BASTROP COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 3

MINUTES

August 6, 2026

Bastrop County Emergency Services District No. 3 met in special session, open to the public, at **9:00 A.M.,** on **Thursday, August 6, 2026**, in the **Bastrop County Emergency Services District 3 office, 627 B State Highway 71, Bastrop, Texas 78602**, at which time the following subjects were discussed, considered, passed, or adopted:

A. Call Meeting to Order (Commissioner Green) **9:00 am**

B. Pledges of Allegiance Those present said the Pledges of Allegiance.

Present was Commissioners Green, Simpson, and Young. Commissioner Pack was absent. Also present were Executive Director Johnson and Legal Counsel Kelli Carlton. Others in attendance were Don Rose, Nichole Kuhlmann, Ernie Rodriguez, Kelly Curry, Preston McGrew, Crystie Shibley, and Gabe Hovdey.

C. Public Comment None.

D. Public Comment on Agenda Items None.

E. The following items are for discussion and possible action:

1. Receive update from Station 1 subcommittee, including subcommittee recommendations.

   Director of Procurement Kelly Curry provided an update on Station 1 and presented staff recommendations. Nine proposals were received, one of which was deemed incomplete. The four highest-ranked respondents were interviewed. Following evaluation of the proposals and interviews, the committee recommended Rudick Construction to the Board. The final recommendation was supported by a detailed evaluation matrix included in the Board packet, along with supplemental written interview responses.

   Action taken under Agenda Item #2.

2. Approve authorizing Station 1 subcommittee to enter into contract negotiations with the top proposer for the construction of Station 1, and to continue negotiations with ranked proposers if necessary and as required.

   Motion: Commissioner Simpson moved to approve authorization of the subcommittee to enter into contract negotiations with the top proposer, Rudick Construction, for the construction of Station 1, and to continue negotiations with ranked proposers if necessary

   3 – Ayes, Motion Passes

3. Approve additional site planning and permitting fees for Station 1 construction.

   Gabe Hovdey with Southwest Engineers provided the Board with an update on Station 1 site planning and permitting. He reported that the city is considering waiving certain fees associated with Station 1 and the Administrative Building. An interlocal agreement is being negotiated to help expedite the permitting and development process. The site plan and public improvement plan are nearing final approval. The project budget includes a 15% contingency, and the city is also considering constructing the street as a potential cost-saving measure.

   Motion: Commissioner Green moved to approve additional site planning and permitting fees for Station 1 construction as presented, up to $204,306.70. Second by Commissioner Young.

   3 – Ayes, Motion Passes

4. Approve an order amending the Records Management Program and designating the Office Manager as records management officer for the District.

   Motion: Commissioner Simpson moved to approve an order amending the Records Management Program and designating the Office Manager as records management officer for the District, along with the associated Resolution. Second by Commissioner Young.

   3 – Ayes, Motion Passes

5. Approve pinning ceremony proposal.

   Motion: Commissioner Simpson moved to approve the badge pinning ceremony up to $12,000, as presented. Second by Commissioner Green.

   3 – Ayes, Motion Passes

6. Approve recommended District Mission and Vision Statements.

   Executive Director Johnson presented the Mission and Vision Statements to the Board as provided in the board packet. Discussion followed.

   Motion: Commissioner Green moved to approve the recommended District Mission and Vision Statements, as presented. Second by Commissioner Young.

   3 – Ayes, Motion Passes

7. Approve the employee benefits plan and employer contribution for FY 2026-27 with coverage to begin September 1, 2026.

   Workforce Manager Preston McGrew presented the recommended employee benefits plan and employer contribution for FY 26-27 as provided in the board packet. Discussion followed.

Motion: Commissioner Green moved to approve the non-medical benefits package as presented; adopt the self-funded short-term disability plan and associated resolution; approve the Cigna medical plan effective September 1, 2026; and approve the interlocal agreement to join the VFIS Managed Risk Pool. The Board did not approve MASA as part of the benefits package but approved offering MASA as a voluntary benefit.

3 – Ayes, Motion Passes

Commissioner Pack joined the meeting at 10:36 am.

8. Approve plan changes for TCDRS retirement plan for employees for CY 2027.

   Workforce Manager Preston McGrew presented changes to the TCDRS retirement plan for employees and recommended that vesting be reduced to 5 years and a 20-year service requirement, with no impact to the FY 2027 budget. Discussion followed.

