

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
COUNTY OF CAMERON §

**CAMERON COUNTY EMERGENCY
COMMUNICATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
May 20, 2020**

The Board of Managers of the Cameron County Emergency Communication District (CCECD) met according to posted agenda, via telephone conference call, which conference bridge number and access code was provided to Board Members and the public. The conference call was managed by Cameron County Emergency Communication (9-1-1) District (CCECD) Building Board Room, located at 501 Camelot Drive, Harlingen, Texas, at 10:00 A.M., for a Meeting of the Board of Managers, on Wednesday, May 20th, 2020.

Present:

Board Members: Mario Prado (President),
Teleconference: Bill Aston (Vice-President), Henry Etheridge, and Domingo Diaz
Board Members Absent: Sam Ortega, and Gabriel Moreno
Directors: S. Barajas, and J. Davila
Corporate Counsel: Juan M. Pequeno, Jr. (Teleconference)
Others: A. Chavez, A. Garrido, and J. Garcia (CCECD- Teleconference)

However, pursuant to the Texas Open Meetings Act, codified as Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §§ 551.002 (Open Meetings Requirements) (Vernon 2017) ("Every regular, special, or called meeting of a governmental body shall be open to the public, except as provided by this chapter".)

* * *

- Item 1. Call to order (Pledge of Allegiance)
Call to order by Mr. Prado at 10:02 A.M. to open the meeting. Mr. Prado informed attendees that on March 16th, the Governor and General Paxton temporarily suspended and extended open meeting laws to allow telephonic and videoconference meeting due to the Coronavirus (Covid-19). CCECD meet all requirements of the open meeting laws. Thereafter, the Board went to Item 2.
- Item 2. Establishment of a Quorum.
After confirmation of a voting quorum (4 of 5 quorum) by Ms. Barajas even though members of the board are not gathered in a central location and confirmation was attained by attendance through telephone conference call. Mr. Pequeno confirmed that neither action nor motion was necessary. Thereafter, the Board went to Item 3.

- Item 3. Public Comment.
Mario Prado, Board President opened public comment on any agenda item to anyone attending the meeting by telephone conference call. After a brief time and with no attendees and no comments made and confirmation was made that there were no other attendees on the telephone conference call, Mr. Prado closed public comment section. Motion made by Mr. Diaz to close public comment. Seconded by Mr. Prado. The motion carried unanimously.
- Item 4. Approval of April 15, 2020 Regular Board Meeting Minutes (as written).
Signature obtained from Mr. Prado, President and document to be forwarded to Mr. Aston, Vice-President for the same purpose. Motion made by Mr. Aston to approve the said Regular Board Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Mr. Diaz. The motions carried unanimously.
- Item 5. Approval of Bills (& Cash Flow)
Mrs. Barajas presented the May 2020 Expense Report pertaining to regular monthly bills, after discussion by Board. Motion made by Mr. Diaz to approve the said bills (& cash flow). Seconded by Mr. Etheridge. The motion carried unanimously.
- Item 6. Financial Report (& Banking Report)
Ms. Barajas provided an update on financial banking and investment reports. Motion made by Mr. Aston to acknowledge the financial report as presented. Seconded by Mr. Prado. The motion carried unanimously. (The amounts of these reports were presented at the CCECD Board Meeting as with previous meetings.)
- Item 7. Director's Report
Motion made by Mr. Diaz to acknowledge and approve the said Director's Report as presented by Mrs. Barajas, which included no major system problems reported by PSAPs, attended on May 6th the Texas Alliance Director's Meeting by telephone conference, which included discussion and approval of Alliance Budget for October 2020 through September 2021, Sprint and T-Mobile merger, districts are not allowing anyone in their offices, the Texas Alliance Lobbyist are waiting on the Legislators to return to work. The three laptops will be arriving any day and will be issued out. Cameron County Sheriff's Interlocal Agreement has signed and returned to our office. Next month's (June) meeting will conducted using Zoom and includes short and long term goals for Alliance. The application for the FEMA grant has been filled-out, registered with Sam.gov, Texas Management Grant System, FEMA Public Assistance Management, and Dun & Bradstreet. Discovered that the Dun & Bradstreet number is currently under "Cameron, County of" and the County staff informed our office that FEMA had contacted them directly. The process to remove the District from the County classification has been started. During the duration of reclassification, the District needed to view some video that were broadcasted. This concludes

the Director's Report. Also the Building Report as presented by Mr. Davila, the GIS Report was presented by Alfonso Garrido (GIS Department), and the Public Education/Training Report was presented by Jose Garcia. Seconded by Mr. Aston. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 8. AT&T Report

In the absence of Mr. Moreno, no report was available and this item was tabled. Motion made by Mr. Etheridge to table item. Seconded by Mr. Aston. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 9. Board Committee Report

Mr. Etheridge expressed thanks and appreciation to the CCECD Directors and staff for addressing the Board Members requests, been very fluent in the pandemic and adaptable which represents a winning organization. Appreciate the efforts, response, and attention provided, keep up with the great job during this difficult time. Mr. Aston made a motion to acknowledge the board committee report by Mr. Etheridge. Seconded by Mr. Diaz. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 10. Legal Counsel Report

Mr. Pequeno stated that the board meetings are being held in accordance with the disaster declaration, where the governor update did relax, extend, and allow the use of telephone conferencing in substitute of in-person meeting. That will remain in effect until further notice. Mr. Pequeno will keep the Board up breast of any changes for next month's meeting. Prepared an Interlocal Agreement for Brownsville PD which is in circulation for the temporary use of the allocated laptops that are being used. Mrs. Barajas and I have looked into FEMA issues. Ms. Barajas has taken the lead on the application. Mr. Pequeno believes there is potential on getting compensated for those laptops based on the guidelines. A motion and acknowledgment of the legal counsel's report was made by Mr. Aston. Seconded by Mr. Etheridge. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 11. Consideration and Approval of Interlocal Agreement with Brownville PD for temporary use of 9-1-1 Laptops. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Prado to approve the use of these items. Seconded by Mr. Diaz. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 12. Consideration and approval to order 2 Mobile Command Laptops at \$40,000 each for South Texas Emergency Care Foundation. Mr. Aston prior to the commencement of 'Agenda Item 12' refrained from participation in discussion and signed an 'Affidavit of Conflict of Interest' to alleviate, refrain, sustained from voting and any interference with each Board Member and District with this process, a copy of which is on file. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Diaz to approve the purchase of these items. Seconded by Mr. Prado. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 13. Closed Meeting for Discussion of Any Item on the Agenda as may be permitted by Subchapter D of Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code
Item was tabled since there were items to be discussed that needed an executive session. No motion necessary.

Item 14. Adjournment
At 10:29 A.M., a motion was made by Mr. Diaz to adjourn this meeting. Seconded by Mr. Etheridge. The motion carried unanimously.

* * *

Approved this 17th day of June, 2020.

Approved: Mario M. Prado
Mario M. Prado, President of the Board of Managers

Approved: Gabriel Moreno
Gabriel Moreno, Secretary of the Board of Managers

* * *