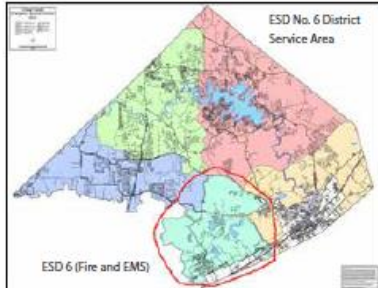


Comal County's Emergency Services District No. 6 (ESD No. 6)

Improved Local Fire and EMS Services

Emergency Services District No. 6 Modernization Initiative Brings New Facilities and Equipment.

Comal County's Emergency Services District No. 6 (ESD No. 6) provides fire and medical services for more than 9,000 persons residing in the district's 75 square miles of a combination of Texas hill country rural, wildland, and suburban settings, to include the Garden Ridge area. ESD No. 6 provides 24/7 emergency services through its service providers for fire protection, and advanced emergency medical services: *Bracken Volunteer Fire Department and Schertz Emergency Medical Services.*



Modernization Initiative.

During a recent ceremony, ESD No. 6 firefighter and emergency medical services first responders were celebrated as well as the results of the ESD's modernization initiative. This added a new fire truck, renovation of the Central Station, and a new substation, all to ensure best services for the citizens of the district.

According to ESD No. 6 President Commissioner Herb Coley, "Our ESD No. 6's focus is to provide best service to the citizens within our district. We continue to seek ways to modernize and improve service and response throughout the district. Our funding/tax strategy is to keep taxes low, use a no-debt philosophy, and provide the best service through our two providers - BVFD and Schertz EMS. We are proud of the high quality of work that these professional first responders provide to ESD No. 6."

The project included remodeling to its Central Fire Station and construction of equipment and apparatus bays at its newest substation. Plans allowed for full operations with no change to the professional and responsive emergency services the public has grown accustomed to during any portion of the construction.

The central station constructed in 1999 received a needed electrical and HVAC upgrade to meet current code, while also rearranging much of its space to better accommodate operations and crew living areas. Over time, the number of required fire crews and related equipment has grown to meet demand.

The new substation had adequate operations and sleeping space but lacked any bays for equipment or apparatus. The addition of the new equipment bay building permits this substation to be operational 24/7 and is helping to improve response to parts of our service area.



Central Station, 23600 FM
3009 San Antonio, TX 78266
Provided this 1999 constructed steel-framed building with a needed electrical and HVAC upgrade to meet current code, while also rearranging much of its space to better accommodate operations and crew living areas

The Comal County Precinct #2 Commissioner, the Honorable Scott Haag, was the keynote speaker at

the ceremony. He stated that he was pleased to join in the ceremony, especially to celebrate our first responders and those who help them to serve.

Commissioner Haag said that "the ESD No. 6 commissioners have done well in serving the district's citizens. This modernization initiative that we are celebrating today includes equipment and facilities but really recognizes the forward-thinking to keep pace with a growing district. The challenges of long response routes, unimproved roads, water access issues are just a few of the challenges that our providers face each day while serving you. I congratulate this team who managed things so well moving through the COVID pandemic, never missing a beat in response nor in keeping true to their vision of this modernization initiative. When others would have called a halt to these projects because of the lockdowns and challenges of COVID, your commissioners kept moving forward to 'get 'er done.'"

New Fire Truck.

The newest fire engine is a Pierce Enforcer Pumper, customized for the district's specific requirements. This state-of-the-art, best-in-class truck can provide either water or foam from its 1,000-gallon tank with the ability to disperse water at 1,500 gallons per minute. This \$800,000 investment has a service life of at least 20-years.



ESD No. 6 Commissioner Bill Waechter and Comal County Precinct #2 Commissioner Scott Haag at new Waechter Substation



ESD No. 6 Commissioner Bill Waechter (center) with BVFD Chief Donald Zipp (far left) and Bill's children and grandchildren

Bracken Volunteer Fire Department Fire Chief Donald Zipp indicated that "it serves as Bracken's primary tanker truck equipped to handle a variety of residential and commercial fire, EMS, and other emergencies. This engine's home is at the Central Station. With this on board, one of the other fire engines from the Central Fleet now is in service at the substation."

Central Station Renovation and Substation.

ESD No. 6 initiated a two-phase, \$1.9M construction project with work completed October 2021. This project was funded using programmed existing funds, so no debt was incurred.

ESD No. 6 Newest Site Named Waechter Substation.

For his more than 32-years of dedicated service to the district and the county, the substation was named the Waechter Substation for ESD No. 6 Commissioner William "Bill" F. Waechter.

The new substation came about through the hard work and planning of the ESD No. 6 Commissioners along with Bracken Volunteer Fire Department's Chief Zipp. To procure land and to construct this equipment bay incurring no debt is because of the skillful financial planning and management of Commissioner Bill Waechter who has served as the ESD's Treasurer since its beginning.



ESD No. 6 Commissioner Bill Waechter with ESD's newest fire truck

Bill Waechter has served with the highest distinction as a commissioner on the board of Emergency Services District No. 6 since 1989, at that time known as Comal County Rural Fire Prevention District No. 3. From our research, not only is he the longest-serving ESD Commissioner for ESD No. 6 and in all of Comal County, but very possibly for the entire state of Texas.

Through a unanimous resolution, for Commissioner Bill Waechter's exemplary and dedicated selfless service for the provision of Emergency Services to the residents of this district and Comal County, from this day forward, as a tribute to his many contributions and unwavering decades of continuous service to this

district and to its citizens, and as an example for future generations, Comal County Emergency Services District No. 6 Substation shall be known as the "Waechter Substation" with this boldly embodied in its new sign.

In addition, representing Chief W. Nim Kidd, Texas Division of Emergency Management, Darren L. Brinkoeter, Section Chief, Region 6 Texas Division of Emergency Management, presented a proclamation from Texas Governor Greg Abbott recognizing Bill's service and the naming of the substation in his honor.



Waechter Substation, Corner of Hwy 1863 and Delafield Drive, New Braunfels, TX 78132
Added equipment-apparatus-bays, permitting 24/7 operations and is helping to improve service response