

# RESOLUTION #2017-01

## A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CREATION OF THE PINEY WOODS 9-1-1 DISTRICT

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 772, Subchapter H, of the Texas Health and Safety Code, cited as the Regional Emergency Communications District Act (the "Act"), provides for the creation of a Regional Emergency Communications District; and


**WHEREAS**, the Act applies to a state planning region established under Chapter 391 of the Texas Local Government Code with a population of under 1.5 million, composed of counties and municipalities that operate a 9-1-1 system solely through a regional planning commission; and

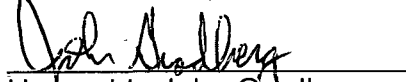
**WHEREAS**, the Act requires that the governing bodies of each participating county and municipality in the region adopt a resolution approving the creation of the Regional Emergency Communications District (the "District"); and

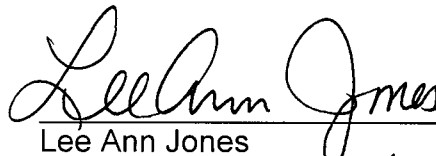
**WHEREAS**, Panola County exclusively receives 9-1-1 system services operated through the East Texas Council of Governments, a regional planning commission;


**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED THAT PANOLA COUNTY AUTHORIZES THE CREATION OF THE PINEY WOODS 9-1-1 DISTRICT**

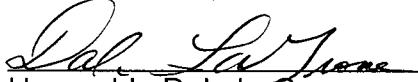
**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED** this 14<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2017 in Open Court.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Honorable Ronnie LaGrone  
Commissioner, Precinct One

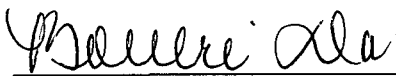
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Honorable John Gradberg  
Commissioner, Precinct Two

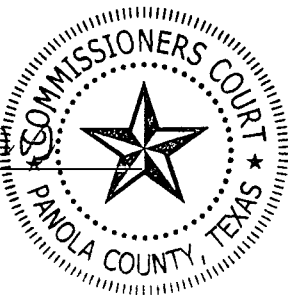
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lee Ann Jones  
County Judge

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Honorable Craig M. Lawless  
Commissioner, Precinct Three

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Honorable Dale LaGrone  
Commissioner, Precinct Four

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bobbie Davis, County Clerk





August 7, 2017

Honorable Lee Ann Jones  
Panola County  
110 S. Sycamore, Room 216-A  
Carthage, TX 75633

Dear Judge Jones,

On September 1, 2016, the East Texas Council of Governments (ETCOG) unanimously authorized ETCOG staff to begin the process of transitioning from a State administered and controlled 9-1-1 Program to an independent 9-1-1 District. There are many benefits to forming our own, locally governed 9-1-1 District. Some of these include.

- Local elected official control over the regional 9-1-1 program;
- Increased flexibility with how funding is used for 9-1-1 system technology purchases;
- Any carry over funding will be reinvested into regional needs instead of forfeited back to the State;
- Under the State program, we receive a portion of 9-1-1 funding generated for our region instead of the total allocation; as an independent district, we will receive 100 percent of our funds and
- The ability to build necessary reserves to ensure 9-1-1 system operations continue in the event unexpected circumstances emerge.

In order for our region to become an independent 9-1-1 district, State law requires that all Cities and Counties, within the ETCOG 9-1-1 program area, sign a resolution of support for creation of the district. To facilitate this process, enclosed is a draft resolution of support that meets all statutory requirements. In addition, an outline of 9-1-1 services currently provided by ETCOG to our jurisdictions and their corresponding Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) is included for your review.

We respectfully request that you place the resolution on the agenda for consideration at your next Commissioner's Court meeting; assuming you do not have any questions and are ready to act. Of course, Stephanie and I are available to respond to any questions you may have and with notice, we are also available to attend your Commissioner's Court meeting where this resolution will be discussed. Please advise us concerning your preferences and we will respond accordingly. Once approved, please return the signed original resolution to ETCOG with attention to Public Safety.

If current circumstances do not permit you to respond to this letter, a member of the ETCOG team will contact you soon to discuss this important initiative, how it positively impacts your jurisdiction, and respond to any questions you may have. In the meantime, feel free to contact us by telephone or email as set forth below if you have any questions. Thank you in advance for helping ETCOG serve your 9-1-1 needs even better than before.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David A. Cleveland".

David A. Cleveland, Executive Director  
(903) 218-6423 – Direct  
(903) 808-7559 – Cell  
[david.cleveland@etcog.org](mailto:david.cleveland@etcog.org)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephanie Heffner".

Stephanie Heffner, Director of Public Safety  
(903) 218-6461 - Direct  
(903) 331-6770 - Cell  
[stephanie.heffner@etcog.org](mailto:stephanie.heffner@etcog.org)