

Bastrop County Emergency Services District No. 2

Regular Meeting

Nov 18, 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 7:00 p.m.

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

Also in attendance were Chief Josh Gill, Office Manager Lisa Eller, John Carlton of Carlton Law Firm, volunteer Crystal Gill, Battalion Chief Greg Monroe, Captain Indiana Oberhauzer, Firefighters Dyllon Chandler and James Garcia.

2. **Invocation:** Larry Crabtree provided the invocation.
3. **Pledges of Allegiance:** Both Pledges of Allegiance were recited.
4. **Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items:** No comments were presented.
5. **Public Comments on Agenda Items:** No comments were presented.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

6. **Approval of minutes:**

a. Oct 21, 2025 Regular Meeting.

The minutes of the Oct 21, 2025 Regular Meeting were previously distributed.

The minutes were approved as distributed.

FINANCIAL DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

16. **Discussion and possible action on options for legal counsel. (To be discussed early in the meeting) – John Carlton**

Problems and concerns were shared with John Carlton of The Carlton Law Firm. The background of the problems was discussed.

Tommy Chalmers moved that the District continue with The Carlton Law Firm and cease review of other firms.

Larry Crabtree seconded.

The motion passed.

7. **Discussion and possible action regarding monthly report from Treasurer:**

a. Update on payments from Tax-Assessor-Collector and bank balance;

An update on payments from Tax Assessor-Collector and State Comptroller were presented, through October, 2025. This is the end of the fiscal year so these numbers represent the annual results.

i. FYTD Property Tax collections were \$17,373.07

ii. FYTD Sales Tax payments were \$ 174,145.17 (\$174,145.17 for the month)

b. Update on Sales Tax Analysis;

The monthly analysis provided by Office Manager Lisa Eller was reviewed.

- c. Approval of unbudgeted expense items in excess of \$2,000;
Doug Kelsay reported that per SB2778, the statutory limit was changed to \$50,000. Changing our authorized limit was discussed and postponed until the January 2026 meeting.
- d. Report from Fire Chief on prior month disbursements;
The Report of Fire Chief on the prior month's disbursements was reviewed.
- e. Monthly financial reports and issues;
Monthly financial reports and issues were presented. The financial reports were accepted as presented.

8. OPERATIONAL DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS Operations Reports from Bastrop County ESD #2 Fire Chief, Josh Gill, Including:

- a. Monthly Response Statistics:

Total Calls this month	148
Average Response Time – Min	11:54
Overlapping calls – %	25%
Hours at Calls – hrs	460.07
Hours of Training – hrs	155.00
Hours at Other; Events (PR) hrs	54.00
Total Hours – hrs	669.07
% Total Hours from Volunteers	7%
Value of Volunteer support	\$ 1968.33
- b. Monthly Operations:
 - Training- Forcible entry, boat ops, EMS protocols.
 - Management activities-
 - chipping event,
 - fire prevention presentation at Lost Pines Elementary school, approx. 700 kids.
 - working on Auto aid agreement with BTCESD1,
 - working on facilities expansion projects (stations 2&5),
 - working on getting new engine in service (E221).
 - Personnel- full staff.
 - Equipment Maintenance Report-
 - E223 several repairs made at the dealership,
 - B236 4wd linkage repaired,
 - B246 4wd linkage repaired, had to have steering linkage and sway bar replaced and alignment done, replaced sprocket hose reel
 - B256 new pressure gauge replaced.
 - Ems calls – Responded to 52 of 139 Ems calls.
 - Major New Construction in District - Developments in the district – used car lot going in at Hwy 95/Old McDade road.
- c. Discussion and possible action on Disposal Log
The disposal log was presented.
Doug Kelsay moved to approve the list of items for disposal.
Larry Crabtree seconded.
The motion passed.

POLICY DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS

9. *See Supplemental Agenda for election items.*

Supp Agenda Item 1: Adopt an Order Canvassing the Returns and Declaring the Results of Bastrop County Emergency Services District No. 2's November 4, 2025, Election.

The Board discussed the canvassing.

Doug Kelsay moved to approve the Order

Larry Crabtree seconded.

The motion passed.

The order was signed. The signed order will be forwarded to Counsel and the Bastrop County Elections Dept.

Supp Agenda Item 2: Any other matters in connection with the District's November 4, 2025, Election.

Matter was not addressed, and no action was taken.

This concludes the activities on the Annexation Election for 2025. The topic will be revisited for the May 2026 election.

10. **Discussion and possible action on Commissioners' terms of office expiring at year end.**

Tommy Chalmers reported that he had discussed continued interest by Commissioners Crabtree and Bennett and had forwarded the information to County Commissioners.

This concludes the activities on Commissioners' terms of office expiring.

11. **Update, discussion and possible action related to the Annexation Election of November 4.**

It was reported that the Bastrop County Elections Department is working with the County commissioners to reduce the fees for the election to the expenses incurred at the time it was discovered that the election would not be valid.

As the problems with the November 2025 Annexation election are assumed to cause confusion in the assumed upcoming May election, a PR campaign will need to be anticipated to help voters understand the reason for another election. No action taken.

12. **Discussion and possible action on auto-aid agreement with BTCESD1.**

Chief Gill presented the Auto-Aid agreement and answered questions.

Larry Crabtree moved to approve the auto-aid agreement.

Tommy Chalmers seconded.

The motion passed.

13. **Update, discussion and possible action on TCDRS, other retirement programs and their previous participants.**

Lisa Eller reported that the potential part time employees that are affected by the coverage are identified and she has been working with TCDRS employees to clean up the details. It appears that employees will have to match approximately \$6500 (in total, not per employee) for coverage.

The status of formal forms (waivers etc.) was discussed and Lisa Eller will work to obtain industry standard forms if available.

This topic will be postponed to the January 2026 meeting.

14. Discussion and possible action related to a donation by Tahitian Village Property Owners Association for construction of additional fire truck bay at Station 2.

Chief Gill presented the donation letter.

Larry Crabtree moved to approve the donation.

Tommy Chalmers seconded.

The motion passed.

15. Discussion and possible action on opting out of Social Security.

Greg Monroe presented the information on opting out of Social Security. The process is becoming common in the ESD industry and basically includes opting out of SS, establishing a 457 employee savings plan and implementing with the employees.

Greg will present a proposal in 1Q 2026.

Personnel Related:

17. Report on updates to Commissioner Policies. – Larry Crabtree

This item is postponed to next month.

18. Call for Comments and Requests –

Per item 7c, the consideration of raising the approval limit will be discussed in the January 2026 meeting.

19. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 PM.

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