

**TRAVIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 17**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**FEBRUARY 8, 2024**

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The Board of Commissioners of Travis County Emergency Services District No. 17 held a meeting on Thursday, February 8, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. at the Travis County Emergency Services District No. 17 Headquarters located at 201 East Pecan Street, Pflugerville, Texas, for the following purposes.

Commissioners who attended:

Vicky Linsalata          Mitchell Jones          Charles Pleasant          Angela Orth

The following persons were also in attendance via Zoom: Mike Howe

The following persons were also in attendance:

Nick Perkins          Jessica Frazier          Amanda Bartlett          Brian Fairbanks          Howard Katz

1. THE MEETING was called to order by Vice President Jones at 4:00 p.m. and the minutes were recorded by mechanical means. The meeting was held pursuant to a formal Notice of Meeting, which had been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act at the Travis County Clerk’s Office and in the offices of the Travis County Emergency Services District No. 17 Headquarters.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

2. PUBLIC COMMENT: *NO PUBLIC COMMENT WAS MADE.*

**CONSENT ITEMS**

3. APPROVE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY 14, 2024 REGULAR MEETING;
4. APPROVE INVOICE PAYMENT TO TRAVIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 2 FOR PROVISION OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FOR MARCH 2024;  
*Commissioner Orth moved and Commissioner Linsalata seconded to approve the consent items. The motion passed unanimously.*

**REPORTS**

5. COMMISSIONERS’ REPORTS, RESPONSES TO INQUIRIES; *No Reports*
6. RECEIVE REPORT FROM TREASURER AND CONSIDER TAKING RELATED ACTION;

*Ms. Frazier reported that the tax revenue and deposits. The draft audit was received, and she will do a quick review. The auditors will be at the meeting in March to present the final report. There were no findings from the auditors. The checks were included in the report.*

*Commissioner Linsalata moved and Commissioner Orth seconded to approve the treasurer's report. The motion passed unanimously*

7. RECEIVE MONTHLY REPORT FROM THE TRAVIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 2 FIRE CHIEF REGARDING EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES OPERATIONS, RESPONSE TIMES, CALL VOLUME, TRAINING, MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES AND PERSONNEL;

*Chief Perkins reported that they were in the process of closing out the 2023 data. There was a lot of duplicated and missing data, so it needed to be standardized. They were at 13,029 calls for 2023. The number of calls was a 3% increase. Continued growth was seen year-over-year. Another 100 calls were anticipated to be added once the data was scrubbed. On the ESD-2 board side, input was received as preparations for the budget process began. There were economic consultants met with, and continued improvements to the economy were seen.*

*Chief Perkins reported that a major concern continued to be the dispatch delay. It was anticipated to speak with a joint voice, and there will generally be a divide-and-conquer approach to meeting with each ESD. The ESD CC meeting on February 17th will include commissioners discussing the dispatch delay issue. The creation and support of an additional dispatch center was being discussed. It would have to work and connect with the current 911 system. The 911 system in Austin was overburdened, so adding to the system would be beneficial. Chief Perkins stated that it would not be a cost-saving measure, but it would influence the service level. There was engagement on the ESD 2 side.*

*Chief Perkins reported that there was a lot of emergency management planning taking place. There was no sheltering plan in place. There was communication with a county to have a shelter. There will be a meeting, and the facility will be examined.*

*Chief Perkins stated that there was a solar eclipse, and they were looking at how communities were previously impacted by an eclipse. The largest factor was the increase in population, runs on groceries and gas, and increases in call volume. The biggest impact will be on traffic.*

*Chief Perkins reported that the response time was 13.43 minutes. The goal was 12 minutes. The dispatch goal was less than 90 seconds, and the current dispatch time was between 3 minutes and 30 seconds to 3 minutes and 40 seconds. The time of arrival after receiving the call was 10.72 minutes. Across the entire system, the response time was 13.86 minutes, which was in the 90th percentile. There was a 16% increase in demand on the east side. Discussions with Travis County were beginning to fund a separate dispatch center.*

*Chief Perkins reported that on February 17th at 9 am, there was the ESD CC meeting, and no one from ESD 2 would be able to attend. Chief Perkins stated that if no one could attend, correspondence could be sent to voice the concerns that were discussed. A letter would be prepared if no one could attend, but Commissioners Orth and Linsalata will potentially attend.*

*Commissioner Howe stated that ESD 2 invested a significant amount of money in reducing response times. Options, including going through the County Commission Court, were discussed by ESD 2. He requested for a letter regarding the response time to be sent to the ESD CC meeting if no one could attend.*

*Chief Perkins reported that the Austin EMS president was discussing a brownout, which would have a significant impact on the system. Chief Perkins stated that they were sensitive to the issues and that the fire departments remained well-positioned because of the access to funding.*

*Chief Perkins stated that there was the potential that the Austin EMS union was pressing certain members of the Commissioner's Court to do an overlay across the entire county to help fund EMS.*

*Chief Perkins reported that Safe-D was held at the end of the month. Commissioner Howe stated that there were requirements for training hours, and Safe-D was the easiest way to pick up the training hour*

8. RECEIVE MONTHLY REPORT FROM THE DISTRICT'S LEGAL COUNSEL REGARDING CONTRACT ISSUES, AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS TO INCLUDE THE CASE OF THE CITY OF PFLUGERVILLE, ET AL. V. TRAVIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 17, ET. AL, AND CONSIDER TAKING ACTION AS MAY BE NECESSARY;

*Mr. Katz reported that the items would be discussed in the closed session.*

*The Board went into executive session at 4:31 PM.*

*The Board adjourned from the executive session at 5:07 PM.*

### **ACTION ITEMS**

9. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVING AND ACCEPTING THE OATH OF OFFICE FOR COMMISSIONER ORTH AND COMMISSIONER PLEASANT AND TAKE ANY RELATED ACTION;

*The Oaths of Office were administered by Mr. Katz to Commissioners Orth and Pleasant. It was stated that it was a two-year term, commencing January 1, 2024.*

Vice President Jones adjourned the meeting at 5:08 p.m.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for March 14, 2024

Respectfully Submitted By:

Sequina Allen

Board Recorder