

# Comal County Emergency Services District #6

## MINUTES

Minutes of regular meeting held on March 9, 2009 at the Bracken Volunteer Fire Department Central Station.

Commissioners Present: Wittler, Stegman, Waechter, Fleming and Loehman  
BVFD Chief Donald Zipp, BVFD President Schroeder

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Commissioner Wittler.

Motion to accept the minutes made by Waechter, second by Loehman. Motion carried.

Waechter read the treasurer report. As of February 28, the cash balance was \$512,361.07. Loehman made a motion to accept the report and Stegman second. Motion carried.

Discussion on the amount of funds we have in the bank. Since there is a concern of having over the FDIC limit in the bank Stegman made a motion to limit the amount kept in any one bank to the FDIC limit. The current limit of \$250,000 is set to expire in December. Loehman second the motion the motion carried.

Waechter presented a bill from Fleming in the amount of \$116.24 for the purchase of our new ESD #6 map. Waechter made a motion to pay the bill and Loehman second. Motion carried.

Chief Zipp presented the BVFD Five-Year Plan (attached). Priorities were set by a committee of the board. The most pressing matter is the switch of communications from analog to digital. The overall cost to the department is approximately \$96,000, which he is asking his board to start purchases this year with the hope of completing the switch in 2 to 3 years. This is an unfunded mandate from Homeland Security Administration. All departments in the county have until January 1, 2013 to complete the switch. The Sheriff's office and Garden Ridge P. D. will switch April 1, 2009. So far, BVFD has not been able to find governmental assistance with this purchase. He is asking his board for approximately \$31,900 for the first batch of 10 handheld radios. Schertz EMS and Fire have switched to 800 MHz digital radios that will not communicate with our channels. BVFD may have to supply a couple of handhelds to Schertz so that they can communicate with each other. He is asking ESD #6 for assistance.

Other items on the plan will be purchased on an as needed basis when funding is available.

Whittler reported we have been requested to make a presentation of our status to date to the Comal County Commissioners Court on March 19, 2009.

The next regular meeting will be at 7:00 PM on April 13, 2009 at the Bracken Volunteer Fire Department Central Station.

Waechter made a motion to adjourn at 8:00 PM and Loehman second. Motion carried.

Robert Fleming  
Secretary