

Bastrop County Emergency Services District No. 2

Regular Meeting

Feb 17, 2026, 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, Stacy Britton our auditor with Montemayor Britton Bender PC, ESD2 CRR Officer Colton Curles, ESD2 Battalion chief Greg Monroe, and Firefighters Dyllon Chandler and Indiana Oberholzer.

2. **Invocation:** Larry Crabtree provided the invocation.
3. **Pledges of Allegiance:** Both Pledges of Allegiance were recited.
4. **Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items:** Lisa Eller delivered to the board some information from a payroll vendor that had arrived too late to be included in the Agenda.
5. **Public Comments on Agenda Items:** No comments were presented.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

6. **Approval of minutes:**
 - a. **Jan 20, 2026 Regular Meeting**

The minutes of the Jan 20 2026 Regular Meeting were previously distributed.
The minutes were approved as distributed.

FINANCIAL DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

7. **Discussion and possible action on FY2025 Financial Audit.**

Stacy Britton presented the FY2025 Financial Audit report and related documents. She answered all questions from the board.

Larry Crabtree moved to accept the audit report as presented
Tommy Chalmers seconded
The motion passed
8. **Discussion and possible action regarding monthly report from Treasurer, including:**
 - a. **Update on payments from Tax-Assessor-Collector and bank balance;**

An update on payments from Tax Assessor-Collector and State Comptroller were presented for Jan 2026.

 - i. FYTD Property Tax collections were \$2,650,343.54
 - b. **Update on Sales Tax Analysis;**
 - i. FYTD Sales Tax collections were \$758,228.12 with \$187,143.58 collected this month.
 - ii. The monthly analysis provided by Office Manager Lisa Eller was reviewed.
 - c. **Approval of unbudgeted expense items in excess of \$2,000;**

No items were presented.

d. Report from Fire Chief on prior month disbursements;

The Report of Fire Chief on the prior month's disbursements was reviewed but approval was postponed to be included in item 10

e. Monthly financial reports and issues;

Monthly financial reports and issues were presented.

The financial reports were accepted as presented.

OPERATIONAL DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

9. Operations Reports from Bastrop County ESD #2 Fire Chief, Josh Gill, Including:

a. Monthly Response Statistics:

Total Calls this month	130
Average Response Time – Min	11:48
Overlapping calls – %	28%
Hours at Calls – hrs	367
Hours of Training – hrs	111
Hours at Other; Events (PR) hrs	0
Total Hours – hrs	478
% Total Hours from Volunteers	14.4%
Value of Volunteer support	\$1,492.00

b. Monthly Operations:

- Training- Brush truck ops, EMS training.
- Management activities-
 - Station 5 is addition is 100% finished,
 - station 2 is still waiting on permits,
 - attended the leadership symposium in San Marcus.
- Personnel-
 - 2 new full-time firefighters started (we are at full staff)
 - 2 volunteers quit. 1 new volunteer came on. (3 volunteers are in various stages of coming on)
- Equipment maintenance report-
 - Nothing major, annual PM's start February 4th.
- Ems calls – Responded to 44 of 103 EMS calls.
- Developments in the district – Attended the county development meeting (there are currently 24,042 single family units under construction or in varies phases of design/ approval in the county as of November) 2,140 are in our district.

c. Discussion and possible action on Disposal Log

No Disposal Log was presented.

POLICY DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS

Administration:

10. Consideration of Expenditure and Disbursement Authority Policy (Asst. Treasurer Crabtree)

Larry Crabtree presented a proposal for a policy on Disbursement Authority. Discussion followed. After discussion,

Doug Kelsay moved to approve the budgeted expenditures presented in Agenda item 8d above.

Tommy Chalmers seconded

The motion passed.

The topic was postponed to the next meeting when written advice from legal council should be available.

11. Discussion and possible action on approval of Wildfire Division Budget of Wildfire Defense Grant Funds. – Colton Curles

Community Risk Reduction Officer Colton Curles presented the budget associated with the grant approved earlier this fiscal year from the U.S Forest Service for approximately \$4.3 million

The FY2026 budget related to the USFS grant was \$1,324,244.20 for FY 2026.

This is addition to grants previously received and already included in the department's FY2026 Budget that include grants from:

Int'l Assn Fire Chiefs for \$15K,

Texas A&M Forest service \$25K truck equipment and \$265K for a truck (type 3 wildland engine).

Doug Kelsay moved to approve the budget as presented

Larry Crabtree seconded

The motion passed unanimously.

12. Discussion and possible action on opting out of social security. – Chief Gill

Battalion Chief Greg Monroe presented his research and proposal on opting out of Social Security and replacing it with a "457b" tax deferred savings plan. The proposal included using the funds currently associated with Social Security (6% from the District and 6% from the employee) to fund the 457b plan for each individual. Individual employees would participate at their discretion.

Doug Kelsay made a motion that: BCESD2 opt out of Social Security for employees pending the completion of the analysis of switching payroll systems and approval of an acceptable 457b account management program.

Tommy Chalmers seconded

The motion passed unanimously

13. Update, discussion and possible action related to the Agreement for Providing Fire Protection and Suppression Services with Bastrop Colorado Bend, LLC and Annexation Election of November 4, 2026.

There were no changes to the previously approved agreement. Tommy Chalmers had already signed via Docusign. Doug Kelsay will sign via Docusign as soon as possible.

14. Discussion and possible action related to an interlocal agreement with Bastrop County Emergency Services District No. 3 for use of Station 3.

The agreement was reviewed. It covers 1 ambulance, two bedrooms and general use of Station 3 for \$1500/ month.

Tommy Chalmers moved to approve the agreement

Larry Crabtree seconded
The motion passed unanimously

15. Update, discussion and possible action on TCDRS, other retirement programs and their previous participants. – Lisa Eller

Larry Crabtree presented his letter to TCDRS requesting information.

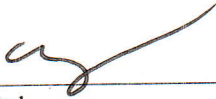
This topic was postponed to next month to review the responses from TCDRS.

Personnel Related:

16. Call for Comments and Requests –

Discussion and possible action on payroll platforms was requested by Tommy Chalmers.

17. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 PM.



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