   Motion: Commissioner Green moved to approve plan changes for TCDRS retirement plan for employees for CY 2027, as presented. Second by Commissioner Green.

   4 – Ayes, Motion Passes

9. Approve issuing a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the District's Administration Building architect.

   Motion: Commissioner Green moved to approve issuing a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the District's Administration Building architect. Second by Commissioner Pack.

   4 – Ayes, Motion Passes

10. Review and provide input into the development of the FY 2026-27 budget.

    Executive Director Johnson provided the budget spreadsheet at an earlier date for the board to review. Discussion followed.

    No action taken.

11. Action regarding 2026-27 budget, and adopting a resolution for same.

    No action taken.

12. Action regarding 2026 tax rate, including:
    a. Establishing a proposed tax rate;
    b. Taking a record vote and scheduling a public hearing;
    c. Authorizing expense and publication of the "Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase" in the Elgin Courier; and

d. acknowledging and approving posting of the "Notice About 2026 Tax Rates" and "Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase" to the home page of the District's website.

Motion: Commissioner Green moved to keep current tax rate of 10 cents. Second by Commissioner Pack.

Record Vote:

Commissioner Green – Aye
Commissioner Pack – Aye
Commissioner Young – Aye
Commissioner Simpson – Aye

4 – Ayes, Motion Passes

Motion: Commissioner Simpson moved to approve Authorizing expense and publication of the "Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase" in the Elgin Courier on September 16, 2026, and acknowledged and approved posting of the "Notice About 2026 Tax Rates" and "Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase" to the home page of the District's website. Second by Commissioner Young.

4 – Ayes, Motion Passes

13. Approve potential real estate locations, purchases, interlocal agreements, or leases for EMS station(s), including authorizing the Board President to sign paperwork related to same.

    Director of Procurement Kelly Curry provided an update on Bluebonnet and Rosansky property.

    No action taken.

14. Review and provide input into the development of space needs for the administration building and Jasper complex and take any related action.

    No action taken.

15. Update on interlocal agreement with Bastrop County for Communications Center space and technology sharing and take any related action.

    Executive Director Allen Johnson provided an update on the proposed interlocal agreement with Bastrop County regarding Communications Center space and technology sharing. Discussion included the use of County-provided space, shared technology and infrastructure, and coordination between the District and County for Communications Center operations. The Board discussed the status of the agreement and next steps for finalizing the terms.

    No action taken.

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 11:34 a.m. pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 to receive legal advice and counsel regarding Agenda Item 16 and Agenda Item 19. The Board reconvened in Special Session at 12:33 p.m. No action was taken during Executive Session.

16. Approve contract proposal to provide dispatch services for other emergency services departments and organizations and authorize the Executive Director to execute should the need arise.

    Motion: Commissioner Green moved to approve contract proposal to provide dispatch services for other emergency services departments and organizations and authorize the Executive Director to execute should the need arise.

    4 – Ayes, Motion Passes

17. Authorize the Executive Director to seek alternative location(s) for dispatch operations should the need arise.

    Commissioner Green moved to authorize the Executive Director to seek alternative location(s) for dispatch operations should the need arise. Second by Commissioner Simpson.

    4 – Ayes, Motion Passes

18. Authorize the Executive Director to enter into an agreement to be a secondary Public Safety Answering Point using the standard regional contract and pending legal review.

    Commissioner Simpson moved to authorize the Executive Director to enter into an agreement to be a secondary Public Safety Answering Point using the standard regional contract and pending legal review. Second by Commissioner Young.

19. Receive General Counsel report, including, but not limited to, tax matters, pending contract issues, open records requests, and other legal issues, if any, and take action as needed.

    No action taken.

20. Adjournment

    Adjourn at 10:56 AM.

Approved: August 19, 2026.

Keith Simpson, Secretary
Board of Commissioners

Minutes taken and transcribed by Crystie Shibley, Office Manager for Bastrop County Emergency Services District No. 3

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Approved: August 19, 2026.

Keith Simpson, Secretary
Board of Commissioners

Minutes taken and transcribed by Crystie Shibley, Office Manager for Bastrop County Emergency Services District No. 3