

DIVISION 7. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMISSION¹

Sec. 2.04.191. Title.

This division shall be commonly cited as the "emergency management commission" ordinance.

(Ord. No. 2021-53 , § 2, 12-21-2021)

Sec. 2.04.192. Purpose.

- (a) This article provides for the standards for the formation, function, and responsibilities of an emergency management commission tasked with representing various groups with interest in emergency planning and operations.
- (b) This article is in furtherance of good government and public safety. Through these regulations, the city seeks to prioritize and promote the safety of persons and property by:
 - (1) Recommended policies and application of policies for the development and implementation of an emergency management plan for the city and ETJ.
 - (2) Provide public information and training regarding personal and family disaster planning and response.

(Ord. No. 2021-53 , § 2, 12-21-2021)

Sec. 2.04.193. Scope.

This division applies to all property within the incorporated municipal boundaries (i.e., "city limits") and the extraterritorial jurisdiction ("ETJ").

(Ord. No. 2021-53 , § 2, 12-21-2021)

Sec. 2.04.194 Definitions.

- (a) Rules of interpretation. Words and phrases used in this article shall have the meanings set forth in this section. Terms that are not defined below, but are defined elsewhere in the Code of Ordinances, shall be given the meanings set forth in the code. Words and phrases not defined in the Code of Ordinances shall be given their common, ordinary meaning unless the context clearly requires otherwise. When not inconsistent with the context, words used in the present tense shall include the future tense, words in the plural number shall include the singular number (and vice versa), and words in the masculine gender shall include the

¹Editor's note(s)—Ord. No. 2021-53 , § 2, adopted December 21, 2021, amended division 7 in its entirety to read as herein set out. Former division 7, §§ 2.04.191—2.04.194, pertained to similar subject matter, and derived from Ord. No. 1910.20, adopted January 19, 2016; Ord. No. 1910.21, adopted March 8, 2016 and Ord. No. 1920.22, adopted November 14, 2017.

feminine gender (and vice versa). The word "shall" is always mandatory, while the word "may" is merely directory. Headings and captions are for reference purposes only.

(b) Specific definitions.

Commission: The emergency management commission, an advisory body, created herein.

(Ord. No. 2021-53 , § 2, 12-21-2021)

Sec. 2.04.195. Membership; meetings.

- (a) Liability . The City of Dripping Springs Texas Municipal League liability coverage shall include the members of the commission to the extent allowed by law. The city attorney shall advise and represent the commission, as appropriate.
- (b) Ethical standards . Commission members shall comply with all ethical standards applied to officers of the city as stated in article 2.02 of the City of Dripping Springs Code of Ordinances.
- (c) Number of members .
- (1) The commission shall have 12 voting members,
 - (A) Three at-large members that shall be reside within Hays County.
 - (B) One each.
 - (i) Municipal member designated as emergency management coordinator;
 - (ii) Chamber of commerce representative;
 - (iii) Nonprofit organization;
 - (iv) Hays County Constable or designee;
 - (v) Emergency Services District Number 1 representative;
 - (vi) Emergency Services District Number 6 representative;
 - (vii) Hays County Emergency Manager or designee;
 - (viii) Dripping Springs Independent School District; and
 - (ix) Hays County Fire Marshal or designee.
 - (2) The commission may have subcommittees of at least three members, one of whom will be the subcommittee chair designated by the subcommittee at their first meeting. A vice-chair will be selected by the chair and approved by a majority of the subcommittee members. The vice-chair will serve as subcommittee chair in the absence of the chair. Subcommittees may invite input from non-committee members.
- (d) Terms of members and chair and vice-chair .
- (1) Each commission member will serve a two-year term, at the will of the city council. There is no limit as to how many terms a member may serve.
 - (2) The chair and vice-chair shall be appointed by the city council and serve a one-year term. There is no limit to the number of terms the chair or vice-chair may serve. In the event that the chair or vice-chair are absent, the emergency management coordinator will preside.
- (e) Member selection .

