

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
COUNTY OF CAMERON §

CAMERON COUNTY EMERGENCY
COMMUNICATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
June 16, 2021

The Board of Managers of the Cameron County Emergency Communication District (CCECD) met according to posted agenda, via Zoom, which meeting identification number and passcode was provided to Board Members and the public. The Zoom Video Conference 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, June 16, 2021.

Present:

Board Members: Mario Prado (President),
Video Conference: Bill Aston (Vice-President), Robert Gracia and Gabriel Moreno
Board Members Absent: Sam Ortega and Henry Etheridge
Directors: S. Barajas, and J. Davila
Corporate Counsel: Juan M. Pequeno, Jr. and Araseli Garza (Intern) (Video Conference)
Others: A. Chavez, A. Garrido, and J. Garcia (CCECD- Video Conference), James Harris, City of Primera Emergency Management Coordinator, and John Percy, Architect for Megamorphosis, Inc.

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".)

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- Item 1. Call to order (Pledge of Allegiance)
 Call to order by Mr. Prado at 10:04 A.M. to open the meeting. Mr. Prado informed attendees that on March 16, 2020, the Governor and Attorney 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 (3 of 5 quorum) by Ms. Barajas though members of the board are not gathered in a central location and confirmation was attained by attendance through video conference. 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 video conference, Mr. Prado closed public comment section. Motion made by Mr. Prado to close public comment. Seconded by Mr. Aston. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 4. Approval of May 19, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes (as written). Signature obtained from Mr. Prado, President, and document to be forwarded to Gabriel Moreno, Secretary, for the same purpose. Motion made by Mr. Aston to approve the said Regular Board Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Mr. Prado. The motions carried unanimously.

Item 5. Approval of Bills (& Cash Flow)

Mrs. Barajas presented the June 2021 Expense Report pertaining to regular monthly bills, after discussion by Board. Motion made by Mr. Prado to approve the said bills (& cash flow). Seconded by Mr. Aston. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 6. Financial Report (& Banking Report)

Ms. Barajas provided an update on the financial banking and investment reports. Motion made by Mr. Prado to acknowledge the financial report as presented. Seconded by Mr. Gracia. 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. Prado to acknowledge and approve the said Director's Report as presented by Mrs. Barajas, which included no major system problems reported by PSAPs. On May 27th, met with John Percy, Architect for Megamorphosis, to discuss the building expansion. Attended on June 1st, the Operation Meeting in Houston, Texas, which included an OnStar presentation, CSEC presentation by Kellie Merriweather regarding last year's activities by the Councils of Governments, Sunset Review was postponed by Texas Legislative until 2027, and Department of Defense meeting regarding using ESInet with their military PSAPs. Attended on June 2nd the Director's Meeting, Texas Alliance Lobbyist reported the progress of HB2911 and reported Governor's Office would not be raising fees so rejected the house bill and instead HB2911 was changed to Next Generation 9-1-1 service fund which will be either signed on June 20th or vetoed. Sprint Wireless Recovery services ends on December 31, 2021. FCC reported a 17 members strike force that includes representatives from the federal government, state attorney general, states and taxing jurisdictions, state 9-1-1 administrators, public safety, the public and consumers. This group was created pursuant to Section 902 of the

'Don't Break Up the T-Band Act of 2020' (which became law from the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021). Kellie Merriweather, President of the NASNA has been appointed Chair of the Task Force. This group will study how FCC can expeditiously end 9-1-1 fee diversion, if criminal penalties would prevent diversion, assess the impacts of diversion, and their finding must be published by September 23rd and submitted to Congress. Safety measures (disinfecting) continue every day in our building. This concludes the Director's Report. Also the Building Report as presented by Mr. Davila which included expansion of the building details, the GIS Report was presented by Alfonso Garrido (GIS Department), and the Public Education/Training Report was presented by Jose Garcia. Seconded by Mr. Gracia. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 8.

