

Minutes June 12, 2024

Crisis Management Team Regular Meeting

Waxahachie Independent School District

The Crisis Management Team of the Waxahachie Independent School District met on June 12, 2024, for a Regular Meeting. With a quorum present Lee Auvenshine, General Counsel, called the meeting to order at 11:32 a.m. Those present: Lyssa Ridlehuber, Dr. David Averett, Thomas Griffith, Kim Kriegel, Kam Bridgers, Megan Womack, Lt. Chris Dickinson, Melissa Bousquet, Andy Reeves, Belvis Noland, Amanda Batman, Donna Insixiengmay, Toby Mash, Interim Assistant Chief Mike Lewis, Waxahachie PD, Chief Joe Wiser, Waxahachie PD, Jenni McLemore, Sean Cagle, Jenny Bridges, and Ryan Kahlden.

Thomas Griffith made a motion for approval of Minutes from the previous meeting with a second by Kim Kriegel, and the motion carried unanimously.

At 11:34 a.m. the team entered Closed Session by general consent and unopposed announcement of presiding officer pursuant to Section 551.076 of the Government Code to deliberate:

- The deployment, and specific occasions for implementation, of security personnel and devices, in drills and in response to potential threats, particularly in relation to the district's multi-hazard emergency operations plan (Crisis Management Plan);
- The deployment, and specific occasions for implementation, of security personnel and devices, in general and specifically in response to specific criminal activity and terroristic threats;
 - Specific discussion regarding proposed new security devices to accommodate transition to open carry of firearms on duty belts.
- The district's performance in response to intruder audits conducted by the Texas School Safety Center; and
- The full tri-annual security audit of the district's facilities required under Section 37.108 (b) of the Education Code.

The Crisis Management Team reconvened into Open Session at 12:46 p.m.

Discussion Items:

- Discussion of continued development of SRO program and security team under the leadership of Waxahachie Police Department Lt. Chris Dickinson.
 - Finished the year strong and were successful of all TEA intruder audits done throughout the year at all campuses – no findings.
 - Lost an officer to another job and in the process of hiring a replacement as well as an officer for an open position we have for the new elementary campus.
 - Training with WPD will take place over the summer to prepare for next school year.
- Discussion regarding the general authority of school districts to allow school marshals to openly carry firearms on a duty belt, as recently recognized by the Texas Attorney General, and consideration of possible action regarding this authority.
 - Several school districts have already taken action due to the AG decision – WISD is working with WPD to ensure a smooth transition if it is decided by committee to recommend to the Board that marshals be allowed to open carry on a duty belt.
- Discussion of grant funded opportunities, particularly pertaining to Waxahachie ISD's recent award of funds through SAFE Grant Cycle 2.
 - WISD awarded just under \$400K to continue putting towards safety components such as doors, safety equipment, training, etc.

- Discussion of anticipated changes to the district’s multi-hazard emergency operations plan (Crisis Management Plan) in advance of submission to the Texas School Safety Center in September 2024.
 - This year’s update to the EOP is cyber security – will add/enhance that area in the EOP and will bring updates back to the committee for approval before submitting to the state – may call for a meeting in August.
- General discussion of drills performed within the district and at campuses, along with specific discussion regarding the following:
 - Active shooter training exercise at Waxahachie High School in June 2024
 - Drill will start at the time the bad guy is apprehended and will practice the stop the dying and end at the point of evacuation to reunification site.
 - Multi-agency involvement so all parties can learn and benefit from the training
 - Tabletop training exercise for campus administrators in July or August 2024
 - Tabletop will be for all administrators and security to participate to see what the event looks like for those who haven’t had a reunification drill for their campus as well as ICS-100 training for those that need it.
- Discussion and possible action to approve any items recommended in closed session.
 - Thomas Griffith made a motion with a second by Dr. David Averett to take to the Board the recommendation of the District Crisis Management Committee to allow school marshals to openly carry firearms on a duty belt and passed in the committee unanimously.

Toby Mash made a motion to adjourn with Melissa Bousquet giving the second and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 1:01 p.m.