



**A SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE WESLACO CITY COMMISSION
TUESDAY, AUGUST 31, 2021**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the City Commission of the City of Weslaco, Texas will hold a Special Meeting in the Legislative Chamber of City Hall, Located at 255 South Kansas Avenue on Tuesday, August 31, 2021 at 5:30 pm pursuant to Section 551.045 of the Texas Open Meetings Act.

A temporary suspension of the Open Meetings Act to allow telephone or videoconference public meetings has been granted by Governor Greg Abbott. In conjunction with the guidance and provisions provided by the Governor and in order to advance the public health goal of limiting face-to-face meetings to slow the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19), there will be a limit of seventy-nine (79) in person attendance to include staff and the governing body. These actions are being taken to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 by avoiding meetings that bring a large group setting and in accordance with Section 418.016 of the Texas Government Code. The meeting will be recorded and uploaded to the City website following the conclusion of the meeting.

Telephonic conferencing capabilities will be utilized to allow member of the public to participate remotely via Toll Free Dial In Number: 1-877-853-5247; Meeting ID: 880 3094 0997.

Members of the public who wish to participate in Public Comment on an agenda item must send their name, address and phone number via email to nacantu@weslacotx.gov by 12:00 pm on August 31, 2021. A staff member will contact you with instructions via phone call to address your public comments.

NOTE: If during the meeting, any discussion of any item on the agenda should be held in executive or closed session, the City Commission will convene in such executive or closed session whether or not such item is posted as an executive session item at any time during the meeting when authorized by the provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act.

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Certification of Public Notice
- B. Pledge of Allegiance
- C. Roll call

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Public Comments portion of the meeting promotes a fair and open process for the governance of the City. This portion of the meeting is not intended to be an extended discussion or a debate and is limited to three minutes for each presenter. Due to the Texas Open Meetings Act, the Mayor and City Commissioners do not reply; they listen. Matters under litigation are not to be addressed and comments regarding specific City employees and elected officials may be prohibited.

The Public may comment on anything on the agenda, however if you comment on something not included on the agenda, the Commission cannot take any formal action until it is placed on an agenda and notice of the meeting is properly posted. Registration for Public Comments must be submitted to the City Secretary before the City Commission meeting is called to order. As the Mayor calls upon those who submitted a registration form with the City Secretary, please step to the podium and state your name and address before beginning your presentation.

III. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Discussion and consideration on Resolution 2021-43 to create an Emergency Communication District/911 and authorize the Mayor to execute any related documents. Possible action. (Staffed by City Manager.) Attachment.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

I hereby certify this **Notice of a Special Meeting of the Weslaco City Commission** was posted in accordance with the Open Meetings Act on the outside bulletin board at City Hall of the City of Weslaco, located at the 255 South Kansas Avenue entrance, visible and accessible to the general public during and after regular working hours. This notice was posted on this 27th day of August 2021 on or before 4:00 pm and will remain so posted continuously for at least 72-hours preceding the scheduled time of this meeting in accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

/s/ Norma A. Cantu, City Secretary

NOTE: If any accommodation for a disability is required, please notify the City Secretary Office at (956) 968-3181, Ext. 1001 prior to the meeting date.

Removed from Bulletin Board

Date:

Initials:



Standardized Agenda Request Form

Date of Meeting: August 31, 2021		Agenda Item No. (to be assigned by CSO): 2021-4578	
From:			
Subject: Discussion and consideration on Resolution 2021-43 to create an Emergency Communication District/911 and authorize the Mayor to execute any related documents. Possible action. (Staffed by City Manager.)			
Background:			
Funding Source (budget code, if applicable):			
Amount:	Term of Impact:	Identified in Current Budget:	
Additional Action Prompted: Mayor's Signature Resolution			
If item previously considered, provide date and action by Commission:			
If item requires Publication Notice, provide date and periodical of publication; indicate if comments received from letters mailed to property owners:			
Advisory Review, if any (name of board/committee, date of action, recommendation):			
ADELAIDA VEGA Mike Perez		Created	
City Manager Comments: Approve.			
Staff Recommendation:			
Attachments, if any: Ltr to City of Weslaco for ECD, R2021-43 creation of Emergency Communications District			
Responsibilities upon Approval:			



Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council

Judge Aurelio "Keter" Guerra, Willacy County.....President
Mayor Ambrosio "Amos" Hernandez, Pharr.....1st Vice President
Mayor Chris Boswell, Harlingen.....2nd Vice President
Mayor Trey Mendez, Brownsville.....Secretary
Mayor David Suarez, Weslaco.....Treasurer
Mr. Jim Darling, Member-at-Large.....Immediate Past President

