

THE STATE OF TEXAS           §  
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COUNTY OF CAMERON       §

**CAMERON COUNTY EMERGENCY  
COMMUNICATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
May 21, 2025**

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 21, 2025.

**Present:**

Board Members: Mario Prado (President) and Bill Aston (Vice-President), Gabriel Garza, Albert De La Rosa, and Thomas Hushen

Non-Voting Member: Valentin Ramirez

Board Members Absent: None

Executive Directors: J. Davila and A. Chavez

Corporate Counsel: Gene Vaughan

Others: R. Cruz, A. Castillo, J. Garcia, and J. Barrientos (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 10:00 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 (5 of 5 quorum) by Mr. Davila, the Board went to Item 3.
- Item 3.       Public Comment.  
              Mr. Prado, President of the Board Members, 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. Thereafter, the Board went to Item 4.
- Item 4.       Approval of Resolution Honoring Jorge A. Martinez, for his 8 months of service to CCECD, Cameron County, Brownsville, and the residents of those locales. No action was needed. In his absence, Alma Linda Chavez, Deputy Director, presented the resolution to the board. Motion made by Mr. Aston to acknowledge the Resolution

Honoring Jorge A. Martinez. Seconded by Mr. De La Rosa. The motion carried unanimously.

- Item 5. Swearing-in of (newly appointed) CCECD Board Member, Thomas Hushen, representing Cameron County, pursuant to Tex. Const. Art. XVI, §1 (Vernon Supp. 2016) (Official Oath). Alma Linda Chavez proceeded to “swear-in” Thomas Hushen. No action or motion was necessary for this item. Thereafter, the Board went to Item 13.
- Item 6. Approval of April (16, 2025) Regular Board Meeting Minutes. Motion made by Mr. Aston to approve the said Regular Board Meeting Minutes as written. Seconded by Mr. De La Rosa. The motion carried unanimously. Signature will be obtained from Mr. Prado, Board President, and document to be forwarded to Mr. Ramirez, Secretary, for the same purpose.
- Item 7. Approval of Bills (& Cash Flow)  
Mr. Davila presented the May Expense Report pertaining to regular monthly bills. After a 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 8. Financial Report (& Banking Report)  
Mr. Davila provided an update on the financial banking reports. Motion made by Mr. Aston to acknowledge the financial reports as presented. Seconded by Mr. De La Rosa. The motion carried unanimously. (The amounts of these reports were presented at the CCECD Board Meeting as with previous meetings.)
- Item 9. Executive Director’s Report  
Alma Linda Chavez and myself attended the Texas 9-1-1 Alliance Directors meeting in Dallas, Texas on May 7, 2025. Discussed was the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Notice of Inquiry (NOI) regarding Positioning, Navigation, and Timing (PNT) technologies as it pertains to complementing and enhancing Global Positioning System (GPS). This pertains to 9-1-1 as GPS is the technology being used to locate wireless and wireline calls at all our PSAP’s by wireless and wireline carriers. There are gaps in this GPS coverage and the FCC is trying to enhance coverage. The FCC is considering a range of terrestrial and space-based technologies as part of a system-of-systems approach to resilient PNT. Because different technologies and deployment models bring different strengths — and different weaknesses — truly resilient PNT requires multiple layers of redundancy and both space and terrestrial-based technologies. There is no single solution. The Texas Alliance position is that we urge the FCC to advance policies and solutions that will accelerate deployment of resilient, vertically capable PNT systems that align with the operational needs of PSAP’s, ECC’s, and the first responders they support. There was also discussion on the filing of the 9-1-1 rate increase bill, SB 2860, sponsored by State Senator Boris Miles from Houston. The lobbying firm, Blakemore and Associates, is working with Senator Miles office to see if this rate increase legislation makes it through the session this year. As of this past Friday it had been assigned to the Business and Commerce Committee on April 7, 2025 but has yet to be heard. At this point chances for it to be heard do not look good. Another alternative for funding would be to get an appropriation like the last legislative session administered by CSEC but that also does not look very promising at this point. Another bill of interest is HB 150 by Rep. Giovanni Capriglione (R-Southlake) SB 2176 by Sen. Tan Parker (R-Flower Mound), establishing the Texas Cyber Command. This measure is a priority of

