

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
COUNTY OF CAMERON §

**CAMERON COUNTY EMERGENCY
COMMUNICATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
May 18, 2022**

The Board of Managers of the Cameron County Emergency Communication District (CCECD) met at the 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 18, 2022.

Present:

- Board Members: Mario Prado (President), Bill Aston (Vice-President), Robert Gracia, Henry Etheridge, and Gabriel Moreno
- Board Members Absent: Gabriel Garza
- Directors: S. Barajas, and J. Davila
- Corporate Counsel: Juan M. Pequeno, Jr. and Ivan Perez
- Others: A. Chavez, A. Garrido, and J. Garcia (CCECD Staff), John Shergold, Attorney At Law, Charles Hoskins, Jr., and Jorge Martinez, Sheriff’s Department, Charlie Banda, Commander and Juan Rodriguez, Assistant Police Chief for the City of Los Fresnos

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 10:01 A.M. to open the meeting, recited the Pledge of Allegiance. 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, 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 approaching the podium. Juan Rodriguez, Assistant Chief for the City of Los Fresnos, requested to be considered for any funding available as indicated on Item 11. After all public comments, a motion was made by Mr. Etheridge to acknowledge. Seconded by Mr. Gracia. The motion

carried unanimously.

- Item 4. Approval of April (20, 2022) Regular Board Meeting Minutes. 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. Gracia. The motion carried unanimously.
- Item 5. Approval of Bills (& Cash Flow)
Ms. Barajas presented the May Expense Report pertaining to regular monthly bills, after discussion by the Board, a motion was made by Mr. Gracia 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 the financial banking and investment reports. Motion made by Mr. Aston to acknowledge the financial reports as presented. Seconded by Mr. Etheridge. 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. Etheridge to acknowledge the said Director's Report as presented by Ms. Barajas. As of this date, the PSAPs have not reported any major system problems. On April 22nd, we met with Art Garcia from Bar Com to discuss the new Cisco telephone system to be installed in our building. According to Art, the telephone system should be arriving on May 17, 2022. On April 27th we met with Doug Junkin and John Percy from Megamorphosis and with Tre Peacock, Johnathan Morales, and Philip Cortez for a preconstruction meeting. We will be having these meetings every two weeks to discuss the building addition project. On April 28th, we had a TELCO meeting via Zoom and everyone gave an update on their individual's projects. Heather Barnes with CSEC gave an update on their move to the George W. Bush Building. City of Laredo 9-1-1 discussed Carbyne, an application that can receive videos from the public installed at one of their PSAPs. They plan to implement ESInet June 6-8, 2022. RGVECD offered to do training with ARC/PRO GIS for those that need it. We also discussed a name change for our group changing the TELCO name. We will be hosting the next meeting here in our building on July 29, 2022. We attended the TNT and PET meeting on May 2-3, 2022. Discussed the TCOLE training requirements and went through the logging in and accessing the Virtual Academy program. At the PET meeting we discussed co-op ordering from MY 9-1-1 Shop and asked for more public education ideas for the shop. Sonya Clauson with Greater Harris 9-1-1 presented a video campaign that she made on recruiting Telecommunicators for their region. They are under staff as well as the rest of those present and many voiced their concerns on recruiting. We attended the Executive Director's meeting on May 4, 2022 in

