

Comal County Emergency Services District No. 5

Special Board Meeting Minutes

Johnson Ranch Community Room, 30475 Johnson Way, Bulverde, TX 78163

A special meeting of the joint Comal County ESD Districts 1, 4 and 5 was held on February 22, 2022 at the Station 3 Community Room, 30475 Johnson Way, Bulverde 78163.

1. Call to Order – Meeting called to order at 5:46 PM by Deb Kruciak.

2. Call of Roll: A quorum of ESD Commissioners were present.

ESD 1 -Daniel Saenz IV, *President*, Scott Bethel, *Vice-President*, Henry Delgado, *Treasurer*;

ESD 4- Denna Clausen, *President*, Joshua Dean, *Vice President*, Paul Graf, *Treasurer*, Colby Duke, *Assistant Treasurer*; ESD 5 -- Deborah Kruciak, *President*, Dan Hamilton, *Vice-President*, Tom Turk, *Assistant Treasurer*.

In attendance: Chief Southwell, Chief Torres, Gwen Pain, Kay Derrich

3. Citizen Communication – Individual members of the public may address the Board for a maximum of three minutes on items either on or not on the current agenda, but collectively no more than thirty minutes per item. In reliance upon the guidance provided by the Office of the Attorney General of Texas Open Meetings Handbook, any issues raised in public comment may be responded to by member of the Board of Commissioners with only (1) a statement of specific factual information, (2) a recitation of existing District policy or (3) a brief deliberation by the Board in order to determine if an item should be placed on a subsequent agenda.

- There were no citizen's comments.

4. Individual Items for Consideration

A. Consider and discuss a BSBES operations presentation.

- Chief Southwell updated the group pertaining to our current vest protection for firefighters and EMT responding to active shooter calls and future needs.
- Chief Southwell reviewed ESD 1, 4 and 5 call growth over the last years with emphasis on strategic planning for future stations in our area.
- Chief Southwell reviewed current hiring and retention of new and existing staff and challenges in today's marketplace for top candidates.

B. Consider and discuss a BSBES new programs/systems presentation.

- Chief Southwell communicated to the group that lead times for new capital equipment has increased significantly for fire trucks and ambulances and ESDs will need to consider timing in their planning process for replacement and new stations.
- Chief Southwell advised the ESD group that purchase of the three (3) new EXTRACTORS are finalized and orders are progressing. A cost allocation discussion with the ESDs resulting in each of the three ESDs would purchase one (1) extractor to be placed and owned in their respective fire station.
 - o A motion was made by Dean and seconded by Graff for each ESD to buy one of the three extractors. Motion carried.

- Chief Torres and Chief Southwell presented update on current Active 911 software test and the positive results experienced to date. Written correspondence to county officials to fund implementation has been communicated and awaiting a final determination.

C. Consider and discuss update on Station 5 land acquisition.

- Tom Turk gave a comprehensive update on the Station 5 development progress, pending conversation with land owners and the extremely difficult challenges of locating development sites within the desired coverage radius.
 - o A general discussion by the group highlighted the need to be more proactive in planning future station sites.

5. Adjournment

- Meeting was adjourned at 7:14 PM.

Minutes Recorded by Dan Hamilton, VP ESD 5.

Dan Hamilton