

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

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**MARCH 13, 2025**

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The Board of Commissioners of Travis County Emergency Services District No. 17 held a meeting on Thursday, March 13, 2025, 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:

Mike Howe

Charles Pleasant

Mitchell Jones

Vicky Linsalata

Angela Orth

The following persons were also in attendance via Zoom: Howard Katz

The following persons were also in attendance:

Nick Perkins

Jessica Fraizer

AJ Stacer

Amanda Bartlett

THE MEETING was called to order by President Howe 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**

1. PUBLIC COMMENT: None

**CONSENT ITEMS**

2. APPROVE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 18, 2025 REGULAR MEETING;
3. APPROVE INVOICE PAYMENT TO TRAVIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 2 FOR PROVISION OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FOR APRIL 2025;  
***MOTION:** A motion was made by Mitchell Jones to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Angela Orth and approved unanimously.*

## REPORTS

### 4. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS, RESPONSES TO INQUIRIES;

*No Report*

### 5. RECEIVE REPORT FROM TREASURER AND CONSIDER TAKING RELATED ACTION;

*The Treasurer and Jessica Frazier discussed the ESD 17 financial matters.*

*Jessica Frazier reported that the reports were issued as preliminary because the audit was a formal report done annually. There were modifications that had to occur for them to follow the standards. The audit report was received, and it would be reviewed. The audit report would be finalized at the next meeting.*

**MOTION:** *A motion was made by Angela Orth to approve the Treasurer's report consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Vicky Linsalata and approved unanimously.*

### 6. 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 Nick Perkins reported that the main focus was on preparations. He reminded everyone of the upcoming red flag warning. They were moving forward with the Station 7 project and nearing its completion. A sixth ambulance would be added to Station 6 in the late spring.*

*Chief Nick Perkins discussed legislative updates. He stated he would start including the information in the meetings, and there were a number of bills he was tracking, including some on annexation. There was a strong push for state funding for rural EMS, but it would not currently apply to Travis County due to the population cutoff. It would be on top of the ambulance supplement program that helped set rates and reduce cost allocation. A managed care program on the federal level was trying to be created as well.*

*Mike Howe stated that he went out to the training facility and commented on how great it was. He asked when it would be completed. Chief Nick Perkins reported it would likely be in June and July.*

*Mike Howe asked about the risk to grants. Chief Nick Perkins reported that there was a pause on FEMA grants, and the status was unknown. The concerns were communicated through the International Association of Fire Chiefs. Most recently, the National Fire Academy was closed. The federal representatives were written on the importance of NFA since it was how officers were educated, and it was the only tool that tied the fire and EMS services together in the nation. The online classes were continuing, but everything else was put on hold. It was asked if the money for grants had gone away. Chief Nick Perkins reported that it was uncertain. Mike Howe asked about the smoke alarm program. Chief Nick Perkins stated that it was part of the FEMA grants.*

*The breakdown of those being on Medicaid was asked about. Chief Nick Perkins stated that it ranged between 9% and 13%. It was asked what impacts there would be if Medicaid stalled. Chief Nick Perkins stated that care would have to be provided. There was never a true application of Medicaid to EMS, but there was Medicaid that applied to other parts of care. It was asked if everyone would be impacted if the population did not receive the funding. Chief Nick Perkins confirmed that this was the case. It was discussed that there would also likely be more emergency calls because they would not be able to go to the doctor when it was necessary.*

7. RECEIVE MONTHLY REPORT FROM THE DISTRICT'S LEGAL COUNSEL REGARDING CONTRACT ISSUES, ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS, AND OTHER DISTRICT LEGAL MATTERS;

*Mr. Katz discussed the lack of a mutual aid agreements in Travis County. Local government entities could work together without a written agreement. He said there is a statewide mutual aid agreement that automatically can be applied, but local mutual aid agreements were still preferable. He stated that he was confident that there was no potential for independent liability of ESD 17 even without a written mutual aid agreement.*

*Mr. Katz stated that he could not find a countywide Travis County mutual aid agreement, so the state laws would be followed.*

*Mr. Katz asked about the report with of a ESD 2 firefighter being shocked by an Allegiance EMT. He asked how the firefighter was shocked. Chief Nick Perkins stressed how rare it was. What seemed to be lacking with Allegiant was an appropriate supervisor and training. It was a basic procedural error that resulted in the firefighter being shocked.*

*Mr. Katz asked about the possibility of ESD 2 providing services to the city. He asked if it would have any effect on providing service to the ESD 17 district. Chief Nick Perkins stated that he did not believe there would be any negative impact. It would emphasize the role of the fire department providing EMS. Chief Nick Perkins explained that all ambulances would work together, and they would not be restricted to a certain area.*

President Howe adjourned the meeting at 4:28 p.m.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for April 10, 2025

Respectfully Submitted By:

Sequina Allen

Board Recorder