

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
BEXAR COUNTY ESD 5 FIRE AND RESCUE
JANUARY 18, 2024

In compliance with the provision of Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, notice is hereby given that a REGULAR MEETING of the Board of Directors of Bexar County ESD 5 Fire and Rescue was held at 7120 East 6th Street, Somerset, TX 78069 on JANUARY 18, 2024 at 6:00 pm.

1) Call the meeting to order and establish a quorum.

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm and a quorum was established. Board members in attendance were Herschel Postert, Howard Dalros, Andrew Flores, Becky Schneider, and Robert Pierce.

2) Invocation: Pledge of Allegiance and prayer

Director Dalros led the pledge and Director Pierce led the prayer.

3) Consent Agenda:

a) Review and approval of the Minutes for the November 16, 2023 Regular Meeting

Motion by Director Schneider to accept the minutes as presented. Seconded by Director Dalros. Motion carried.

b) Review and approval of financials

Motion by Director Pierce to accept the financials as presented. Seconded by Director Dalros. Motion carried.

4) Chief's Report; including requests for funds, if any; and Department and Operations report with action taken as necessary.

Chief Estep gave his report on trainings, and renovations at Station 151 with a new water heater and new flooring. Renovations to Station 150 have been completed with new flooring upstairs and new paint upstairs and downstairs. Chief said they are currently looking for new dayroom furniture for Stations 150 and 151. The generator has been installed at Station 151 and Amerigas will be installing the propane soon. Once that is up and running and works well, he will work on generators at the other stations. Chief reported on the status of apparatus saying because of bad fuel purchased from Pilot, one truck had a \$15,000 repair. He gave the report on call volumes and response times reporting a total of 4,369 calls for 2023 which he said was about 1000 more than 2022.

The Bexar County ESD 5 Fire and Rescue reserves the right to adjourn into closed session at any time during the course of the meeting to discuss any of the matters listed above should such action be necessary as authorized by the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), 551.074 (Personnel Matters) or 551.087 (Economic Development) and any other provision under Texas Law that permits this governmental body to discuss a matter in a closed session. Action, if any, will be taken in open session.

The Bexar County ESD 5 Fire and Rescue is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modification and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Requests for accommodation or interpretive services at meetings should be made 48 hours prior to this meeting. Please contact the board president for Bexar County ESD 5 Fire and Rescue at (210) 259-5397.

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5) Action items:

- a) Discussion and possible action regarding purchase and installation of generators at the fire stations**

This item was discussed with the Chief's report. No action needed.

- b) Discussion and possible action regarding procedures for hiring contractors**

Director Postert said he spoke with the auditor and he feels any work done by a contractor over \$5000, should require a contract. He is waiting on a procedure from Mr. Carter and Legal Counsel will draw up a sample contract. No action taken.

- c) Discussion and possible action regarding the suggestion boxes at each station**

Copies of the suggestions were passed out to the board members for review. They included items such as more pay, better benefits, better stations and uniforms. Director Postert suggested the union representative be present at every meeting so the board can address concerns. Director Schneider asked about the website. Director Dalros directed Chief to check into an updated website. Chief said he would like the Fire Rescue website to be independent of the ESD website which mainly includes required postings. No action taken.

- d) Discussion and possible action to approve a 2nd Visa card for the Fire Rescue operating account to be held by Chief Estep**

Motion by Director Schneider to approve a 2nd Visa card with the caveat that it matches the current spending policy. Seconded by Director Dalros. Motion carried.

5) Adjourn

Motion by Director Schneider to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Director Dalros. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:20 pm.

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