

Minutes of Meeting
Caldwell County Emergency Services District No. 5
October 29, 2024

The State of Texas

County of Caldwell

The Board of Commissioners of Caldwell County Emergency Services District No. 5 ("District") met in regular session, open to the public, on Tuesday, October 29, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the Luling City Hall located at 509 E. Crockett, Luling, Texas, pursuant to notice duly given in accordance with law.

The following Board members were present, thus constituting a quorum:

Commissioner	Position	Attendance
Jeremy Driver	President	Present
Danney Rodgers	Vice President	Present
Larry Schnautz	Secretary	Present
Rebecca King	Treasurer	Present
Sherilyn Adcock	Asst. Secretary/Treasurer	Present

Also present at the meeting were:

John Carlton – The Carlton Law Firm PLLC

Item #1. Call Meeting to order. Meeting called to order by Commissioner Driver at 6:07 pm and took agenda items in the order described below.

Item #2. Public Comments. At this time, any person may speak to the Board if they have filled out Participation Form. Comments will be limited to four (4) minutes per person. No action will be taken on these items and no discussion will be had between the speaker(s) and members of the Board. The Board does retain the right to correct factual inaccuracies made by the speakers. If this item lasts longer than 30 minutes, then the balance of comments will continue as the last agenda item of the day.

There were no public comments.

Item #3. Public Comment on Agenda items: *Members of the public may comment on any agenda item listed below. Members of the public may speak for up to four minutes per agenda item on which they comment.*

There were no public comments.

Item #4. Discuss and consider approval of the October 16, 2024, meeting minutes.

Commissioner Driver made the motion to approve the minutes from October 16, 2024, Commissioner Adcock seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Item #5. Discuss and consider District insurance needs including:

- a. Certificate of insurance for the Lockhart station.**
- b. Certificate of insurance for coverages required by the Texas Department of State and Health Services.**

Topic will be discussed at next meeting, discussion was tabled until next meeting. No action taken.

Item #6. Discuss and consider approving financing of vehicles for command staff.

Commissioner King presented available interest rates and terms through First Lockhart National Bank (FNLB) as well as Government Capital. FLNB has presented a lower interest rate and wants to do business with ESD5. Discussion occurred regarding what lender to use and the consensus of the Board was to use FLNB and finance any needs for vehicles locally at FLNB. No action taken.

Item #7. Discuss and consider action regarding transition of service from the City of Luling and the City of Lockhart to the District including.

- a. Dispatch services agreements.**
- b. Medical Director insurance.**
- c. Texas Department of State and Health Services EMS provider license**
- d. asset purchase agreement with the City of Lockhart**
- e. asset purchase agreement with the City of Luling**

a.) Regarding dispatch services. There has not and it seems cannot be a mutual agreement made with the City of Lockhart for dispatch services. The City wants ESD5 to cover and pay for a minimum of 30% of the overall costs, which is not a “balanced” or “fair” amount. Consensus of the Board is to end discussions with the City of Lockhart regarding this topic. Mark Mayo, the City Manager of the City of Luling is scheduled to present a proposal and possible agreement for the City of Luling to handle dispatch for ESD5. The intent is for ESD5 to work with the City of Luling and come to an agreement with them to handle ESD5 dispatch, at least initially, until future plans for dispatch are established. The topic was tabled until the next meeting. No action taken.

b.) John Carlton reviewed both policies offered for Medical Director’s Insurance. There was an approximate difference of \$3,000.00 dollars annually between the two options. After

review, due to overall liability reasons within the coverage plans, Carlton's suggestion was to go with the higher cost plan because it provides overall "better coverage" for ESD5.

Commissioner Driver made the motion to accept Carlton's suggestion and to use the insurance plan he suggested. Commissioner Rodgers seconded the motion, and the motion passed 5-0.

c.) License is in process and is expected to be arriving very soon, reported Cean Charles. No action taken.

d.) Cean Charles submitted all current values of equipment & assets to the City of Lockhart, based upon today's values or what can be purchased today based on the condition of each item. We are now waiting for a response back from the City of Lockhart. No action taken.

e.) Asset purchase agreement with the City of Luling was approved on October 24, 2024, and everything is complete. Mayor Watts with the City of Luling will get a signed copy back to ESD5 at the next meeting. No action taken.

Item #8. Discuss and consider approving employment agreements and offers of employment for the following positions:

a. Chief.

b. Assistant Chief.

Employment agreements for the Chief and Assistant Chief were approved by the Board. Due to existing agreements and time frames, the effective date for the Chief to officially start employment with ESD5 will be November 8, 2024 and the effective date for the Assistant Chief will be November 1, 2024.

Commissioner Rodgers made the motion that ESD5 enter in the agreements with the Chief and Assistant Chief with these effective dates for each. Commissioner Adcock seconded the motion, and the motion passed 5-0.

Item #9. Discuss and consider approving Interlocal Agreements for Management between the District and the following cities.

a. The City of Lockhart.

b. The City of Luling.

