

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
COUNTY OF CAMERON §

**CAMERON COUNTY EMERGENCY
COMMUNICATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
February 21, 2024**

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, February 21, 2024.

Present:

Board Members: Mario Prado (President), Bill Aston (Vice-President), Albert De La Rosa, and Charles Hoskins, Jr.

Board Members Absent: Gabriel Garza and Valentin Ramirez

Executive Directors: J. Davila and A. Chavez

Corporate Counsel: Juan M. Pequeno

Others: R. Cruz, R. Andrade, J. Garcia, A. Castillo, and E. Espitia (CCECD Staff)

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 10:00 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 January (17, 2024) Regular Board Meeting Minutes. Signature will be obtained from Mr. Prado, President, and document to be forwarded to Bill Aston, Vice-President, for the same purpose. Motion made by Mr. Aston to approve the said Regular Board Meeting Minutes as written. Seconded by Mr. Hoskins. The

motion carried unanimously.

Item 5. Approval of Bills (& Cash Flow)

Mr. Davila presented the February Expense Report pertaining to regular monthly bills, after discussion by the Board; a motion was made by Mr. Hoskins to approve the said bills (& cash flow). Seconded by Mr. De La Rosa. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 6. Financial Report (& Banking Report)

Mr. Davila provided an update on the financial banking. Motion made by Mr. Aston to acknowledge the financial reports as presented. Seconded by Mr. Hoskins. 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

Alma Linda Chavez and myself attended the Texas 9-1-1 Alliance Director's Meeting on February 7, 2024 in Dallas Texas.

CSEC (Commission on State Emergency Communications), the State of Texas Comptroller's Office, and Mike Tomsu representing the Texas 9-1-1 Alliance are still discussing how to distribute Proposition 8/HB9 money to all 9-1-1 recipients. They have scheduled resolution of distribution of money at the March 27, 2024 CSEC meeting in Austin, Texas. All Alliance Executive Directors and Deputy Directors are encouraged to attend this CSEC meeting in Austin on March 27, 2024.

We have implemented our Cybersecurity Solution with Seculore to include the 9-1-1 network and our office administrative network is also included. Weekly status reports by Seculore are sent via email. Should Seculore find something that needs immediate attention they will contact our AT&T team and myself directly 24/7/365 to mitigate and resolve any perceived threat or breach in our networks.

The Training PSAP (Xybix brand) furniture has been installed in our building's new addition. We now have the capability to have a total of 8 Telecommunicators answering calls 24/7/365 in our building. However, should it be necessary, we also have up to 26 Laptops to answer calls in an extreme emergency scenario. We are adding more bandwidth to the Fiber Internet services in our building to accommodate additional bandwidth that would be needed to use these Laptops in our building.

AT&T has started the installation of the new AT&T Call Handling Equipment (CHE). The Brownsville Police Department, Cameron County Sheriff's Office, Harlingen Police Department, Port Isabel Police Department, and South Padre Island Police Department have all been completed as far as equipment installation. The rest of the PSAP's will be completed by the first week in March, 2024. After the installation of this equipment, Motorola Technicians will schedule the software upgrade on the VESTA system and the new Cisco routers will also be scheduled for installation and programming during the next few months. Tentative project completion of all CHE and associated routers and switches to include the Training PSAP here in our building is scheduled for the end of August 2024.

The project to replace the AT&T 9-1-1 Local network from a copper based system to all Fiber based solution is still pending. AT&T will be presenting their proposal next month and timelines to implement this project. We will incur miscellaneous construction costs to bring fiber into some PSAP's that currently only have copper.

Quality Electric has finished the identification of all electrical outlets throughout our building plus relocating and adding some outlets in our IT room. This concludes my report. GIS Report was presented by Rafael Cruz and Randy Andrade, the Public Education Report was presented by April Castillo, and Training Report by Joe Garcia. Motion was made by Mr. Hoskins to acknowledge the said Director's Report as presented by Mr. Davila, GIS Report, Public Education, and the Training Report. Seconded by Mr. Aston. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 8. AT&T Report

Mr. Ramirez was not present for the meeting. Mr. Davila informed the board of the ongoing AT&T Call Handling Equipment installation. A motion to table was made by Mr. Hoskins. Seconded by Mr. Prado. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 9. Board Committee

Mr. Aston thanked CCECD staff for their ongoing work in updating data to provide 9-1-1 reports. A motion to acknowledge was made by Mr. Hoskins. Seconded by Mr. De La Rosa. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 10. Legal Counsel Report

Mr. Pequeno had no items to report to the board. A motion to table was made by Mr. Aston. Seconded by Mr. Hoskins. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 11. Consideration and Possible Action on the commemoration of the fallen heroes on the Cameron County Memorial for the "Fallen Heroes" monument located at the Dancy Building in Brownsville, Texas, by updating the monument through 2023. Action on this item will give the authority to the Executive Director to take necessary steps and work with the Cameron County Judge Office, obtain permits (if needed) with the Texas Historical Commission, City of Brownsville, and enter into contract with Pinkerton Memorials, a local vendor, for this same purpose. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Aston. Seconded by Mr. Prado. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 12. 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. There were no items for discussion in closed meeting.

Item 13. Adjournment. At 10:55 A.M., a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Hoskins. Seconded by Mr. Prado. The motion carried unanimously.

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Approved this 20th day of March 2024.

Approved: 

Mario M. Prado, President of the Board of Managers

Approved: 

Valentin Ramirez, Secretary of the Board of Managers

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