

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

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**APRIL 09, 2026**

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The Board of Commissioners of Travis County Emergency Services District No. 17 held a meeting on Thursday, April 09, 2026 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                      Mitchell Jones                      Vicky Linsalata                      Angela Orth

The following persons were also in attendance:

Nick Perkins                      Jessica Frazier                      Brian Fairbanks                      Amanda Bartlett                      Howard Katz via Zoom

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:  
*No public comment.*

**CONSENT ITEMS**

2. APPROVE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FROM MARCH 12, 2026 REGULAR MEETING;
3. APPROVE INVOICE PAYMENT TO TRAVIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 2 FOR PROVISION OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FOR MAY 2026;  
*Commissioner Jones moved and Commissioner Linsalata seconded to approve the consent items. The motion passed unanimously.*

**REPORTS**

4. COMMISSIONERS’ REPORTS, RESPONSES TO INQUIRIES;  
*No Reports*

5. RECEIVE REPORT FROM TREASURER AND CONSIDER TAKING RELATED ACTION;  
*Jessica Frazier reported that there were no noteworthy items. The kickoff meeting for the preliminary estimate information was held, and overall, property valuation decreased relative to the prior year. For ESD 17, the overall valuation of properties decreased by approximately 2%, which was equivalent to \$140 million. Typically, the certified valuations went up slightly relative to the estimate. The change would impact the tax rate for the Travis County ESD No. 17*  
*Commissioner Orth moved and Commissioner Jones seconded to approve the treasurer's report. The motion passed 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 Perkins reported that the call volume was up. The travel component of the response time continued to decrease due to the fifth ambulance at Station 6. The call processing time within Austin EMS remained nearly 4 minutes, and it was not anticipated to improve, as it met Austin's system needs. The standard call processing time was 90 seconds, and the feedback was provided to Austin, but it was not expected to change in the near future.*

*Conversations with the city of Pflugerville continued about the Interlocal Agreement. The cost was \$1.9 million, with Pflugerville contributing \$1.3 million, and Travis County adding the remaining \$600,000. Pflugerville requested that the contract renewal dates be aligned with the fiscal year. There would be two agreements: one between Travis County ESD No. 17 and Pflugerville and the other between the County and Pflugerville.*

*There were several ongoing conversations related to automatic-aid. The contract would not include for-profit providers. The contract was done, and operational discussions were ongoing.*

*The County inquired about being included for automatic aid, separately from the Unified EMS project. Austin EMS do not currently receive automatic aid, and the County was moving forward with exploring Travis County as a solution.*

*The Medicaid allocation for the ambulance supplemental program was expected to receive \$152,000.*

*The planning conference was scheduled for July 9 and 10 in the usual format. The topic would focus on revisit of the strategic plan.*

*It was asked if there would be an opportunity to see the Station 7 training field. Chief Perkins reported that they were planning a grand opening.*

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

*Counsel Howard Katz said there were some ongoing administrative matters pending. He asked about 2026 board appointments and a replacement for Charles Pleasant. Chief Perkins reported that work was ongoing to replace Charles' position on the Board.*

*Howard Katz The other matter is completion of the District 2025 audit. Ms. Frazier reported that the audit would be coming in soon.*

## **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

8. Discuss and consider the members of the ESD17 Investment Committee;

*It was decided that the Investment Committee would only consist of Jessica Frazier and Angela Orth for the time being.*

*Commissioner Orth moved and Commissioner Jones seconded to approve Jessica Frazier and Angela Orth as the Investment Committee members. The motion passed unanimously*

9. Discuss and consider the Foreign Trade Zone Tax Equivalency and Contribution Agreement and take any related action;

*Howard Katz discussed the Foreign Trade Zone Tax Equivalency and Contribution Agreement with Ichor Services, Inc. He said this concerns a federal program that is carried out in the state.,. The Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ) 183 is the local administer of the federal trade zone that is looking to authorize the agreement. There were are 45 days for the District to register an objection or non-objection. Inventory and personal property within the zone would be exempt from the District property tax. The benefit would be that it could help bring production and sales into the FTZ, which also could help employment. Mr. Katz drafted and presented to the Board a letter of non-objection, addressed to US Department of Commerce. A revised draft of the Foreign Trade Zone agreement with revisions by Mr. Katz was also provided to the Board. To reduce the economic impact on the district, the pilot (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) program provides the agreement by Ichor Systems to pay the equivalent of the property tax that would have been due on the inventory and equipment present and in possession as of January 1. There was also a self-appraisal by the pilot program and the trade group that would provide the equivalent of what would have been subject to the property tax. Howard Katz clarified that only the inventory and equipment were qualified for the exemption, not the real property and buildings itself.*

*It was asked what the remedy was if payment was not made. Howard Katz confirmed that there was a provision allowing action to be taken against Ichor if there was no payment. Interest was incurred, but it was not the same as regular property tax amounts.*

*Howard Katz stated that objections would not stop the exemption and that the purpose of the objection was to address technical inaccuracies or errors, or if the equipment, inventory, goods, or services were questionable.*

*It was commented that it seemed like a formality, and it was asked why this opportunity was being provided. Howard Katz explained that it provided the opportunity to state that Travis County did not object, as well as to present the equivalent tax revenue that would have been received. The agreement included a procedure in which the Travis Central Appraisal District would assess the inventory's value to determine the valuation amount to compute the tax equivalent payment amount for the particular year. In the Commerce code, Commerce had the opportunity to step in if the pilot program did not meet its responsibilities, and it could lose its exemption.*

*It was asked if the agreement was presented to Travis County or if Travis County created it. Howard Katz stated that he believed it was presented first to Travis County. ESD 2 provided some edits, and Mr. Katz made additional sits for ESD 17.*

*Angela Orth commented that the tax was not on the physical property, but on other items. Howard Katz stated that the tax applied to inventory, equipment, and goods brought onto the trade floor. Angela Orth asked if the items would be placed in Exhibit A. Howard Katz confirmed this was the case. Angela Orth asked if it was noted what the penalties and interest were. Howard Katz explained that the amounts were statutory and defined in the tax code.*

*Commissioner Orth moved and Commissioner Linsalata seconded to approve the FTZ Tax Equivalency and Contribution Agreement. The motion passed unanimously.*

Two letters needed to be signed and mailed: one to the Commerce Department and another to Mr. Rameriz with the Foreign Trade Zone of Central Texas, Inc., the sponsor of Ichor's application.

President Howe adjourned the meeting at 4:51 p.m.  
The next Board meeting is scheduled for May 14, 2026

Respectfully Submitted By:  
Sequina Allen  
Board Recorder