BOARD MEMBERS

David A. Garza
Commissioner, Cameron County

David Fuentes
Commissioner, Hidalgo County

Pilar Garza
Commissioner, Alamo

Johnny Garcia
Councilman, Edinburg

Rick Salinas
Mayor, Lyford

Javier Villalobos
Mayor, McAllen

Oscar D. Montoya
Mayor, Mercedes

Norie Gonzalez Garza
Councilwoman, Mission

Jorge Ledezma
Mayor, Primavera

Maribel Guerrero
Mayor Rancho Viejo

Edward Gonzales
Commissioner, Raymondville

Ricardo "Rick" Guerra
Mayor, San Benito

Marco "Markie" Villegas
Commissioner, San Juan

Veronica Gonzales
UT Rio Grande Valley

Paul Hernandez
South Texas College

Maricela De Leon
Texas State Technical College

Troy Allen
Delta Lake Irrigation District

Ronald Mills
Willacy County Navigation District

Eleazar Garcia, Jr.
Member-at-Large

Sergio Contreras
Member-at-Large

Lupita Sanchez Martinez
Grassroots Organizations

August 6, 2021

Honorable David Suarez
City of Weslaco
255 S. Kansas Ave
Weslaco, TX 78596

RE: Resolution to Create an Emergency Communication District/9-1-1

Dear Mayor Suarez:

The Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council (LRGVDC) currently administers the State's 9-1-1 Program for your city/county, as directed by legislation enacted in 1987. LRGVDC – Emergency Communications/9-1-1 has more than met the legislative charge of providing emergency dispatch centers with the latest and optimal available equipment and technology and assuring that this equipment and technology is operating and secured 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

I am writing this letter to you on behalf of the LRGVDC Board of Directors, which is made up of elected and appointed officials from the entities which are served by the LRGVDC 9-1-1 program. We believe there is a positive opportunity for the participants in the LRGVDC program to have a real and larger impact on policy and fiscal matters than is now available through the State's 9-1-1 program.

During the 84th legislative session, the Health and Safety Code was amended by SB 1108/HB 3462 to permit Councils of Government/Regional Planning Commissions to establish Regional Emergency Communications Districts (ECD) to administer 9-1-1 service in their area. We see a tremendous amount of advantages and opportunities that would be to our benefit by creating an ECD.

Currently, our citizens and businesses are charged 50 cents on their phone bills to pay for 9-1-1 services. This money is remitted to and held by the State until the legislature appropriates all or part of the funds collected to the Texas Commission on State Emergency Communications (CSEC). CSEC then allocates these funds to councils of governments.

The Legislature does not always appropriate all of the funds collected. If we were to create an Emergency Communication District (ECD), the monies collected through the maximum 50 cent fee would be remitted in their entirety to this district. The major benefit from this, aside from all the funds collected in our region coming back to it, is that a long-range strategic plan could be adopted outlining future capital improvements for the district and replacements for our dispatch centers based on a known and reliable stream of revenue. Under the present situation, we have no

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Manuel "Manny" Cruz

certainty of the amount of funding that the region will receive during any given biennium. This results in inefficiencies because long-term planning for capital equipment is difficult to do.

The other major benefit to be realized from having our district is one of local control. Policy and budgetary matters would be decided by a Board of Managers consisting of local elected officials from entities served by the ECD 9-1-1 Program. The new law specifies that councils of government, LRGVDC in our case, will be the fiscal agent for the district. This assures that there will be no disruption to the current services provided to our citizens and businesses through the already existing dispatch centers.

The new law requires that the governing body of each entity now served by a council of governments pass a resolution calling for the creation of an ECD. Our 16 PSAPs and LRGVDC Board of Directors have indicated an interest in doing so and have approved the resolution that is being presented for your consideration. This is the last resolution to officially commission the ECD for the Rio Grande Valley. Please let us know of your preference and/or if you would like to have a meeting to learn more about this matter and to get any questions answered. Also, enclosed is the approved sample resolution, which can be used to support the creation of an ECD. Hector Chapa, Assistant Director of ECOMMS/9-1-1 and Randall Snyder, Director of Public Safety are available to answer any technical questions you may have on this matter. He can be reached at 956.682-3481 Ext. 143 or 174.

In advance, I would like to thank you for accommodating our request to host a city commission special meeting on August 31, 2021, to approve the attached resolution. I would also encourage you to call me at 956-279-4130 if you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Manuel Cruz', with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

Manuel Cruz,
Executive Director

cc: Mike Perez, City Manager

RESOLUTION 2021-43

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CREATION OF THE RIO GRANDE VALLEY
REGIONAL 9-1-1 EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT

WHEREAS, Chapter 772, Subchapter H, of the Texas Health and Safety Code, cited as the Regional Emergency Communications District Act (the “act”), provides the creation of a Regional Emergency Communications District: and

WHEREAS, the act applies to a state planning region established under Chapter 391 of the Texas Local Government Code with a population of under 1.5 million, composed of counties and municipalities that operate a 9-1-1 system solely through a regional planning commission: and

WHEREAS, the Act requires that the governing bodies of each participating county and municipality in the region adopt a resolution approving the creation of the Regional Emergency Communications District (the “District”): and

WHEREAS, as of May 25, 1989, the City of WESLACO exclusively receives 9-1-1 system services operated through the Council of Governments, a regional planning commission.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WESLACO THAT IT AUTHORIZES THE CREATION OF 9-1-1 EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT.

PASSED AND APPROVED on this 31st day of August 2021.

CITY OF WESLACO

David Suarez, **MAYOR**

ATTEST:

Norma A. Cantu, **CITY SECRETARY**

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Juan E. Gonzalez, **CITY ATTORNEY**