

WILLIAMSON COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #2
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING – February 19, 2026

Williamson County Emergency Services District #2 held a regular meeting on February 19, 2026 at Sam Bass Fire Department Station 2, 16248 Great Oaks Drive, Round Rock, Texas and on-line at <https://meet.google.com/bub-odpp-zaz>.

Commissioners in Attendance:

Commissioners present in person: Jordan Baltazor, President; Russell Strahan, Vice-President; Tim Hunsberger, Treasurer; Darryl Pool, Secretary; Trish Weiner, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer.

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm by Commissioner Baltazor. A quorum was present.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Baltazor.

Public Comment: No member of the public requested to speak.

Action items

ITEM 4: *Approve minutes of prior meeting(s).*

Motion to approve minutes of regular meeting held January 22, 2026 as presented.

Motion: Strahan Second: Hunsberger [Unanimous in favor]

ITEM 5: *Discuss and take action relative to district banking services.*

Ryan McGowan and Carol Rivera with First Citizens Bank in Austin, the financial institution used by the District for its checking account, attended in order to meet Commissioners in person. They discussed deposit and lending services the bank can provide and how District funds are secured.

ITEM 6: *Review bookkeeper's report and consent to: a) approval of payment of monthly bills and invoices and b) approval of monthly financial report.*

Commissioner Baltazor presented the District's invoices for January 2026. Commissioner Weiner presented the District's monthly financial statements for January 2026 as prepared by Medack & Oltmann LLP. There was nothing out of the ordinary to report. The Certificate of Deposit with South Star Bank will not be renewed due to the low interest rate it is offering. Cadence Bank is about to change its name.

Motion to approve January 2026 invoices and financial reports as presented.

Motion: Baltazor Second: Weiner [Unanimous in favor]

Commissioners reviewed the January 2026 Sales & Use Tax report prepared by HdL Companies. Commissioners Baltazor and Weiner completed HdL's on-line training course. It advised waiting for a full year of collections before making projections as to future revenue. While many entities remit their payments monthly, some do so on a quarterly or annual basis.

ITEM 7: *Review Sam Bass Fire Dept. bookkeeper's report from Margaret Nixon, CPA.*

SBFD Chief James Shofner presented SBFD's monthly financial statements, bills, and invoices for January 2026. There was nothing out of the ordinary to report.

ITEM 6 resumed:

District Legal Counsel Ken Campbell reviewed and approved opening a Prime account with TexPool as the board discussed on 1/22/26. Prime invests funds in commercial paper and has the same safety guarantees as their regular money market account.

[President Baltazor, Treasurer Hunsberger, and Secretary Pool signed documents to open a TexPool Prime account on adjournment of this meeting.]

ITEM 8: *Discuss and take action relative to district website updates.*

The Sbfd website is now ten years old. Sbfd Captain Corby Bryan is planning to do a complete update in the near future. The domain name "WilcoESD2.org" had previously been reserved and is still available if the board wants to have a separate website created. It was agreed links from the Sbfd website to ESD #2 should be created if a separate ESD #2 website is created.

Motion to authorize Commissioner Baltazor to work with Captain Bryan on the feasibility of creating an ESD #2 website and bring recommendations to the board.

Motion: Hunsberger Second: Strahan [Unanimous in favor]

ITEM 9: *Discuss and take action relative to 2026 Safe-D conference.*

Commissioners Hunsberger and Weiner and Sbfd Administrator Emma Replogle attended the January 2026 SAFE-D Conference in San Antonio. The presentations overall were very informative. Cyber security was an important topic that was addressed due to an increase in local governmental entities having their on-line systems being targeted, often by bad actors based overseas, seeking to take systems hostage in exchange for a financial ransom.

Also discussed was the Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System (TIFMAS) program. It is a method of spreading assets from different fire departments across a wide area when significant emergencies, especially wildfires and floods, occur so that individual departments do not have to bear all of the cost of handling situations in their district. Participating departments are reimbursed when they deploy assets in accordance with program guidelines. Chief Shofner said Sbfd has just begun looking into the program. He has found great support for it from many fire departments and has discovered some of them have a substantial portion of their budgets funded by actively participating in the program.

ITEM 10: *Discuss and take action relative to Sam Bass Fire Department policies and procedures.*

As requested at the 1/22/26 board meeting, Chief Shofner prior to this meeting had emailed Commissioners a copy of Sbfd's policies and procedures concerning driver training and movement of trucks. Sbfd will utilize the Round Rock Fire Department's large training course to conduct semi-annual driver training.

ITEM 11: *Receive monthly operations report from Sam Bass Fire Department.*

a) *Receive monthly statistics report from Sam Bass Fire Department.*

Sbfd Captain Corby Bryan presented abbreviated Sbfd incident report data and activities for January 2026 plus comparison to prior years. The comprehensive report had previously been emailed to Commissioners. There was nothing out of the ordinary to report.

The Pearson Ranch area is divided between ESD #2 and the city of Austin. The Austin Fire Department does not want to conduct inspections in that area due to their heavy workload. That may provide an opening to help deannex the area from Austin.

Commissioner Strahan complimented Chief Shofner, Captain Bryan, and Commissioner Baltazor for working together to gather data and create reports on Sbfd activities that are understandable to those not in the firefighting profession.

Commissioner Strahan asked whether a method could be developed to track vehicle and equipment readiness in order to identify any specific ongoing maintenance issues. Chief Shofner said SBFD has just received new user-friendly software that will enable their personnel to perform such tracking.

b) Receive update on Community Outreach Program at Sam Bass Fire Department.

SBFD Administrator Emma Replogle reported January community activities were slow due to it being the post-holiday time period and due to the ice storm causing the cancellation of many area events. One group of children toured Station 2.

SBFD Firefighter Will Prescott reported on the Risk Reduction Response program. Several lock boxes have been installed at residences, and several home safety checks have been conducted. Social media has been the primary means of reaching the public about this new program. Additional means of publicizing the program are being sought.

c) Receive report and take action to station maintenance etc.

Chief Shofner reported the replacement for Engine 2 has almost completed the manufacturing process. It is scheduled to be taken to Houston to have the SBFD name painted on the doors and to have equipment installed but not until June. An option is to take possession of it and use it only for training purposes until the outfitting in June. Doing so would require payment for the work completed to date. That price will be known soon. Commissioners discussed the option and were favorable to taking possession soon. Commissioners Baltazor and Weiner will contact financial institutions about their loan rates. A special meeting might be called to consider moving forward with this option once full information is known.

ITEM 12: *Discuss potential agenda items, location, time, and date(s) for future business meetings. (03/19/2026)*

Next regular meeting to be held March 19, 2026 beginning at 7:00pm at Sam Bass Fire Station 2.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn made at 8:15pm.

Motion: Strahan Second: Weiner [Unanimous in favor]

“I attest that all the above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.”

Submitted by Darryl Pool, Secretary, Williamson County ESD #2