

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
COUNTY OF CAMERON §

**CAMERON COUNTY EMERGENCY
COMMUNICATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
July 16, 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, July 16, 2025.

Present:

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

Non-Voting Member: Valentin Ramirez

Board Members Absent: Mario Prado (President)

Executive Directors: J. Davila and A. Chavez

Corporate Counsel: Juan M. Pequeno, Jr.

Others: R. Cruz, A. Castillo, J. Garcia, and J. Barrientos (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. Aston 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, the Board went to Item 3.
- Item 3. Public Comment.
Mr. Aston, Vice 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. Aston closed the public comment section and no action was needed. Thereafter, the Board went to Item 4.
- Item 4. Approval of June (18, 2025) Regular Board Meeting Minutes. Motion made by Mr. Hushen to approve the said Regular Board Meeting Minutes as written. Seconded by Mr. De La Rosa. The motion carried unanimously. Signature was obtained from Mr. Aston, Vice President, and Mr. Ramirez, Secretary.

Item 5. Approval of Bills (& Cash Flow)

Mr. Davila presented the July Expense Report pertaining to regular monthly bills. After a discussion by the Board, a motion was made by Mr. Hushen to approve the said bills (& cash flow). Seconded by Mr. Garza. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 6. Financial, Banking, and Quarterly Public Investment Reports

Mr. Davila provided an update on the financial, banking, and quarterly public investment reports. Motion made by Mr. De La Rosa to acknowledge the financial reports as presented. Seconded by Mr. Garza. 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 Directors meeting on Wednesday, July 2, 2025 in Dallas, Texas. Our Alliance Attorney gave us a presentation on the Texas 9-1-1 Equalization Surcharge. Originating Service Providers (OSP) must pay this surcharge fee for each local exchange access line, equivalent local exchange access line, or wireless telecommunications connection. The rate is \$.06 for each one of these lines or connections. Funding goes to Regional 9-1-1 Planning Commissions to implement the 9-1-1 service and to the State Department of Health to fund poison research and maintenance of the poison control centers. This fee is directly submitted to the Texas Comptroller's Office monthly. The reason for this presentation was that the Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter, Sec. 771.072 provides that "Money collected under this section may be allocated to an emergency communication district regardless of whether the district is participating in the applicable regional plan." However, Calhoun County, one of the smallest Emergency Communication District's in Texas, submitted for Equalization Surcharge funding in 2022 but were denied any funding by CSEC. Our Alliance Attorney will be meeting with the CSEC Director and CSEC's Attorney to clarify going forward the criteria for any Districts in financial difficulties to submit and receive some of the Equalization Surcharge funds.

Other items discussed were the possibility of an Alliance-sponsored fee auditing firm to be hired on a contingency basis to make sure all Originating Service Providers are submitting the correct number of lines and associated fees to each District. Participation in this project will be on an individual District basis.

There was discussion on an invitation by the Texas Special Districts Coalition to join their organization. The Executive Director from El Paso was assigned to look into this organization and come back with more information to present to the Directors during our August 6, 2025 Alliance meeting. Each individual District would then make a decision to join this Coalition or not.

Our Alliance is also holding a Zoom call today at 3:00 pm to discuss what action we should take during the upcoming Texas Legislature Special Session. Because of the Kerr County flooding, there will be discussions regarding the role of 9-1-1, CodeRed Emergency Notification System, etc. that the Alliance feels we must be involved in and aware of at the State Legislature.

This concludes my report.

The GIS report was presented by Rafael Cruz, the Public Education report was presented by April Castillo, and the Training report was presented by Joe Garcia.

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 8. AT&T Report

Mr. Ramirez reported having received a call regarding the UPS backups and scheduling permanent maintenance on the rest of the PSAPs. This maintenance is expected to be completed within two weeks of when scheduled. A motion was made by Mr. Garza to acknowledge the AT&T report. Seconded by Mr. De La Rosa. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 9. Board Committee

Mr. Hushen informed the board that the tower in Olmito is down, and has been turned off due to roaming radios experiencing tone-outs when trying to reach the Olmito tower. A tower climb will be performed, and it is anticipated to be repaired by next week. A motion to acknowledge was made by Mr. De La Rosa. Seconded by Mr. Garza. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 10. Legal Counsel Report

Mr. Pequeño 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 11. Consideration and possible action to approve a one-year contract with OnSolve, LLC, for the CodeRed emergency warning subscription service. After a discussion by the Board, a motion to approve was made by Mr. Hushen. Seconded by Mr. De La Rosa. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 12. Adjournment. At 10:37 A.M., a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Garza. Seconded by Mr. Hushen. The motion carried unanimously.

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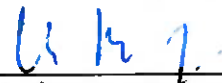
Approved this 20th day of August, 2025

Approved:



Mario M. Prado, President of the Board of Managers

Approved:



Valentin Ramirez, Secretary of the Board of Managers

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