any, will be taken in open session.

The Bexar County Emergency Services District No. 5 is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modification and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Requests for accommodation or interpretive services at meetings should be made 48 hours prior to this meeting. Please contact Bexar County Emergency Services District No. 5 at 830-429-7119.

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7) Report from investment officer, Commissioner Pierce, with action taken, if needed.

Commissioner Pierce reported that \$1,000,000 has just been invested and will mature in 30 day intervals. No action taken.

8) Consent Agenda:

a) Review and approval of the minutes for the Special Meeting on November 14, 2024, the Regular Meeting on November 21, 2024, and the Special Meeting on December 5 2024

Motion by Commissioner Schneider to accept the minutes as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Pierce. Motion carried.

b) Review and approval of financials

Motion by Commissioner Dalros to accept the financials as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Schneider. Motion carried.

9) Reports, presentations, and funding requests with action taken as appropriate:

(Reports should include Financial reports (revenue and expenditures), Run Reports, Training Reports and Hours, Volunteer Hours)

a) Bexar County ESD 5 Fire and Rescue

Commissioner Postert said he spoke with Chief Estep about the chiefs attending Safe-D and thinks it would be beneficial. Commissioner Flores said he feels they should get exposure and experience meeting with other ESD departments from around the state. Commissioner Flores expressed concern about not getting along with other departments. Chief Estep said there is nothing of value for them and they do not get CE hours.

b) Lytle Volunteer Fire Department

Chief Roger Garcia was present. He reported 46 calls within the district with an average response time of 9:54. When asked about missing calls, Chief Garcia said cannot afford to be fully staffed. As it is, volunteers are labeled as maintenance and paid \$10 an hour. He said this was acceptable to the Department of Labor. Vanessa Lopez said the missed calls were due to communication problems. She said TxDot is rebuilding the system and hopes that helps. Commissioner Postert said the contract states they are to let dispatch know when they are out of service. Chief Garcia said they have a lot of young guys and they forget. He is working on training them about this. Commissioner Dalros said they are not meeting the contract in response times. He said he would like to see in writing, by the next meeting, the certifications of each of their members.

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10) Action items:

Re: Future fire station on Montgomery Road:

- a) Construction progress report from AGCM, with action taken as necessary, for continued progress on the project**

Mark Price of AGCM was present. He said 99% of the interior is done and the bay should be done by the end of January. He said the septic has been approved and the CPS poles came today. He said they still need permanent power to the station and fencing. He said the target date for completion is mid-February. No action needed.

Re: Future fire station at IH35 and Luckey Road

- b) Discussion and possible action regarding update of the contract with the architect/Beaty Palmer, maintenance of the property, and request for proposals, construction methods and any other matters related thereto**

Beaty Palmer Architects were present. They introduced themselves – Cory Hawkins, Sara Watson, and Nathan Flores. They spoke about their experience and said they like an aggressive schedule. Commissioner Dalros said the budget would dictate that. He said he has spoken to Sara about a projected budget schedule. It was discussed that Government Capital's analysis of the District's finances said they would be comfortable lending 5.8 million to 6 million on the new station. Commissioner Dalros introduced Chief Estep to the Architects saying he would be the main contact. Legal Counsel said they should go into closed session to talk about the contract.

Re: Future fire station at 9310 Mechler Lane:

- c) Discussion and action taken as necessary regarding environmental surveys, appraisals, maintenance, and any other related matters**

Commissioner Postert says the signs are up at the property and nothing else is going on there. No action taken.

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Other items:

- d) Personnel issues: Including but not limited to hiring, terminations, discipline, suspensions, compensation, employee evaluations, and any other related matters**
No discussion or action on this item.

- e) Discussion and possible action regarding retention of Texas ESD Consulting, LLC for review and analysis of the long term financial plan of the BCESD5.**
Josh Brown was present. He said he put together a financial forecast for ESD10 and Commissioner Dalros said he would like him to the same thing for ESD5. Commissioner Dalros asked about an estimate for this. Josh said for the same kind of report, it would be about \$5000. Commissioner Dalros said this report will help with securing a lender for the new station.

Meeting was called into Executive Session at 7:11 pm on items 10b and 10e citing Texas Government Code 551.071.

Meeting resumed in Open Session at 7:33 pm.

Item 10b – Motion by Commissioner Dalros to have Legal Counsel proceed as directed in closed session. Seconded by Commissioner Schneider. Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Dalros to reopen item 10e. Seconded by Commissioner Schneider. Motion carried.

Item 10e – Motion by Commissioner Dalros to draft a contract with Texas ESD Consulting, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$5000 to be executed. Seconded by Commissioner Schneider. Motion carried.

11) Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Schneider. Seconded by Commissioner Dalros. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:36 pm.

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