

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
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COUNTY OF CAMERON §

**CAMERON COUNTY EMERGENCY
COMMUNICATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
January 21, 2026**

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 Conference Room, located at 501 Camelot Drive, Harlingen, Texas, at 10:00 A.M., for a Meeting of the Board of Managers, on Wednesday, January 21, 2026.

Present:

- Board Members: Mario Prado (President), Bill Aston (Vice-President), Thomas Hushen and Gabriel Garza
- Non-Voting Member: Valentin Ramirez
- Board Members Absent: Albert De La Rosa
- Executive Directors: J. Davila, A. Chavez
- Corporate Counsel: Ivan Perez
- Others: M. Torres, 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. Prado at 10:00 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. Prado, President of the Board Members, opened public comment on any agenda item to anyone attending the meeting by approaching the podium. Rafael Cruz, former employee of CCECD, made a statement regarding the district, and his perception of the work environment. With no other comments made, Mr. Prado closed the public comment section.

- Item 4. **Swearing-in of (re-appointment) CCECD Board Member Valentin Ramirez, representing AT&T Principal Service Supplier, pursuant to Tex. Health & Safety Code §772.306(b)(5) ("member appointed by the principal service supplier"), and**

administration of oath pursuant to Tex. Const. Art. XVI, § 1 (Vernon Supp. 2016) (Official Oath). The Official Oath was administered to Valentin Ramirez to reappoint and reinstate him as the designated board member for the principal service supplier, officiated by Alma Linda Chavez, a Notary of the State of Texas and for CCECD. No additional action necessary.

- Item 5. Swearing-in of newly appointed CCECD Board Member Alfredo Alvear, appointed by the City of Harlingen pursuant to Tex. Health & Safety Code §772.306(b)(3) (“second most populous municipality in the district”), and administration of oath pursuant to Tex. Const. Art. XVI, § 1 (Vernon Supp. 2016) (Official Oath). Alma Linda Chavez officiated the Oath of Office to “swear-in” Alfredo Alvear as the board member for the City of Harlingen, the second most populous municipality in the district. No action or motion was necessary for this item. Thereafter the board went to item 6.
- Item 6. Consideration and possible action by the CCECD Board to appoint a board member to the CCECD board to represent “the other municipalities located in whole or in part in the district” pursuant to Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. § 772.306(b)(4) & (e). A motion was made by Mr. Hushen to approve appointment of Daniel F. Marchan, the sole nomination submitted, as board member to the CCECD board, representing “the other municipalites located in whole or in part by the distrct”. Seconded by Mr. Alvear. The motion carried unanimously.
- Item 7. Swearing-in of newly appointed CCECD Board Member to represent “the other municipalities located in whole or in part in the district,” pursuant to Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. § 772.306(b)(4) & (e) and administration of oath pursuant to Tex. Const. Art. XVI, § 1 (Vernon Supp. 2016) (Official Oath). Alma Linda Chavez officiated the Oath of Office to “swear-in” Daniel F. Marchan. No action was necessary for this item.
- Item 8. Board election of Board President, Board Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of Governance of the Cameron County Emergency Communication District. Following a call for nominations, Thomas Hushen was nominated for President of Board of Managers by Mr. Marchan, with the nomination seconded by Mr. Alvear. The motion carried unanimously. Gabriel Garza was nominated for Vice President by Mr. Hushen, seconded by Mr. Marchan. The motion carried unanimously. Valentin Ramirez was nominated for Secretary-Treasurer by Mr. Hushen, the nomination seconded by Mr. Alvear. The motion carried unanimously.
- Item 9. Approval of Resolution Honoring Mario M. Prado, for his 36 years of service to CCECD as a member of the CCECD Board, representing the volunteer fire departments in Cameron County, and the residents of Cameron County. No formal action was needed. Motion made by Mr. Garza to acknowledge the Resolution Honoring Mario M. Prado. Seconded by Mr. Marchan. The motion carried unanimously.
- Item 10. Approval of Resolution Honoring William (“Bill”) Aston, for his 27 years of service to CCECD as a member of the CCECD Board representing the City of Harlingen, and the residents of Cameron County. No formal action was needed. Motion made by Mr.

Garza to acknowledge the Resolution Honoring William (“Bill”) Aston. Seconded by Mr. Marchan. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 11. Approval of December (21, 2026) Regular Board Meeting Minutes. Motion made by Mr. Hushen to approve the said Regular Board Meeting Minutes as written. Seconded by Mr. Garza. The motion carried unanimously. Signature was obtained from Mr. Hushen, Board President, and Valentin Ramirez, Secretary.

Item 12. Approval of Bills (& Cash Flow)
Mr. Davila presented the December Expense Report pertaining to regular monthly bills. After a discussion by the Board, a motion was made by Mr. Garza to approve the said bills (& cash flow). Seconded by Mr. Hushen. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 13. Financial, Banking Reports
Mr. Davila provided an update on the financial, banking reports. Motion made by Mr. Marchan 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 14. Executive Director’s Report
Alma Linda Chavez and myself attended the Texas 9-1-1 Directors meeting on Wednesday, January 7, 2026. Christy Williams, Executive Director for North Central Texas Emergency Communications District, gave the Alliance an update on the Request For Proposal (RFP) being prepared for Districts to conduct Service Fee Audits. This audit would be done on the basis of a percentage of Service Fee’s being recovered by the company doing the audit for each District. Once the RFP is finalized the Alliance will approve the RFP and each District will be responsible for signing an agreement with the company that is approved by the Alliance. A Service Fee Audit is left up to each District if they so choose to do it. Once we see the final RFP terms and conditions we will ask the Board for approval if we decide Cameron County Emergency Communication District (CCECD) wants to go through with a Service Fee Audit. Dallas Love Field Airport is undergoing major renovations so our Alliance lost the Conference Room at Love Field for our monthly meetings. We will start meeting at Home2Suites Hotel at 4866 Harry Hines Blvd. in Dallas which is about 3 miles from Love Field Airport. On the regulatory front, our Alliance Attorney, Winston Skinner, gave us an update on FCC rules regarding Other Service Providers (OSP’s) who have been given more time to tie in their network via Internet Protocol (IP) for all 9-1-1 calls. The major wireless and wireline companies have already done this but the smaller regional companies are being granted more time to tie in via IP. Eventually all companies must transport all 9-1-1 calls in the United States using IP so any 9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) can transfer any 9-1-1 call anywhere in the United States directly to another PSAP. We are still proceeding with the FirstNet Wireless Mobility network for a third backup to the 9-1-1 network. We have AT&T as the primary network provider and SmartCom as the backup network provider. We anticipate the FirstNet Mobility network to be operational by the middle of April, 2026. This concludes my report.

