


**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

DATE: August 4, 2015  
AGENDA ITEM NO. 13

Consent Agenda ☒

Regular Agenda ☐

Public Hearing ☐

 **County Administrator's Signature:**

**Subject:**

Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (COPCN) for St. Joseph's Hospital, Inc.

**Department:**

Emergency Medical Services and Fire Administration

**Staff Member Responsible:**

Craig A. Hare, Director

**Recommended Action:**

I RECOMMEND THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (BOARD) ISSUE A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY (COPCN) TO ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL, INC. FOR THE PROVISION OF ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT AMBULANCE SERVICE FOR INTERHOSPITAL TRANSPORT OF NEONATAL AND CRITICAL CARE PEDIATRIC PATIENTS.

I ALSO RECOMMEND THE CHAIRMAN BE AUTHORIZED TO SIGN THE CERTIFICATE.

**Summary Explanation/Background:**

The COPCN process is a regulatory mechanism for licensing EMS providers within the County EMS System. Pinellas County Code Chapter 54, and in accordance with Section 401.25, F.S. requires entities providing ambulance services to obtain a COPCN in order to initiate the transport of a patient in Pinellas County.

St. Joseph's Hospital has operated a Neonatal/Pediatric Transport Team since 1992 and has been authorized to pick up neonatal and critical care pediatric patients in Pinellas County. Typically these patients are transported to St. Joseph's Hospital in Tampa for neonatal or pediatric intensive care. Currently, these services are authorized through a mutual aid agreement signed by the Ambulance Contractor.

The new 2015 Ambulance Service Agreement does not allow the Ambulance Contractor to enter into outside agreements. Issuing a COPCN ensures compliance with the new Ambulance Service Agreement and will clarify the regulatory oversight by the Board through the standard COPCN process.

Both St. Joseph's Hospital and the Ambulance Contractor support this action.

**Fiscal Impact/Cost/Revenue Summary:**

None

**Exhibits/Attachments Attached:**

COPCN for St. Joseph's Hospital

# PINELLAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY

ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL, INC., pursuant to Pinellas County Code, Chapter 54, and in accordance with Section 401.25, F. S., is authorized by the Board of County Commissioners, to provide Advanced Life Support Ambulance Service for Interhospital Transport of Neonatal and Critical Care Pediatric Patients.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman, Board of County Commissioners

EFFECTIVE: August 15, 2015  
EXPIRES: December 31, 2015

APPROVED AS TO FORM  
OFFICE OF COUNTY ATTORNEY

By   
Attorney