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- (1) Each year staff will prepare a slate of nominees for city council consideration. The slate will include nominees with a background and experience in those activities related to emergency management. The chair shall provide a recommendation for members seeking appointment or reappointment.
 - (2) The city council shall approve, reject, or modify the slate of nominees.
- (f) Resignation and vacancies.
- (1) A commission member may resign by notifying the city secretary in writing of their intent to resign.
 - (2) A failure to attend three or more sequential commission meetings without approval from the chair will constitute a de facto notification of intent to resign.
 - (3) Vacancies shall be filled by appointment, with the appointed replacement member being bestowed the remainder of the unexpired term.
- (g) Meetings.
- (1) The commission shall meet monthly at city hall, unless otherwise deemed appropriate by the chair. Agendas will be drafted by the commission chair, under the advisement of the emergency management coordinator.
 - (2) Designated subcommittees may meet more often, as coordinated with and arranged by the emergency management coordinator. Subcommittee agendas will be drafted by the subcommittee chair, under the advisement of the subcommittee members.
 - (3) The commission will make a written report to the city council each month to update the council on projects and progress.
 - (4) A quorum is required to take action as the Dripping Springs Emergency Management Commission.

(Ord. No. 2021-53 , § 2, 12-21-2021)

Sec. 2.04.196. Authority.

The commission has no authority to make decisions binding on the city. The commission's functions are purely advisory and not subject to the Texas Open Meetings Act. Meetings shall be noticed and generally open to the public except when limited by security, emergency, or related matters.

(Ord. No. 2021-53 , § 2, 12-21-2021)

Sec. 2.04.196.1. Responsibilities.

- (a) The commission shall advise the city council on recommended policies and application of policies for the development and implementation of an emergency management plan for the city and ETJ.
- (b) The commission shall advise the city council on recommended interlocal and mutual aid agreements related to emergency management operations in preparation for, during, and after a disaster or state of emergency.
- (c) The commission shall review and evaluate all current municipal ordinances of the city, identify provisions that relate to or apply to emergency management, and make recommendations to the city council for needed changes and/or additions.
- (d) The commission shall manage, staff, and operate an area emergency operations center when disaster, major incident, or event dictates that level of support to first responders in accordance with the approved City Emergency Management Plan, state law, and county and state plans as applicable.

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- (e) Identify and engage in protection, prevention, mitigation, response, and recovery planning and activities related to local conditions and needs.
 - (f) Recommend an annual operating budget for emergency management services with the assistance of the emergency management coordinator to the city council each fiscal year.

(Ord. No. 2021-53 , § 2, 12-21-2021)

Editor's note(s)—Ord. No. 2021-53 , § 2, adopted December 21, 2021, set out provisions intended for use as § 2.04.196. For purposes of classification, and at the editor's discretion, these provisions have been included as § 2.04.196.1.

Sec. 2.04.197 Emergency management plan.

- (a) The commission shall advise the emergency management coordinator in the development of an emergency management plan consistent with federal, state, and county standards and practices that addressed the unique and special needs of the city and ETJ. The plan will be submitted to the county emergency preparedness coordinator for approval prior to submission to the city council and county commissioners court. Upon approval, the plan will become an addendum or appendix to the county emergency management plan.
- (b) The commission shall review the plan annually and update as needed.
- (c) Public access to information. The committees work and work product will be subject to the Texas Public Information Act, Chapter 552 of the Texas Government Code.

(Ord. No. 2021-53 , § 2, 12-21-2021)

Sec. 2.04.198. Support.

- (a) City staff will provide logistical support to the commission and its subcommittees, as defined by access to city facilities for purposes of public meetings, access to city resources for purposes of copies and communications, and a designated staff liaison to coordinate and direct such support. Staff shall also provide a monthly report on emergency activities within the city to be presented at each commission meeting.
- (b) The city website will provide a page via the staff liaison upon which the commission may post:
 - (1) Meeting information;
 - (2) Agendas and minutes; and
 - (3) Resource materials, if any.

(Ord. No. 2021-53 , § 2, 12-21-2021)

Secs. 2.04.199—2.04.220. Reserved.