

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
COUNTY OF CAMERON §

**CAMERON COUNTY EMERGENCY
COMMUNICATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
March 20, 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, March 20, 2024.

Present:

- Board Members: Mario Prado (President), Bill Aston (Vice-President), Albert De La Rosa, and Valentin Ramirez
- Board Members Absent: Gabriel Garza and Charles Hoskins, Jr.
- Executive Directors: J. Davila and A. Chavez
- Corporate Counsel: Juan M. Pequeno
- Others: R. Cruz, 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 10:04 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 (3 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 February (21, 2024) Regular Board Meeting Minutes.** Signature will be obtained from Mr. Prado, President, and document to be forwarded to Valentin Ramirez, Secretary, for the same purpose. Motion made by Mr. Aston to approve the said Regular Board Meeting Minutes as written. Seconded by Mr. Prado. The

motion carried unanimously.

Item 5. Approval of Bills (& Cash Flow)

Mr. Davila presented the March Expense Report pertaining to regular monthly bills, after discussion by the Board; a motion was made by Mr. Aston 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 reports. Motion made by Mr. Prado to acknowledge the financial reports as presented. Seconded by Mr. Aston. 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 Operations and Director's Meeting on March 6 and March 7, 2024 in Houston, Texas.

During the Operations Meeting we had several Vendor presentations. Rapid SOS presentation consisted of different apps like "I Am Responding" app, Digital Alerts-Panic Button app, and Multi-Agency routing of calls. Rave Mobile Safety presented their Panic Button Solution that is being widely used throughout Montgomery County Texas in their public schools. Rave also presented their Smart 9-1-1 Indoor Mapping app. Also discussed was SOS Satellite calls, Solar Eclipse Planning for April 8, 2024, and other miscellaneous questions and concerns in reference to Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP'S). Next quarterly Operations Meeting is June 4, 2024 at Bexar Metro 9-1-1- Network District in San Antonio, Texas.

CSEC (Commission on State Emergency Communications), the State of Texas Comptroller's Office, and the Texas 9-1-1 Alliance have agreed to distribute Proposition 8/HB9 money to all 9-1-1 recipients. They have scheduled approval of distribution of money at the March 27, 2024 CSEC meeting in Austin, Texas. Shortly after approval, our District will be getting a deposit of approximately \$2,373,147.82 deposited by CSEC into our bank account. The State has given approval for the Executive Directors of each 9-1-1 entity to sign several forms and reports (see Items # 7-2 thru 7-5) to acknowledge receipt of money to be used for 9-1-1 purposes only as intended by the State Legislature.

AT&T has started the installation of the new AT&T Call Handling Equipment (CHE). All PSAP's front-end hardware have been completed by our local AT&T Technicians. Motorola Technicians, both remotely and on-site, will schedule the software upgrade on the VESTA system starting April 8 and running through July 2024. After this date, new Cisco routers will also be scheduled for installation and programming during August, 2024. Tentative project completion of all CHE, Software, and associated routers and switches to include the Training PSAP here in our building is scheduled for September 7, 2024. This concludes my report.

GIS Report was presented by Rafael Cruz, the Public Education Report was presented by April Castillo, and Training Report by Joe Garcia. Motion was made by Mr. Prado to acknowledge the said Director's Report as presented by Mr. Davila, GIS Report, Public Education, and the Training Report. Seconded by Mr. De La Rosa. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 8. AT&T Report

Mr. Ramirez reported the status of the Call Handling Equipment refresh. He informed the Board that servers are pending for Harlingen PD and EMS. Camelot location is pending complete install. A motion to acknowledge was made by Mr. Prado. Seconded by Mr. Aston. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 9. Board Committee

Mr. Aston mentioned the concern about the incident that occurred at the UTRGV Harlingen campus and entities with internal police departments that do not report nor dial 9-1-1 to alert and place local emergency services on standby. This failure would affect the response time for emergency services to arrive should there be a need. Mr. Aston suggested a possible meeting to inform them of the 9-1-1 services available to the UTRGV campus. A motion to acknowledge was made by Mr. Aston. Seconded by Mr. De La Rosa. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 10. Legal Counsel Report

Mr. Pequeno reported to the Board that an email was sent to Mr. Davila regarding a memo on government immunity. In addition, CSEC rules to be adopted will be explained further in Items 11 and 12. A motion to acknowledge was made by Mr. Aston. Seconded by Mr. De La Rosa. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 11. Consideration, approval and possible adoption of CSEC Rule 251.16, Direct Access to 9-1-1 Service (State Kari's Law). Mr. Pequeno gave the Board a brief explanation of the rule, which requires direct dial to 9-1-1 without the use of an additional number prior to dialing. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Prado. Seconded by Mr. Aston. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 12. Consideration, approval and possible adoption of CSEC Rule 255.4, Definition of Local Exchange Access Line or Equivalent. Mr. Pequeno gave a brief explanation of the rule, which states that for commercial accounts with multiple lines, any discounts for having multiple lines does not change the 911 Emergency Service Fee. A motion to approve was made by Mr. De La Rosa. Seconded by Mr. Aston. 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. There were no items for discussion in closed meeting.

Item 14. Adjournment. At 10:44 A.M., a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Aston. Seconded by Mr. Prado. The motion carried unanimously.

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Approved this 17th day of April 2024.

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

Approved: 
Valentin Ramirez, Secretary of the Board of Managers

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