

THE STATE OF TEXAS       §  
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COUNTY OF CAMERON       §

**CAMERON COUNTY EMERGENCY  
COMMUNICATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
October 19, 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, October 19, 2022.

Present:

- Board Members: Mario Prado (President), Bill Aston (Vice-President), Henry Etheridge, Charles Hoskins, Jr., and Gabriel Moreno
- Board Members Absent: Gabriel Garza
- Executive Directors: J. Davila, and A. Chavez
- Corporate Counsel: Juan M. Pequeno, Jr.
- Others: A. Garrido, and J. Garcia (CCECD Staff)

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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 10:03 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 Mr. Davila, 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. After a brief time, with no comments made, Mr. Prado closed the public comment section and no action was needed.
  
- Item 4.           Approval of September (21, 2022) Regular Board Meeting Minutes. Signature will

be 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. Hoskins. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 5. Approval of Bills (& Cash Flow)

Mr. Davila presented the October Expense Report pertaining to regular monthly bills, after discussion by the Board, a motion was made by Mr. Prado to approve the said bills (& cash flow). Seconded by Mr. Etheridge. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 6. Financial Report (& Banking Report)

Mr. Davila provided an update on the financial banking reports and Quarterly Public Investment Report. 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. Executive Director's Report

Motion made by Mr. Aston to acknowledge the said Director's Report as presented by Mr. Davila. I attended the Texas 9-1-1 Alliance Meeting in Dallas on Wednesday, October 5, 2022. Discussed were the ongoing challenges of increasing the wireless fee. Our lobbyists for the Texas Alliance have met with Verizon and T-Mobile regarding our wireless fee increase but these two wireless carriers are not for it for two reasons. First they state that we have been awarded 150 million dollars by the State of Texas for upgrading to the ESINET and that should be enough. What they don't take into consideration is that ongoing monthly costs for the ESINET is a lot more expensive than our current monthly costs. Secondly they want all 9-1-1 entities in the State of Texas to settle on one fee for all districts no matter the size of the Districts. CSEC has estimated that an increase up to 72 cents for the Regional COG's would be enough to meet their needs. This does not work for the smaller districts who desperately need a larger fee increase nor for some of the larger Districts like Greater Harris County who don't need nor want a fee increase. Our challenge during the upcoming State legislative session will be a lot of new State Senators and Representatives who have to be educated on funding for 9-1-1 and overcoming the current administration's stance on no new taxes nor fee increases. Also, all the Texas Districts/Regional COGS that are on the Texas-Mexico Border are being asked to work with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to set up Secondary PSAP's under the Federal Missing Migrant Program to allow the Border Patrol to receive ANI/ALI information but most importantly being able to re-bid a call to update and track a 9-1-1 call from migrants once the PSAP determines it needs to be transferred to the Border Patrol. The DHS will be paying for all network and equipment for setting up a secondary PSAP. What also has to be taken into consideration is if our PSAP's want to partner with DHS on this project plus I also stated that our Board of Directors would have to approve this in Cameron



County before we move forward on their request. DHS will be making a presentation to Rio Grande Valley Emergency Communication District Board at their meeting in Weslaco this Wednesday, October 19, 2022 and I asked Mr. Manuel Cruz, Executive Director, to let me know what their Board decides to do regarding this request from DHS. 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 completion is December 12, 2022. The 'partition', 'UPS' and 'generator' might not arrive on time which could cause a delay. GIS Report was presented by Alfonso Garrido (GIS Department), and the Public Education/ Training Report by Jose Garcia. Seconded by Mr. Prado. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 8. AT&T Report

Mr. Moreno reported that the techs are working on moving equipment at the Sheriff's Office due to remodeling of the office. Requested from the Board allowance to proceed in scheduling techs on Saturdays and Sundays (between 10am and 5pm) to perform routine work that would be nonintrusive with the PSAPS. Mr. Moreno will notify PSAP supervisors of this activity. Mr. Davila mentioned the UPS conference call that is scheduled on Monday at 2:30 P.M. and that the PSAPs would be notified when UPS will be installed. A motion to acknowledge was made by Mr. Prado. Seconded by Mr. Etheridge. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 9. Board Committee

Mr. Aston introduce Melanie Machen to the board and welcomed her back to EMS as the new 'Administrative Executive Assistant'. Board Members all welcomed Ms. Machen and thanked her for attending the board meeting. A motion to acknowledge was made by Mr. Prado. Seconded by Mr. Etheridge. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 10. Legal Counsel Report

Mr. Pequeno informed the board he didn't have anything to report. A motion to table this item was made by Mr. Aston. Seconded by Mr. Etheridge. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 11. Consideration, Approval and Annual Review of the Investment Policy for the CCECD District. Mr. Pequeno reviewed the policy with the board, stated no need for changes and noted the District was in compliance. A motion to Approve the Investment Policy without any modifications was made by Mr. Aston. Seconded by Mr. Prado. The motion carried unanimously. Thereafter, the Board went to Item 14.

Item 12. Consideration and Approval for the 2023 Capital Budget and Operation Budget. After a review of the Capital and Operational budgets for 2023, a motion to approve with modifications discussed was made by Mr. Aston. Seconded by Mr. Etheridge. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 13. Consideration, Review, and Approval for employee positions. At 10:57 A.M., a motion was made by Mr. Aston to move to Executive Session. Seconded by Mr. Hoskins. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 14. 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.

A. Consultation with legal counsel and directors regarding Employee Positions, at CCECD. (TX. GOV'T CODE 551.071, 551.074). Possible Action, if any, in Open Meeting. The Board of Managers at 11:57 A.M. returned to item 12 open session to carry out Item 12 and Item 13. A motion to move to open session was made by Mr. Aston. Seconded by Mr. Hoskins. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 15. Open Meeting:

A. Possible action on Closed Meeting Items. Item 13, A motion to Approve Employee Positions and salaries as discussed in closed meeting and authorized by the Board President and/or Vice President to execute the motion, was made by Mr. Hoskins. Seconded by Mr. Aston. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 16. Adjournment.  
At 11:59 A.M., a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Hoskins. Seconded by Mr. Etheridge. The motion carried unanimously.

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Approved this 16<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2022.

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

Approved:   
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Gabriel Moreno, Secretary of the Board of Managers

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