

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF McCULLOCH

CITY OF BRADY

The City Council of the City of Brady, Texas met in a Joint Work Session Meeting with McCulloch County Judge and Commissioners on Monday, July 17, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. with Mayor Aaron Garcia presiding. Council Members present were Missi Elliston, Larry Land, Gabe Moreno, Jeffrey Sutton and Felix Gomez, Jr. City staff present were City Manager Erin Corbell, Finance Director Lisa McElrath, Fire Chief Lloyd Perrin, Assistant Fire Chief Jeremy Ramon, City Attorney Sharon Hicks and City Secretary Tina Keys. Others in attendance were County Judge Frank Trull, County Commissioners Randy Deans, Carol Anderson, Don Bratton & County Clerk Christine Jones, as well as District Clerk Michelle Pitcox, Sheriff Matt Andrews, and County Attorney Greg Torres. Also in attendance were Heath Evans, Lynn Farris, James Stewart and James Griffin, Tony Groves

### **1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL & CERTIFICATION OF A QUORUM**

Mayor Garcia called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Council quorum was certified. County certified their quorum.

### **2. INDIVIDUAL CONCERNS**

#### **A. Discussion regarding McCulloch County contribution to EMS expenses.**

Mayor Garcia thanked the County for working with the City and turned meeting over to Erin Corbell. Mayor Garcia asked the County if they had looked over proposed agreement. They indicated they have. Mayor Garcia asked if there are any issues with it. Erin asked if there were any issues with figures that are used. Mayor Garcia said we need to stipulate that the City of Melvin will be removed out of the agreement – any unincorporated areas of the county. Commissioner Anderson pointed out that under Section 3.2, it says pursuant to section 731 but she believes it should say 791. Attorney Hicks said she would make the correction. She had already put in “other than city of Melvin” she thought that was the only unincorporated area. City Attorney Hicks said section 3.2 relative to county, are they self-insured or do they contract. Judge Trull said they were with the Texas Association of Counties. Mayor Garcia said 3.2 said pursuant to section 731 but it should be 791. Carol Anderson asked about Texas Tort law. Attorney Hicks said it’s in Section 4. Judge Trull said it’s confusing – he would like to specify the time period. It’s not really for this year’s services. Attorney Hicks said we have a contract term for specified period, one year, Oct 1, 2023- Sept 30, 2024. Payment is for the services rendered during prior year’s period. Erin said we’re talking about services period of 10/1/2021 – 9/30-2022 in which the payment is due in FY24. Judge Trull said maybe put in a B.3 that the payment is for specified service dates. This agreement will be effective for the term of 10/1/23 – 9/30/2024. Language would be for EMS services, take out term language, the county will pay the City \$243,438 for services 10/1/22 – 9/30/2023 and add D to take future terms and service years... Attorney Hicks said we could just change the dates each year. County Attorney Greg Torres said that’s kind of like what we did with the old one, but he thinks there should be a date. Judge Trull said he feels it’s hard if you’re brand new if you’re not looking at actual term dates. Attorney Hicks said she would add “future terms and service year”. Anderson said paragraph D is confusing because it says Fire and EMS. City Manager Corbell and Mayor Garcia said to remove the word fire. Council Member Elliston said we can extract fire from the document. 3.2 will remain as worded with the word fire. Section 2 page 1, Fire and EMS, 2.1 proposal to remove fire and just say EMS services. Judge Trull said it needs to be reflected that we are not providing fire. Attorney Hicks asked are we providing fire service? Erin said yes. Judge Trull said sometimes fire goes but all they do is fire control. Commissioner Deans said we trade off with volunteer departments. Volunteer departments respond to city calls as well. Attorney Hicks confirmed fire and EMS will come out of 2.1 heading and we will remove fire protection services. Attorney Hicks said all reference to fire and said they will be removed. Council Member Elliston asked if

they were comfortable with 30 days. Anderson said she would prefer 90. It will be changed to 90. Section 9 will be changed from 60 days to 90. Page 2, item D, Erin said the 90-day requirement would be June 30th. Council Member Elliston said they will have a new interlocal agreement every year and the dates and dollar amount would change. Attorney Hicks said a decision would have to be made on or before June 30 of each successive year. Judge Trull said if they get all the info by March 1, that gives them 3 months to look at all of that. Judge Trull said he thinks how it's calculated needs to be in the agreement as well. Lisa said yes. Mayor Garcia said to reference the formula to how where dollar amount came from in the agreement as well. Erin handed out a worksheet and said it takes into account some of the formula errors she saw, so this is a corrected version. She noted the city formula is on the left and county formula on the right. Attorney Hicks said section 2.1, she will add a subsection that shows the formula. Mayor Garcia asked Erin to walk them through the formula. Erin said we proposed based on applying the percentage of county calls to the net expenditures for the year. The Judge's formula applies the percentage of calls to the gross EMS expenditures and then reduces that number by county specific payments and revenue. Mayor Garcia asked if the \$248,000 is our calculation? Erin said yes, it's actually rounded out a little bit. Erin confirmed Melvin is excluded. Erin said the council went with a flat 18%. Other figures are 18.41. Council Member said on refusals, our guys responded to the calls and the patient refused the service. We are not able to bill on those. Erin said she verified all of the addresses were outside of the city limits and uses google maps to verify the mileage.

Mayor Garcia asked where the figure is for our total expenses. Judge Trull pointed out the \$1.6. Erin passed out a sheet that shows gross expenditures. Erin said the 18.41 \$1,352,434.42 comes to the \$248,847.93. Randy Deans asked about the difference between the 2013 revenue figures and 2015 revenue figures. Erin said that indicated the timing of the hospital taking over transfers.

Erin confirmed for Attorney Hicks, it's 18% which is was the council approved, applied to net expenditures for services provided Oct 1, 2021- Sept 30, 2022, which totals \$243,438.19.

Mayor Garcia asked if the commissioners understand where that number comes from. Judge Trull said he feels the city is set on not changing that formula. Judge Trull said the City is working with the County by lowering the percentage from 18.4 to 18%. Erin said EMS calls are tracking about 18% year to date. Carol Anderson asked about indigent services. Erin said she talked to Tim Jones and an individual has to apply for indigency through the hospital district to have any funds applied towards that. That's not something we can control, and that funding ONLY applies to services received through the hospital, so it would not apply to EMS services. Carol asked if we have a report. Erin said only what Emergicon shows is written off. They also have an option to apply for indigency when Emergicon bills. Assistant Chief Jeremy Ramon said he was trying to understand so he called Emergicon and they said they can't collect money from the hospital under the indigency program. Judge Trull said any medical bill, if you apply at the hospital and are approved for indigency, it's handled through the hospital and the hospital pays the city. Mayor Garcia said he thinks maybe we can approach the hospital. Randy Deans asked Asst. Chief Ramon, if they run a call, who responds. Jeremy said a fire truck and an ambulance. Deans asked in the county who responds, Jeremy said an ambulance. Jeremy said we only bill for EMS. Randy asked if there is any way to recoup the fire losses that are ran in the city with the EMS. Lloyd said on the county runs, they count on volunteer departments to help. Anderson said she would like a clarification on the indigency program through the hospital. Mayor Garcia said the county and the city can sit down with the hospital and look into it with Emergicon. Randy Deans brought up the increase in expenditures due to salary increase. Erin handed out a sheet showing base salaries vs industry standard salaries.

City and County are expected to approve the Interlocal Agreement as modified at their upcoming August meetings.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mayor Garcia adjourned the meeting at 11:54 a.m.

  
Aaron Garcia, Mayor

Attest:   
Tina Keys, City Secretary