

## ELLIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO.9

### MINUTES

June 9, 2025

Notice is hereby given that a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Ellis County Emergency Services District #9 will be held on Monday, June 9, 2025, at 7:00 PM at Huey Baron fire station located at 165 S. Sherman St. Palmer, TX for the following purposes:

1. Call meeting to order;

*Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm*

2. Determination of quorum;

*P. Burns, N. Prewitt and G. Penny were present. R. Davis and Z. Zett were excused.*

3. Recognize any guest;

*Mayor Laura Miller, Stacie Raines, Chief Medina and Asst Chief R. Townley were recognized.*

4. Public Comment: Individual members of the public may address the Board for a maximum of three minutes on items not on the current agenda for a collective total of 15 minutes. In accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, any response to a public comment on items not on the published final agenda will be limited to a statement of factual information or a statement of existing policy. Any deliberation or decision by the Board will be limited to a proposal to place the subject on a future agenda.

*Mayor Miller mentioned that a member of the public had made the comment to her that they believed the fire department personnel would be able to respond quicker if they were paid. A discussion ensued as to how many firefighters we would need to staff the station and how much that would cost. It was explained that with our current budget and projected income, this was not financially feasible.*

5. Public Comment on agenda items: Members of the public may speak on an agenda item after comments on the item are called for by the presiding officer, but before Board discussion and consideration of the item. Individual members of the public may address the Board once per item for a maximum of three minutes per person per agenda item.

*N/A*

### REPORTS

6. Receive monthly report from Treasurer and consider:

- (a) approval of payment of monthly bills and invoices:

*The following invoices were presented: Waterway \$3159 for hose/YWRD \$5506.75 audit/HDL \$2500 sales tax revenue estimation/TripepiSmith \$2702.50 Sales Tax communication/Volunteers \$403.82/ESD credit card \$1739.39. G.*

*Penny made motion to approve all bills and invoices as presented. N. Prewitt seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

(b) approval of monthly financial report

*G. Penny made motion to accept the financial report as presented. N. Prewitt seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

7. Receive monthly report from Palmer fire department personnel regarding emergency operations, response times, call volume, training, equipment, apparatus, and fire station, and take any related action:

*Chief Medina reported that there were 54 calls with 29 run: 18 EMS/5 MVA/1 Grass/4 HAZMAT/1 MVA fire. Chief Medina informed the Board that the volunteers had responded to 219 calls YTD. He also asked the Board to look into installing 2 exhaust fans in the bays to help with the summer heat.*

### **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

8. Discuss and consider approval of May 12, 2025, regular meeting minutes;

*N. Prewitt made a motion to approve. G. Penny seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

9. See Supplemental Agenda for November 4, 2025, Sales and Use Tax Election items;

*This item was tabled by G. Penny until the July 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. N. Prewitt seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

10. Discuss and consider for possible action the purchase of one (1) mobile radio and two (2) headsets;

*N. Prewitt informed the Board that there was no need to purchase a new mobile radio as there was one in the office that would go into the brush truck. N. Prewitt told the Board that the purchase of 2 new headsets would cost \$6,940.35. G. Penny made motion to approve. N. Prewitt seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

11. Discuss and consider for possible action fire station generator service/annual maintenance contract;

*N. Prewitt made motion not to accept the proposed maintenance contract. G. Penny seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.*

12. Discuss and consider for possible action establishing a contractual automatic aid agreement with Bristol, ESD 5, and East Garrett which would automatically dispatch resources to each other's incidents;

*P. Burns gave update. He met with Bristol/E. Garrett/ESD 5. All have expressed an interest in pursuing automatic aid arrangement. P. Burns said he would like to add Ennis before involving attorneys to finalize language. P. Burns remarked that this Automatic Aid will lower our District's ISO rating, which would be beneficial for all citizens in our district. G. Penny made motion to appoint P. Burns and Chief Medina to speak with Ennis/E. Garrett/Bristol/ESD 5 and Ferris about Automatic Aid and then present same to attorneys who will draft language. N. Prewitt seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

13. Discuss and consider for possible action the purchase of a fire truck engine/pumper and a fire truck tender/tanker;

*N. Prewitt said that 2 pumper tankers would cost approximately \$599,000 each and that there was currently a 500-day delivery timeframe. After discussion, and due to the cost, it was agreed to put these out for a 90-bid period with specs listed in the bid notice. G. Penny made motion to post bid once specs were written and then post on website for 90 days. N. Prewitt seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

14. Discuss and consider for possible action the purchase of new fire hoses (based on hose testing results);

*The recent hose testing failed 15 sections of hose. After discussing status of hoses, G. Penny made motion to purchase 5 sections of 3" hose to replace damaged hose. N. Prewitt seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

15. Discuss and receive updates on Sale Tax ballot issue including HDL Companies Local Sales and Use Tax Estimate Report;

*P. Burns informed the Board that HDL estimates that the Sales Tax Ballot issue should generate an additional \$29-30, 000 based on today's population data. Burns said this number should go up as our District continues to grow. The cost for this HDL evaluation was \$587.*

16. Discuss and consider adopting the tax and budget planning calendar for 2025 and authorize payment for tax process publications.

*This item was tabled by G. Penny until the July 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. N. Prewitt seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

17. Discuss and consider status of District website, accessibility, and posting requirements and take any related action.

*This item was tabled by N. Prewitt until the July 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. G. Penny seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

18. Discuss and consider for possible action establishing a Records Management program for both our physical and electronic records ensuring that they are organized, stored, and properly disposed of compliant with appropriate regulations;

*G. Penny was asked to contact Kelli Carlton about drafting language to cover this. This item was tabled by N. Prewitt until the July 14th meeting. G. Penny seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

19. Discuss and consider for possible action the signing of the quarterly reports;

*G. Penny was asked to contact Kelli Carlton about drafting language to cover this. This item was tabled by N. Prewitt until the July 14th meeting. G. Penny seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

20. Discuss and consider establishing a Capitalization Policy which will be used in determining which expenditures will be treated as capital (long term) assets and which will be treated as current-year expenses;

*T. Manning will present Board with information at our July meeting. This item was tabled by N. Prewitt. G. Penny seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

21. Adjournment

*Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm*

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Ellis County Emergency Services District #9 is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Please call Greg Penny, Secretary for Ellis County Emergency Services District #9 at 469-855-7762 for information. Hearing impaired or speech disabled persons equipped with telecommunication devices for the deaf may utilize the statewide Relay Texas Program, 1-800-735-2988.

The Board may retire to Executive Session anytime between the meetings opening and adjournment for the purpose of consulting with legal counsel pursuant to Section 551. 071 of the Texas Government Code; discussing real estate acquisition pursuant to Section 551. 072 of the Texas Government Code; discussing gifts and donations pursuant to Section 551. 073 of the Texas Government Code; discussing personnel matters pursuant to Section 551. 074 of the Texas Government Code; discussing security personnel or devices pursuant to Section 551. 076 of the Texas Government Code. Action, if any, will be taken in open session.