

# Hardin County Emergency Services District 2

## *Minutes of the Meeting of January 20, 2022*

The meeting was called to order by President Fritz Erbelding at 9:30 AM. Invocation was given by Chief Jeff Mc Neel. Pledges were said to the US and Texas flags. Roll call showed present, Commissioners Evans, O'Blanc, Erbelding, Tumbleson and Koch. Attorney Kate Leverett was present.

**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**

The Board went into executive session under 551.074, at 10:30 AM and returned at 10:52 AM. President Erbelding reported that the Short-Term Disability problems with the current company was discussed; Chief McNeel will send a letter to Reliance regarding this denial.

**2. Public Comments – None**

**3. Reports**

**a. Fire & EMS Auxiliary Report- None**

**b. Fire Chief's Report: None at this time.**

**c. ESD Reports or Comments**

i. **Update on COVID-19 in our area-** as of 1.18.22, according to Judge Wayne McDaniel, 529 new cases reported, no confirmed deaths.

ii. **Update on Station 3 Renovations-** Dan Pool has been working on the drainage issues; he stated that he is continuing his work; leaks need to be checked with the upcoming rain.

**4. Consent Agenda Items:**

**a. Treasurer's Report**

**b. Payment of Accounts Payable**

**c. Approval of Minutes**

Commissioner Tumbleson made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented. Commissioner Evans 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motion carried.

**ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA**

**5. Regular Agenda Item:**

- a. **Discussion and consideration on changing billing companies for our EMS Department-** A Zoom meeting was had with Ambulance Billing Service/Steve McCormick from San Antonio and Bill Med/Michael Anderson from Washington. Questions were asked and answered from the Board by both companies. Discussion was had on the current company. Commissioner Erbelding made a motion to send a 60-day letter, as of January 20, 2022, to Tactical Billing Company terminating their services with discussion on letting HCESD2 out of the contract earlier since no collections have been made. Commissioner Koch 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motion carried.
- b. **Discussion and consideration doing farther work on the P-Card system for Department purchases-** this is still in progress. No motions made at this time.
- c. **Discussion and possible action on the purchase of a dryer for our PPE Gear-** after discussion Commissioner Tumbleson made a motion to purchase a PPE dryer not to exceed \$11,000. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner O'Blanc. Chief Chris Jagoe will be in charge of this purchase. Monies will come from the fire education/travel budget from teaching classes outside of the department.
- d. **Discussion on problems with the Short-Term Disability Company-** Reliance Standard Life Insurance Company has denied a claim for STD on an employee. It was decided during executive session for Chief McNeel to send a letter to Reliance Standard Life Insurance Company to communicate our expectation that they will provide the benefit and service paid for or we will consider termination.
- e. **Discussion and possible action on 2022 Board Positions-** After discussion the Board positions will remain the same:  
*Fritz Erbelding – President*  
*Joe Tumbleson – Vice President*  
*Lisa O'Blanc – Treasurer*  
*Ernie Koch – Secretary/Assistant Treasurer*  
*Tommy Evans – Member*

**6. Items for the agenda of the next meeting:**

P-Cards

7. **Adjournment-** Commissioner Tumbleson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner O'Blanc 2<sup>nd</sup> them motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:05 AM.

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President, Fritz Erbelding

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Secretary, Ernie Koch