

## MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

### EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 2

#### SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 7, 2020

1. **Call to Order and establish quorum**
  - This meeting is available for public participation via conference call. Call-in information has been posted in the meeting notice on the District's website and on the door of the meeting place for at least 72 hours prior to the meeting time. This meeting is being recorded electronically and a copy of the recording can be made available to anyone requesting such under the Public Information Act.
  - Called to order at 9:15am
  - Quorum established; all commissioners present
  
2. **Receive update from CareFlite and take action if necessary, regarding operations, call volume, equipment and personnel**
  - Currently CareFlite has transported 12 possible cases, with none actually testing positive for the virus. CDC is still showing five positives for Hill County.
  - Supplies are okay for now, but they are running short of gowns. CareFlite reached out to area hospitals and those that can are providing supplies.
  - We informed CareFlite that the light at Hubbard has been repaired. The red light on top should be replaced shortly.
  
3. **Report from evaluation committee regarding contractor's proposals for Itasca Station. Discuss with possible action.**
  - It was mentioned that Colby Grady and John Saunders of Rawhide Partners, were in attendance for the meeting
  - Jimmy Lehmann and Kevin Bragg suggested they take approximately a week to ask questions and look into the details of the proposals a little further.
  - Rawhide's proposal talked about deviating on the dirt work; they were informed that our hands are tied in regards to the cement, and that we have to go by the stipulations set forth by the engineer. Rawhide was asked if they could refigure their proposal based on what the engineer stated. Rawhide stated they did submit their bid based on the engineers specs, but Rawhide suggested possibly using helical piers; they would still excavate out, but then place the piers within the excavation. Everyone agreed that it's best to consult the engineer and see what process he thinks will work best.
  - They also need to figure in the cost of the Performance Bond. Rawhide asked if we would consider consulting our attorney to see about the possibility of them putting money into an escrow account, instead of requiring them to get the bond. They request this, because they said bonds are expensive and not easy to acquire. We agreed to ask the attorney, but reminded them we are mandated by the state.
  - It was asked if they had the a/c system figured into the bid; they said it was included under heating and air.
  - There was discussion on what the pay schedule for Rawhide would be. The RFP

mentions payments being distributed during regular monthly meetings. Our attorney is drawing up a contract to establish the terms for payment.

- These items will be revisited during the regular meeting to be held on the 16<sup>th</sup>.

**4. Presentation from CareFlite CEO Jim Swartz regarding current status of emergency services.**

- Videos prepared by CareFlite were shown. They were video messages to CareFlite employees.
- They expect the hospitals to be separated; certain ones with only those patients testing positive and others hospitals containing those not testing positive for the virus. CareFlite will be involved in those transports. It was also mentioned that centralized morgues have been set up, and CareFlite will be involved in those transports as well.

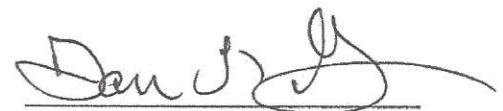
**5. Discuss with possible action request from CareFlite for temporary suspension of lease payments on Hill County ESD#2 owned facilities.**

- CareFlite requests a temporary suspension, of six months, on their lease payments. The unemployment rate directly affects the number of people with health insurance. Because of the virus, CareFlite's volume will increase, but because of unemployment, those transports likely won't have health insurance, and therefore will owe out of pocket. The necessity to pay rent and buy food will likely mean Careflite will not be paid for many of their transports.
- The question was asked, what type of support do they receive from sponsoring hospitals. Careflite has reached out to sponsor hospitals about equipment shortages, and some supplies were able to be replenished the very next day. CareFlite did inform the board that the federal programs that have been announced so far do not apply to them. But, they did say that the sponsors will protect them if it should reach a certain financial point.
- Motion to suspend rent payments for a period of 6 months, beginning on May 2020, on Hill County ESD #2 facilities utilized by CareFlite was made by Bob Stahl, seconded by Kevin Bragg and the motion passed unanimously.
- It was mentioned that the board should discuss, at our next meeting, the possibility of suspending the rental payments for a period of one year.

**6. Adjourn**

- 10:09am

Dated this the 7th day of April, 2020.



Dan Giles, Secretary  
Emergency Services District No. 2  
Hill County, Texas