AT&T Report

Mr. Moreno is working with project managers on the new ESInet project (SMS Text to 9-1-1). Vesta upgrades are needed prior to the new project and those have been postponed until after July. The techs will be making visits to all the PSAPS to ensure the laptops are ready for hurricane season. Also, will be providing transitioning instructions from Wi-Fi setup and reverting back to network. Motion made by Mr. Prado to acknowledge the AT&T Report. Seconded by Mr. Gracia. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 9.

Board Committee Report

Mr. Aston stated that his office will be opened to the public as of July 1, 2021. He asked if CCECD staff had an open date in mind. Ms. Barajas and Mr. Davila stated that staff was comfortable in opening on July 1st, as well. A motion to acknowledge the report was made by Mr. Aston. Seconded by Mr. Prado. 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. However, Mr. Pequeno mentioned that CCECD could technically continue with the Zoom meetings, or attend in person, this could change by CCECD's next meeting depending on updates to the disaster declaration. Mr. Pequeno will keep the Board abreast of any changes. Zoom meetings will remain in effect until further notice. Mr. Pequeno introduced Araseli Garza, with legal counsel's office, whom was in attendance as part of her internship. Mr. Pequeno provided an overview of the June 3rd, 9-1-1 Fee Strike Force committee meeting that is available on YouTube. The meeting is mostly committee introductions and will meet regularly through the Federal Open Meetings Act. Mr. Pequeno provided information that is being reviewed by the task force and action that might be considered for fee diversion. He compared what has happened in the past and what might be considered with new task force action plan. There will be preliminary rules dated on or about June 25th, and those rules might be amended after the findings, prior

to reporting to congress in September. Mr. Pequeno confirmed continuation research and will monitor this situation. A memorandum will be forthcoming to the district and board with final guidelines on the rules, as it becomes available. A motion and acknowledgment of the legal counsel's report was made by Mr. Prado. Seconded by Mr. Gracia. The motion carried unanimously.

- Item 11. Consideration and Approval for adding a PSAP for the city of Primera, Texas. A presentation from James Harris, City of Primera Emergency Management Coordination, that included the importance of a PSAP center and new Census population in their city. After a discussion that included having all members of the Board present and number of 9-1-1 calls for the areas, a motion to table this item was made by Mr. Prado and place on next month's agenda to allow additional information and meetings with the City of Primera's administrators. Seconded by Mr. Gracia. The motion carried unanimously.
- Item 12. Consideration and Approval of contract for design and construction observation services from Megamorphosis architect, John Percy, subject to legal counsel review. Mr. Pequeno explained that the June 3rd letter from Megamorphosis explained the general outline of services they will provide for the building expansion. If the board approves, Mr. Pequeno recommended that an AIA contract with the proposed terms that he can review and finalize. The board would be approving the general terms of engagement and outlined in the June 3rd letter. A motion for approval to proceed with a AIA contractual agreement with Megamorphosis was made by Mr. Aston. Seconded by Mr. Prado. The motion carried unanimously.
- Item 13. Consideration and Approval of Eagle View media publication and release featuring Alfonso Garrido. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Aston to approve and proceed with the publication, if Eagle View agreed with the modifications made by legal counsel on the media release form. Seconded by Mr. Gracia. The motion carried unanimously.
- Item 14. Consideration and Approval for the Directors to attend the NENA conference in Columbus, Ohio on July 24-29, 2021. A motion to approve travel was made by Mr. Aston. Seconded by Mr. Prado. The motion carried unanimously.
- Item 15. Consideration and Approval for the CCECD Telecommunicators and Directors to attend the APCO International Conference in San Antonio on August 15-18, 2021. A motion to approve travel was made by Mr. Prado. Seconded by Mr. Gracia. The motion carried unanimously.
- Item 16. Closed Meeting for Discussion of Any Item on the Agenda as may be permitted by Subchapter D of Chapter 551.071 of the Texas Government Code. No item met this criteria.

Item 17. Adjournment.
At 11:07 A.M., a motion was made by Mr. Prado to adjourn this meeting.
Seconded by Mr. Gracia. The motion carried unanimously.

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Approved this 21st day of July, 2021.

Approved: 

Mario M. Prado, President of the Board of Managers

Approved: 

Bill Aston, Vice President of the Board of Managers

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