The GIS report was presented by Michael Torres, the Public Education report was presented by April Castillo, and the Training report was presented by Joe Garcia. Motion was made by Mr. Garza to acknowledge the Director's, GIS, Public Education, and Training reports. Seconded by Mr. Marchan. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 15. AT&T Report

Mr. Ramirez did not have anything to report on. He stated that he is contacting all agencies to assist if anything is needed. A motion to acknowledge was made by Mr. Garza. Seconded by Mr. Alvear. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 16. Board Committee

No report. No action required. Thereafter, the Board went to item 17.

Item 17. Legal Counsel Report

Mr. Perez recommended moving to an executive session pursuant to Tex. Gov. Code 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) and Tex. Gov. Code 551.074 (Personnel Matters) to discuss personnel issues. A motion was made to go into executive session by Mr. Garza. The motion was seconded by Mr. Marchan. The motion carried unanimously. The Board went into executive session at 10:47 a.m. The Board reconvened at 11:21 a.m., and continued to item 18. No action was taken during closed session, and there was no action needed in open session on any matters discussed during closed session.

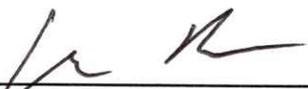
Item 18. Adjournment. At 11:22 a.m., a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Garza. Seconded by Mr. Alvear. The motion carried unanimously.

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Approved this 18th day of February, 2026.

Approved: 

President of the Board of Managers

Approved: 

Secretary of the Board of Managers

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Cameron County Emergency Communication District

THE STATE OF TEXAS

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RESOLUTION

COUNTY OF CAMERON

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BE IT RESOLVED that on this the 21st day of January, 2026, the Board of Managers of the Cameron County Emergency Communication (9-1-1) District (CCECD) convened, and the following item was placed on the Agenda of the said Board for such meeting, pursuant to Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code (the Texas Open Meeting Act), to be considered:

“Consideration and approval of a resolution honoring William (Bill) Aston”

WHEREAS, Bill Aston served as a CCECD Board Member, from November 17, 1999, to January 21, 2026, a period of 27 years, having lived and worked in the Harlingen area for many years.

WHEREAS, in commemoration of his 27 years of service to CCECD, and the CCECD Board, as well as the Harlingen area, Cameron County and South Texas, and to recognize the service and achievements of Bill Aston, the CCECD Board wants to demonstrate its appreciation for his service to CCECD.

NOW, THEREFORE, upon a motion duly made, seconded and voted upon (unanimously), it is **RESOLVED** that the CCECD Board hereby honors Bill Aston, whom has “fulfilled” his term with the CCECD Board, for his service to CCECD, the CCECD Board and the people (and local governments and businesses) of the Harlingen area, Cameron County and South Texas, as well as his various (other) achievements to date; further, it is **RESOLVED** that this Resolution be recorded in the Minutes of the Board and that a duplicate of this Resolution be presented to Bill Aston.

**Cameron County Emergency
Communication (9-1-1) District**

Joel Davila
Executive Director

ATTEST:

Alma Linda Chavez
Deputy Director



Cameron County Emergency Communication District

THE STATE OF TEXAS

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RESOLUTION

COUNTY OF CAMERON

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BE IT RESOLVED that on this the 21st day of January, 2026, the Board of Managers of the Cameron County Emergency Communication (9-1-1) District (CCECD) convened, and the following item was placed on the Agenda of the said Board for such meeting, pursuant to Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code (the Texas Open Meeting Act), to be considered:

“Consideration and approval of a resolution honoring Mario M. Prado”

WHEREAS, Mario Prado served as a CCECD Board Member, from November 14, 1990, to January 21, 2026, a period of 36 years, having lived and worked in the La Feria area for many years.

WHEREAS, in commemoration of his 36 years of service to CCECD, and the CCECD Board, as well as the La Feria area, Cameron County and South Texas, and to recognize the service and achievements of Mario Prado, the CCECD Board wants to demonstrate its appreciation for his service to CCECD.

NOW, THEREFORE, upon a motion duly made, seconded and voted upon (unanimously), it is **RESOLVED** that the CCECD Board hereby honors Mario Prado, whom has “fulfilled” his term with the CCECD Board, for his service to CCECD, the CCECD Board and the people (and local governments and businesses) of the La Feria area, Cameron County and South Texas, as well as his various (other) achievements to date; further, it is **RESOLVED** that this Resolution be recorded in the Minutes of the Board and that a duplicate of this Resolution be presented to Mario M. Prado.

**Cameron County Emergency
Communication (9-1-1) District**

Joel Davila
Executive Director

ATTEST:

Alma Linda Chavez
Deputy Director