

Hardin County Emergency Services District 2

Minutes of the meeting of October 5, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by President Erbelding. Roll call showed present Commissioners O'Blanc, Erbelding, Tumbleson. Commissioner Evans and Koch and Attorney Kate Leverett was absent. Chief McNeel said the invocation and pledges were said to the US and Texas flags.

- 1. Meeting in closed or executive session pursuant to Chapter 551, Texas Government Code:**
 - a. 551.071, Government Code – Consult with legal counsel**
 - b. 551.074, Government Code – Personnel**

None
- 2. Public comments on consent agenda items-** None
- 3. Reports**
 - a. Fire & EMS Auxiliary-** None
 - b. Fire Chiefs report regarding emergency operations, response times, call volume, management activities and personnel-** Chief McNeel reported:
 - The State Health Department has told the department that the med units do not move without two certified people in them unless it is a maintenance issue. The impact on this department is limited resources when responding to fires non-emergency with one paramedic; McNeel gave many circumstances where this department was at level zero and needed a member to drive an apparatus to the scene.
 - HCESD2 will ask the State for a variance which will allow a med unit to respond immediately and when a 2nd person is available the unit will have transport capabilities, which would provide no delay in patient care. The other variance would be if there was a licensed individual on the scene and a med unit could meet the person there, but the ambulance would not move until there was a licensed responder on the scene.
 - The filing of this variance would cost the department \$30 and should take +/- 30 days to license.
 - c. ESD Reports-** None

4. Regular Agenda Items:

- a. **Discussion and possible action to approve the request of a variance from the Texas Department State Health Services for the requirement of a minimum par of 2 license personnel before an ambulance can reposing to any incident or event-** Commissioner Erbelding made a motion on the pursuant to the Texas Health and Safety Code, Section 773.052, Variances; HCESD2/Lumberton Fire & EMS would like to request the following personnel variance and conditions:

Licensed ambulance number three and licensed ambulance number four be authorized by TDSHS to respond to emergency events with only one certified/licensed EMS personnel can initiate treatment and await the arrival of a certified/licensed volunteer or paid member. Two certified/licensed EMS personnel must be on the ambulance to initiate transport.

Commissioner Tumbleson 2nd the motion. Commissioner O'Blanc also agreed. Motion passed by all Commissioner present at the meeting.

5. Items for the agenda of next meeting: None

- 6. Adjournment-** Commissioner Erbelding made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Tumbleson 2nd the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned 9:23 AM.

President, Fritz Erbelding

Secretary, Ernie Koch