

AUSTIN COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT

JANUARY 14, 2026

The regular meeting of the Emergency Communications District of Austin County was held at 9:00 A.M. on Wednesday, January 14, 2026, at the Austin County Emergency Communications District Office, at 842 W. Main, Bellville, Texas, with the following present:

Roy Mercer – Vice – President
Walter Morrow – Treasurer
Bobby Rinn – Board Member
Ray Roberson – Board Member
Russell Grimes (arrived late)
Jason Hammons – AT&T representative
Vicki Strieder – ACECD Administrative Assistant
Heather Delso – Seidel Schroeder auditor

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.

Quorum was declared by roll call. Dana Garcia was absent.

Consideration of Agenda – Walter Morrow made a motion to move New Business item 9a Seidel Schroeder’s audit presentation to after the Consideration of Minutes; second made by Bobby Rinn – Motion carried.

Public Forum – None

Consideration of Minutes – Walter Morrow made a motion to accept the November 12, 2025 minutes; second made by Ray Roberson – Motion carried.

Consideration of Treasurer’s Report – The November & December 2025 reconciliation reports and Statements of Position (balance sheets) were not available at this time. Ray Roberson made a motion to accept November & December 2025 bank statements; second made by Bobby Rinn – Motion carried.

Consideration of Invoices (Profit & Loss Reports) – The November & December 2025 Statements of Activity (profit & loss) reports were not available at this time. Bobby Rinn made a motion to accept the November & December 2025 credit card statements; second made by Russell Grimes – Motion carried.

Old business

- Update on AT&T equipment and fiber link – No new information/no action.
- Update on setting up Starlink business account/services – Walter Morrow stated the service has been suspended due to non-payment which was due to being unable to set up payments. If/when necessary, ACECD will reestablish service. No action.
- Update on generator quotes/need for purchase – It still needs to be determined if a generator is actually needed since GeoComm’s data is stored in “the cloud”. Tabled until next month to determine necessity. No action.
- GeoComm’s Maintainer transition – No action.
- Term limits for officers of ACECD Board – Bobby Rinn is working on the information that will be added to the policy manual.
- Update on NENA membership/advertisement of Director’s position/Workforce Solutions – Roy Mercer stated it has been delayed due to the holidays, working on the audit, and working on the Cadence Bank transition. He hopes we will determine how we want to move forward with the Director’s position by the next meeting. Tabled until next month. No action.
- Election of officers – Roy Mercer nominated Russell Grimes for President. Ray Roberson made a motion to approve Russell Grimes as the ACECD Board President; second made by Walter Morrow – Motion carried.

New business

- 2024 Audit Report – Walter Morrow made a motion to accept the draft. Once the contract is validated, the Board will approve it to be signed. Second made by Bobby Rinn – Motion carried.
- Authorization of Bank Signatories – Ray Roberson made a motion to approve the authorization signatures of the Executive Committee (President, VP, & Treasurer) which gives them full authorization to banking business/transactions; second made by Bobby Rinn – Motion carried.
- TX Health Benefits Pool health insurance renewal – Walter Morrow made a motion to renew the current TX Health Benefits Pool insurance policy; second made by Ray Roberson – Motion carried.
- Replacement of server – Roy Mercer stated he will handle this and report back next month. No action.
- Collaborate with County to revise County’s private road policy – Roy Mercer will set up a meeting with Vicki Strieder and County representatives to discuss necessary changes.

Report from rural addressing:

- New addresses for NOVEMBER 2025 - 9; DECEMBER 2025 - 9
- Existing address letter requests NOVEMBER 2025 - 16; DECEMBER 2025 - 16

Report from AT&T – No issues reported.

Executive Session**A. Personnel Matters****B. Legal Matters**

- Executive Session started at 10:12 a.m. Board members went to the EMS 1 Station for the Executive Session. The regular meeting reconvened at 10:55 a.m. Russell Grimes made a motion to have a follow up meeting on January 22, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. to discuss legal and personnel matters; second made by Ray Roberson - Motion carried. Bobby Rinn was not present when the regular meeting reconvened.

Items/Announcements from Board Members – None

Walter Morrow made a motion to adjourn meeting; second made by Russell Grimes – Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:56 a.m.

ATTEST:



Roy Mercer, Vice-President