Dallas. The discussion centered on the Contractor Certification that has to be signed by the vendor we choose for our ESInet. We are required to do a cost analysis on the ESInet vendor we choose. We will be doing this to satisfy the Federal Guidelines and have asked for costs from the vendors. We also discussed changing the meeting times for the Alliance to maybe meeting in the afternoon to give everyone plenty of time to get to the meeting since a lot of the flight schedules have changed and also for those driving in not to be stuck in traffic in the morning. The Alliance wants the meetings to be longer because we will continue to work on legislation to increase the wireless fees, the rapidly changing 9-1-1 technology, the direction as members of the 9-1-1 Texas Alliance to take in regards to having our voices heard and of course the tremendous paper work the Directors have to go through with the Federal grant. We have new reports/surveys and cost analysis that the Texas Legislature is asking us to do about the Federal funding that we are going to receive. We want all the Districts reports to be correct. Kevin Jones, Executive Director for Ector County 9-1-1 will be retiring this month. Tino Fonseca, with Greater Harris County 9-1-1 and the Texas Alliance Treasurer will be retiring this month also. We finally got in contact with the C4 in Reynosa. The CEO of NENA Mexico emailed me and said the only way to contact them was through the Whats App. I downloaded it on my personal phone and have been corresponding that way with her. The C4 Director is Azuzena Lijares. She will be sending me her C4 phone number through the Whats App and I will be forwarding their number to the PSAPs. I have received the NG9-1-1 Subrecipient Grant Application Package and have started working on the package. We have a mandatory meeting with CSEC on May19, 2022. This concludes my report. Safety measures (disinfecting) continue every day in our building. Also the Building Report as presented by Mr. Davila, informed the board that the building plan is on its way and will be completed by this Thursday, trenches will be next, and then next week plumbing, electrical. The foundation is expected to be poured in two weeks. RABA Kistner, Inc. is responsible that the foundation is up to standards, compacting and stabilization of the dirt. RABA Kistner has begun their testing. A check for the first draft of construction in the amount of \$48,782.50 is ready for Peacock General Contractors. 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 informed the board that they are working on the hurricane preparedness for all of the PSAPs. Techs will be scheduled to go out to check that the UPS are in working order. Information will be shared with PSAP Supervisors so that AT&T aligns and is informed on how PSAPS will be maintaining their generators and that they are in working order. Make sure the PSAPs know that some of the UPS are only capable of handling up to 2 hours depending on the size of the PSAP. It's crucial they understand that as well as, removing all equipment that is not associated with 911 from the dedicated 911 outlets. AT&T is anticipating to complete this by first week in June. They will be checking the

command post located at each PSAP to ensure that they are updated and connected to the network, and reiterate to Supervisors it's important for them to be working. The command posts located at Camelot will also be checked and techs will get them ready as well. A motion was made by Mr. Gracia to acknowledge the AT&T report. Seconded by Mr. Etheridge. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 9. Board Committee

No report was available and this item was tabled. A motion was made by Mr. Etheridge to table item. Seconded by Mr. Gracia. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 10. Legal Counsel Report

Mr. Pequeno informed the board, that Ms. Barajas and Mr. Davila will be attending the CSEC Funding Meeting tomorrow (5/19/2022). The RGVECD meets quarterly and plans are in place to have staff attend the next meeting regarding the name issue. A motion to acknowledge the legal counsel's report was made by Mr. Aston. Seconded by Mr. Gracia. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 11.

Consideration and Approval to fund four (4) Telecommunicators for the Cameron County Sheriff Department request from Jorge Martinez, Cameron County Sheriff Department. Mr. Robert Gracia informed the Board of Managers, that he would be abstaining from this item because he is part of the County Sheriff's Department (Affidavit-Conflict of Interest on file). After a presentation by the Sheriff's Department and discussion of the funding cost, a motion to deny was made by Mr. Etheridge. Seconded by Mr. Aston. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 12.

Consideration and Approval to attend NENA Conference in Louisville, Kentucky on June 11-16, 2022. A motion of approval for travel was made by Mr. Aston. Seconded by Mr. Etheridge. 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. Mr. John Shergold, counsel for Silbia Barajas (Executive Director) requested that deliberation regarding his client be made in open session. A motion was made at 11:15 A.M. by Mr. Gracia to move to executive session. Seconded by Mr. Etheridge. The motion carried unanimously.

A. Consultation with Legal Counsel regarding workplace investigation (Tex. Gov't Code 551.071)

B. Deliberation regarding the employment, evaluation, duties, or discipline of the Executive Director (Tex. Gov't code 551.074) was deliberated in open session beginning at 12:18 p.m. Attorney Ivan Perez went over the various concerns brought up concerning the Executive Director which included use of

company property/company vehicles for personal use, having staff over to Executive Director's home overlapping district work-time, streaming movies at work, sleeping on company time, etc.

Item 14. Possible action on closed meeting items. The Board requested that Mr. Perez put together a reprimand along the lines of his recommendation for the Executive Director for their review and present the proposed changes to the policy.

Item 15. Adjournment.
At 12.25 P.M., a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Aston. Seconded by Mr. Gracia. The motion carried unanimously.

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Approved this 8th day of June, 2022.

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

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

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