



BLANCO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #2  
P.O. BOX 972, BLANCO, TX 78606

**Minutes  
Board of Commissioners  
January 18, 2022**

**Attendees:**

<b>Ann Hall, President (AH)</b>	<b>Ben Oakley EMS Chief/Administrator</b>
<b>Carl Struck, Vice President – Absent (CS)</b>	<b>Matt McMMain, Fire Chief</b>
<b>Steve Scheffe, Treasurer (SS)</b>	<b>Caroline Richardson, Auxiliary President</b>
<b>Matt Herden, Assistant Treasurer (MH)</b>	<b>Theresa Turner, Auxiliary Treasurer</b>
<b>Lynne McKirdy, Secretary (LM)</b>	<b>Wes Patton, attended as COVID testing allowed</b>
<b>David Hall, Attorney</b>	<b>Ken Welch</b>

1. **Call to Order / Announcements** - Establish a quorum. **Meeting was called to order at 3:02 pm.**
2. **Public Comment** - No action may be taken on these items unless on agenda. Please limit comments to 2 minutes per person.

**Ken Welch offered comments on sales tax funds that may not flow to ESD2 due to arrangements made in other counties. Online sales tax remains in counties other than Blanco. Mr. Welch mentioned that he intended to bring this up in the next legislative session.**

3. **Officer Elections** - Election of Officers for 2021 – President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer.

**CS polled all Commissioners prior to the meeting to determine interest. Motion to approve the following officers: Ann Hall, President; Carl Struck, Vice President; Steve Scheffe, Treasurer; Matt Herden, Assistant Treasurer; Lynne McKirdy, Secretary made by LM, seconded by SS. Motion approved.**

4. **Consent Agenda** – Items will be approved with a single vote. Items can be removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion. **Motion to approve Consent Agenda by SS, seconded by MH. Motion approved.**
  - a. Approval of the December 21, 2021, Regular Meeting minutes
  - b. Financial Report as of 12/31/2021
    - i. Monthly Financials:
      1. Texas Regional Checking: \$1,572,581.07
      2. Texas Regional CD: \$132,643.63
      3. Lone Star Money Market: \$223,377.25
5. **Fire & EMS Auxiliary. Caroline distributed the quarterly reports via email prior to the meeting. Caroline also reported that funds from the Amazon Smile program were recently received. The Auxiliary has already exceeded the full year fundraising goal. Work continues a possible fundraising event later in 2022. The ‘Tickets for Time’ program offered through Southwest Airlines continues to flow through Jack Twilley, former Fire President. Caroline will request assistance from Joe Ortega, (the Southwest Airlines employee responsible for the hours required to make this award possible) to transfer the program to the Auxiliary.**
  - a. Quarterly Report due
  - b. Consider requests / actions submitted to ESD

## 6. Chiefs' Report

- a. **COVID-19 Update – Chief Oakley reported that as of today, 1/18/22 at 3 pm, 1,014 COVID tests, county-wide had been performed in January. Positivity rate is approximately 50%. Flu A continues to appear on some tests with approximately 31 positives thus far. Testing all patients for both COVID and Flu A/B is not possible due to the volume of testing being performed. A Year-Over-Year comparison of the testing volume combined with EMS encounters reflects a significant increase in activity levels. EMS staff performed a total of 590 Covid tests during December, a 357% increase in testing volume compared to November. MTD (month to date) as noted above, is already 1,014. Total encounters for all of 2021 was 11,361 of those encounters 6,736 were vaccine administration. Using 2019 and 2020 for comparison purposes, those encounters were 1,099 and 2,044, respectively. Testing supplies are currently adequate. LM reported numerous compliments on the professionalism and efficiency of COVID testing in Blanco County. Overall, residents appreciate the outstanding service being provided locally.**
- b. **Operations Reports Fire & EMS – Reports were distributed via email prior to the meeting. AH requested clarification on “COG” definition in the EMS report. Chief Oakley indicated that COG represents Clinical Operating Guidelines. AH offered that it is impressive that normal processes including training and the launch of new programs continue to move forward during the pandemic. AH inquired about “1295 – Conflict of Interest” reporting. Chief Oakley will research this and report back. New employee, Hanna Hartigan, is in Phase 3 training. Chief McMMain reported that there is a TCFP compliance visit scheduled for next week. Also, Chief McMMain, Assistant Chief Leach and T. Grenwelge are waiting for a date on “Plans Examiner” testing.**
- c. **Acknowledge Chief Oakley’s completion of EMS Administrator continuing education as required by 25 TAC § 157.11 All Commissioners acknowledged Chief Oakley’s 8 hours of continuing education and completion of this requirement. Additionally, Chief Oakley was honored by the Sons of the American Revolution, William Hightower Chapter, for accomplishments and outstanding contributions in the area of emergency medical services. Judge Bray also offered during the award ceremony that Chief Oakley has saved many lives in his role and acknowledged his outstanding management of two EMS districts. Bray further described Oakley as exceptional.**

## 7. Finance & Planning Matters

- a. **Strategic Plan Workshop – Cancelled due to COVID-19 Surge – To be rescheduled Date is still TBA/TBD due to continuing COVID surge.**
- b. **Update on Required Action Items for January – Election of Officers – Completed Address posted in local paper – Completed OMA (Open Meetings Act) PIA (Public Information Act) training for new Commissioners - Completed**
- c. **Renewal of Texas Regional CD (Action taken) Chief Oakley and SS reported that the CD renewed on 1/7/2022 at .4%, initially the renewal was .25%, TRB raised the renewal to .4% after a review. Resolution No: 2022-01-18.2 was presented to memorialize the movement of the CD’s funds from a committed status for capital expenses or real estate to the general fund category in the March 26, 2021 meeting. SS moved to approve this resolution; LM seconded. Motion approved.**

- d. Commissioner required training
  - i. SAFE-D Conference and Online Training  
**AH reviewed the SAFE-D conference and online training available. All Commissioners to submit training hours to Chief Oakley by 1/31/2022.**
  - ii. New Commissioner Orientation – information item  
**AH distributed, via email, a comprehensive list with websites, to all Commissioners.**
- e. Consider Participation with Blanco County on update of Blanco County’s Hazard Mitigation Action Plan (HMAP) and participation in Blanco County’s application for a FEMA Hazard Mitigation Planning Grant, including contribution of a proportional amount of required grant matching funds, if necessary. **AH offered that a Hazard Mitigation plan is part of the BCESD No. 2 5 Year Strategic Plan. The county has applied for 2 grants to fund this initiative. If approved, the plan would be completely funded by the county. Future FEMA funds are dependent on a Hazard Mitigation Plan. There is a possibility that ESD2 may need to partially fund the plan. MH moved to approve participation in the HMAP with Chief Oakley being our representative, and that our funding would be capped at \$2,000, SS seconded. Motion approved.**
- f. Approve Resolution 2022-01-18.1 authorizing the District to participate in The Local Government Purchasing Cooperative (BuyBoard). **After a brief discussion on the value of the Buy Board, SS moved to approve this resolution, LM seconded. Motion approved.**
- 8. **Executive Session if requested** - Discuss personnel matters, meet with attorney as authorized by Texas Government Code. **Not required.**
- 9. **Return to Open Session:** Discuss and consider action on matters discussed in Executive Session
- 10. **Adjourn:** Next meetings will be **Tuesday, February 15, 2022 at 3:00 PM.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Lynne McKirdy, Secretary**