Commissioner Driver made the motion to approve the Interlocal Agreements for management for the City of Lockhart and the City of Luling. Commissioner Rodgers seconded the motion, and the motion passed 5-0.

Item #10. Receive report from City of Lockhart EMS regarding department operations, equipment and facilities.

Report was presented by Cean Charles. All is good, there have been no changes from the last report from last week.

Item #11. Receive report from City of Luling EMS regarding department operations, equipment and facilities.

Report was presented by Richard Slaughter. He has one truck currently in the shop for some minor repairs and will get back very soon. Other than that, there has been no changes since the last report from last week.

Item #12. Discuss and consider approving employee pay scale.

Report and "Salary Set Plan" was presented by Cean Charles.

Commissioner King made the motion to accept and approve the Pay Scale presented by Mr. Charles. Commissioner Rodgers seconded the motion, and the motion passed 5-0.

Item #13. Discuss and consider approving employee benefits.

Mr. Logan Mangold with VFIS of Texas, division of Winstar Insurance Group presented options and a premium rate analysis of health insurance to the Board. There are many options, Blue Cross/Blue Shield seem to be the potential best option. There were questions unanswered from the Board that Mr. Mangold will compile and will get back to the Board by next Thursday with "other options" and rates. Plans are occurring now to have a statewide Interlocal Health Insurance plan that covers all ESD's throughout the state which will offer more of a "Group Plan" for the ESD's that join, which in turn, will hopefully reduce the overall premium costs for ESD's health insurance plans. This Interlocal plan will not be available until sometime between April to June of 2025. The Interlocal plan is a voluntary plan, but once we know the exact details and rates of what is offered, it is possible that any plan we put into place now could potentially change and roll over into the new statewide plan.

ESD5 plans to have Mr. Mangold present the information requested at the next meeting.

The ESD5 Board will need to review the options and possibly have a Closed Executive Session to review the budget to make the best overall decision regarding the health coverage and costs.

For whichever plan is chosen, Mr. Mangold stated that VFIS will need to have an answer no later than December 10, 2024, to implement the plan.

Approval of employee benefits was tabled for now, will discuss further at the next meeting. No action taken.

Item #14. Discuss and consider District property acquisitions.

Presentation was given to the Board with details, property descriptions, improvements, upgrades and price for the “Old Lockhart Motor Company” (Ford dealership) in Lockhart, TX. Located 300 and 303 West San Antonio Street in Lockhart.

The property and facility would potentially be ideal for an ESD5/EMS Station, many improvements and upgrades have already been made. There would need to be just minor additions or changes done to its current state and condition.

The property is currently under contract with the Austin Community College (ACC).

Under the current contract the Option Period expires on December 5, 2024.

The proposal for ACC to move into Lockhart is on the November 5th election which would pose increased taxes for the City, so the thoughts are that it may not pass, which would mean that ACC would no longer be interested in the property. The answer will be discovered after the election on November 5, 2024.

The asking price from the individuals that own the property is 2.95 million. The Realtor seems to believe that the sellers are motivated to sell and would come off this asking price.

Item was tabled for now and we will see the results of what comes out of the election regarding ACC and their ability to purchase. No action taken.

Item#15. Receive report from the District’s legal counsel regarding pending tasks authorized by the District including:

a. Interlocal Agreement with the City of Schertz.

Report was given by John Carlton. The City of Schertz is having a meeting on November 12, 2024 regarding the agreement, there does not seem to be any issues, but will know the final results after the meeting.

Item #16. Discuss and consider District website and email addresses.

Commissioner Rodgers and Cean Charles will look at all options regarding the provider to choose for secure email addresses and the costs.

No immediate actions need to be done. No action taken.

Item #17. Discuss and consider approving membership in Texas State Association of Fire and Emergency Districts (“SAFE-D”).

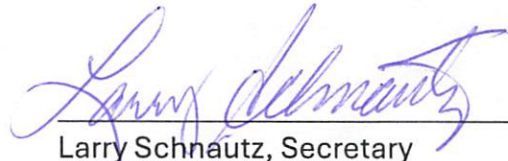
The forms for this association will need to be filled out and sent back to John Carlton’s office. The first year of membership is free. No action taken.

Item #18. Discuss and consider attendance at Texas State Association of Fire and Emergency Services District (SAFE-D) Annual Conference in February 2025 at the Kalahari Resort in Round Rock, Texas.

Four out five of the ESD5 Board members are planning on attending, rooms will be booked for the nights of the event. No action taken.

Item #19. Discuss time, place, date, and agenda items for next meeting. Commissioner Driver moved to hold the next meeting at Luling City Hall on November 13th, 2024, at 6:00 pm. Commissioner Adcock seconded the motion, and the motion passed 5-0.

Item #20. Adjournment. Commissioner Driver moved to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Adcock seconded the motion, and the motion passed 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.



Larry Schnautz, Secretary
November 13, 2024