

## **Bastrop County Emergency Services District No. 2**

### **Special Meeting – Public Hearing on Annexation**

**Aug 5, 2025, 7:00 p.m.**

**Bastrop County ESD#2 Station 4; 1432 N. State Highway 95; Bastrop, Texas**

### **MINUTES**

#### **OPENING**

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** A quorum was established and the meeting was called to order by President Tommy Chalmers at 7:01 PM.

Those present included: President Tommy Chalmers, Vice President James Bennett, Assistant Treasurer Larry Crabtree Secretary Doug Kelsay. Chief Josh Gill was also present. Treasurer James Allen and were absent.

Other attendees were Office manager Lisa Eller. No constituents were present to observe or comment on the Public Notice.

2. **Invocation:** Larry Crabtree provided the invocation.
3. **Pledges of Allegiance:** Both Pledges of Allegiance were recited.
4. **Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items:** There were no public comments on Non-Agenda items.
5. **Public Comments on Agenda Items:** There were no other public comments on Agenda Items.

#### **FINANCIAL DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

6. **Supplemental Agenda for Election Items:**

**Discuss and consider approval of the Contract for Election Services and Joint Election Agreement, including Resolution Approving Contract for Election Services and Joint Election Agreement;**

Doug Kelsay made a motion to approve the Contract for Election Services and Resolution Approving Contract for Election Services and Joint Election Agreement.

Larry Crabtree seconded.

The motion passed.

**Other matters in connection with the District's November 4, 2025, Election**

Doug Kelsay made a motion to appoint Carlton Law firm to provide Notice of Election for the District's November 4, 2025 Annexation election.

Larry Crabtree seconded.

The motion passed.

The question arose if there were further steps needed by the board to facilitate the election. Doug Kelsay will check with the attorneys.

7. **Discuss and consider taking action regarding budget for fiscal year October 1, 2025 to September 30, 2026.**

The budget was discussed. We will continue working on it. It must be approved no later than Sept 16. We will postpone action until the Aug 19 Regular Meeting.

8. **Discuss and consider taking action regarding 2025 tax rate, including:**  
**(a) establishing proposed tax rate;**

Being no comments from the public on the tax rate, the Preliminary Tax rate was discussed.

James Bennett moved to approve a Preliminary rate of \$0.10/\$100 valuation.

Larry Crabtree seconded.

Doug Kelsay made an amending motion of \$0.085/\$100 valuation.

No second.

The amending motion failed.

The main motion vote is in (b) below. The motion passed 3:1.

**(b) taking record vote and scheduling public hearing;**

The record vote for the tax rate proposed in Item 8a was:

|                |        |
|----------------|--------|
| Tommy Chalmers | yea    |
| James Bennett  | yea    |
| Jim Allen      | Absent |
| Larry Crabtree | yea    |
| Doug Kelsay    | nae    |

**(c) authorizing expense and publication of “Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase” in the *Bastrop Advertiser*;**

Doug Kelsay made a motion to authorize the expense and publication of the “Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate” in the Bastrop Advertiser prior to Sept 3, 2025.

Larry Crabtree seconded.

The motion passed.

**(d) acknowledging and approving posting of “Notice About 2025 Tax Rates” and “Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase” to home page of District website**

Doug Kelsay made a motion acknowledging and approving the posting of “Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate” to the home page of the ESD2 website.

Larry Crabtree seconded.

The motion passed.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**9. Discussion and possible action on purchase of real estate for station five expansion.**

Doug Kelsay suggested to call the topic into executive session.

President Tommy Chalmers directed Vice President James Bennett to call an executive Session to include Chief Gill and Office Manager Lisa Eller and to exclude Tommy Chalmers.

At 7:27 the Board went into Executive Session per Section 551.072 of the Government Code, to allow the Board to discuss a real estate investment matter.

The Executive session was closed 7:57 PM

At 7:57 PM, the Board left the Executive Session and reconvened in the open meeting, with no action taken during the Executive Session.

James Bennett made a motion to authorize Chief Gill to enter into a land purchase agreement with a \$3000 refundable earnest money retainer and to contract with a commercial land appraiser to evaluate the property, with approval of up to \$2000 for this service.

Larry Crabtree seconded.

The motion passed.

**10. Discussion and possible action on sale of surplus equipment.**

Chief Gill presented the Brush truck with the blown engine should be considered surplus. A resolution was presented and reviewed.

Doug Kelsay made motion to approve the resolution  
Larry Crabtree seconded  
The motion passed.

**11. Call for Comments and Requests - brief clarification can be provided, but no deliberation or discussion of the proposed matter will be allowed.**

Discussion on the budget at the Aug 19 meeting was previously proposed.

**12. Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 PM

  
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Doug Kelsay,  
Secretary for Bastrop County Emergency Services District No. 2