Governor Abbott and was designated an emergency item. HB 150 passed a vote by the House on 4/16 and was referred to Senate Business & Commerce Committee and is scheduled for a public hearing on 5/20; SB 2176 was referred to Business & Commerce Committee on 3/24 but has yet to be heard for public testimony. The Command is established to prevent and respond to cybersecurity incidents that affect governmental entities and critical infrastructure in Texas. CSEC sent out the annual FCC questionnaire that all Districts have to respond to. We will fill that out and return to CSEC. FCC requires information regarding number of PSAP's, revenue collected from 9-1-1 fees, Expenditures, Next Generation 9-1-1 Service, and Cybersecurity Expenditures to name some of the entries the FCC requires.

Gulf Coast Construction has already poured the cement slab for our new carport and we are waiting for the carport subcontractor to put up columns and roof for our carport. This concludes my report.

The GIS report was presented by Rafael Cruz, the Public Education report was presented by April Castillo, and Joe Garcia presented his Training report. Motion was made by Mr. De La Rosa to acknowledge the Director's, GIS, Public Education, and Training reports. Seconded by Mr. Garza. The motion carried unanimously.

**Item 10. AT&T Report**

Mr. Ramirez reported that he will visit all PSAPs to ensure that back-up systems for the stations are operational as part of the hurricane preparation. Harlingen PSAP will be moving PSAP furniture, so there may be a need for additional electrical outlets. Mr. Ramirez spoke with the Harlingen PSAP and if their 9-1-1 equipment needs to be moved, a time could be scheduled to ensure a smooth transition. A motion was made by Mr. Aston to acknowledge the AT&T report. Seconded by Mr. De La Rosa. The motion carried unanimously.

**Item 11. Board Committee**

Board members discussed a notification received by the district stating fire calls should be dispatched to a new fire department/station. The board determined that the district does not answer nor route calls and the respective agencies would need to determine which entity would be responsible for fires in that specific area. A motion to acknowledge was made by Mr. De La Rosa. Seconded by Mr. Garza. The motion carried unanimously.

**Item 12. Legal Counsel Report**

Mr. Vaughan informed the Board Members there was no report and this item would be tabled. A motion to table was made by Mr. Aston. Seconded by Mr. De La Rosa. The motion carried unanimously.

**Item 13. Consideration and Approval of CCECD's Audit was presented by Matthew Montemayor, a Partner from Carr, Riggs & Ingram CPA and Advisors. Ms. Samantha Atkinson presented the district audit and Mr. Montemayor presented the single audit report to the board of managers, along with a thorough review of CCECD's status. A motion to approve the audit was made by Mr. Aston. Seconded by Mr. De La Rosa. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Item 14. Consideration and Approval for Directors to attend the NENA 2025 Conference in Long Beach, California, on June 21 – June 26, 2025. A motion to approve was made**

by Mr. De La Rosa. Seconded by Mr. Garza. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 15. Consideration and Approval for Directors to attend the APCO 2025 Conference in Baltimore, Maryland, on July 27 – July 31, 2025. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Garza. Seconded by Mr. De La Rosa. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 16. Consideration and Approval of the Rules of Governance for the Cameron County Emergency Communication District Board. This item was tabled until the next Board of Manager's meeting to provide ample time in reviewing the document. A motion to table was made by Mr. Aston. Seconded by Mr. De La Rosa. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 17. Adjournment. At 11:14 A.M., a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Garza. Seconded by Mr. De La Rosa. The motion carried unanimously.

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Approved this 18<sup>th</sup> day of June 2025

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

Approved:   
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Valentin Ramirez, Secretary of the Board of Managers

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