



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

DATE: August 19, 2014

AGENDA ITEM NO. 24

Consent Agenda ☐

Regular Agenda ☒

Public Hearing ☐

 **County Administrator's Signature:**

Subject:

Resolution revising the Emergency Medical Services Allowable Costs

Department:

Safety and Emergency Services

Staff Member Responsible:

Bruce J. Moeller, Interim Chief of Staff

Recommended Action:

I RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (BOARD), SITTING AS THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS) AUTHORITY, ADOPT THE ATTACHED RESOLUTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF REVISING THE EMS ALLOWABLE COSTS.

Summary Explanation/Background:

On March 20, 2009, the Board adopted Resolutions 09-37 and 09-38 establishing the level of service and categories of costs for Advanced Life Support (ALS) First Responder Services for Authority reimbursement. Such standards were based upon prior service agreements dating back to the early 90s.

During the staff work with the Cities and Fire Districts for the 2014 ALS First Responder Agreement, the issue of the operational costs of fire stations related to ALS First Response and program support and overhead costs directly related to EMS were discussed. Cities and Districts opined that all EMS providers should be compensated for the same cost components using a standard methodology.

Staff agreed to present and recommend the EMS Authority provide "station and overhead" costs to all EMS providers as an EMS allowable cost at the same time the Master ALS First Responder Agreement was brought to the EMS Authority for approval.

The cost components in the proposed Resolution mirror the EMS cost components that have been allowed for the Cities of Pinellas Park and St. Petersburg since the early 90s.

The adoption of this Resolution will further "level the playing field" for all EMS providers.

Fiscal Impact/Cost/Revenue Summary:

Estimated Annual Expenditure: \$406,894.22

Budgeted EMS funds are available.

Exhibits/Attachments Attached:

Resolution

RESOLUTION NO: 14 - _____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE PINELLAS COUNTY
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY
AMENDING CRITERIA FOR THE DETERMINATION
OF REASONABLE AND CUSTOMARY COST OF
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE PROVIDERS IN
ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF
CHAPTER 80-585, LAWS OF FLORIDA AS AMENDED.**

WHEREAS, The Florida Legislature in Chapter 80-585, Laws of Florida, as amended ("the Act"), established the Pinellas County Emergency Medical Services Authority ("Authority") which was subsequently approved by referendum of the electorate; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners is established as the governing body of the Authority; and

WHEREAS, the Authority is obligated to provide funding for the reasonable and customary costs associated with the provision of emergency medical services pursuant to the Act; and

WHEREAS, the Authority finds that certain costs to operate fire stations utilized for advanced life support (ALS) first responder services and certain overhead costs for providing ALS first responder services may be an allowable cost of emergency medical services.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA, sitting as the governing body of the Authority, in regular session duly assembled this ____ day of _____, 2014, that:

Section 1. The Authority, pursuant to the Act, amends the criteria for determination of reasonable and customary costs as set forth in the attachment to this resolution.

Section 2. Except as specifically modified herein, Resolutions 09-37 and 09-38 remain unchanged.

Section 3. Beginning in fiscal year 2014-2015 and through the term of, and any extensions to, the 2014 ALS First Responder Agreement, EMS providers may be additionally reimbursed for allowable costs identified in Exhibit A in an amount up to 1.0% of the applicable fiscal year's approved budget in which such expenditures were made, less any Authority funded EMS costs that exceed the provider's annual compensation for that fiscal year. Such payment shall be made by the Authority to the EMS provider after receipt and review of the audit attestation required by the ALS First Responder Agreement.

Section 4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon approval and shall be used in determining reimbursement for allowed costs for the fiscal year commencing October 1, 2014.

In a regular meeting duly assembled this _____ day of _____, 2014, Commissioner _____ offered the foregoing Resolution and moved its adoption, which was seconded by Commissioner _____ and upon call the vote was:

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSENT AND NOT VOTING:


APPROVED AS TO FORM
By 
County Attorney

Exhibit A

PINELLAS COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING ALLOWABLE COSTS

The proportion of Authority funded firefighter/paramedic positions to the total number of firefighter positions shall be determined for each EMS provider agency. Such proportion shall be applied to determine the proportionate share of any allowable costs below that are based on proportionate share.

The proportionate share of the following fire station costs are allowable: Electric, water, sewer, storm water fees, natural gas, refuse disposal fees, telephone, internet services, pest control, security services, grounds keeping and agricultural supplies, janitorial services and supplies, facility maintenance and repair, and fitness equipment.

The following administrative support costs that are specifically related to emergency medical services are allowable: proportionate share of administrative and clerical support staff, advertising, printing and binding, postage, copy machines, photo supplies, office supplies, travel for EMS related training/conferences, local mileage reimbursement, training fees, training supplies, EMS related memberships and reference materials.

The following operational support costs that are specifically related to emergency medical services are allowable: data processing, proportionate share of mobile data terminal replacement, proportionate share of mobile data terminal and radio repair and maintenance, proportionate share of cellular telephone costs, EMS equipment maintenance, small tools and equipment, equipment rental, materials handling equipment and maintenance, cleaning and disinfecting chemicals, laundry and dry cleaning, EMS medical commodities and supplies not provided by the Authority, operating equipment and supplies, proportionate share of food and ice utilized during the response to emergency incident or declared disaster.

The following personnel support costs that are specifically related to emergency medical services are allowable: tuition reimbursement for Authority funded firefighter/paramedic positions.