EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DISTRICT #2 BOARD
MAY 30, 2006
CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON

The Board convened in the Clark County Commissioners' Hearing Room, 6th Floor, Public Service Center, 1300 Franklin Street, Vancouver, Washington. Board Members Boldt, Stuart, and Morris present.

AMBULANCE CONTRACT AWARD

Doug Smith-Lee, Emergency Services Manager, Clark Regional Emergency Services Agency, presented. Mr. Smith-Lee stated that under the interlocal agreement they provide the administration of the franchise contract with EMS District #2. He said the interlocal agreement requires that they provide it on an annual basis, as well as the participating jurisdictions. He explained that the EMS Administrative Board was a group comprised of citizens with healthcare expertise, legal expertise, finance law, and insurance. He said they review the annual report and are recommending approval. Smith-Lee said they want to benchmark themselves against the standards they have set in the contract, as well as benchmark themselves against other high-performance EMS system in the nation. He further explained. Smith-Lee described some of the highlights over the last year, including moving to a single dispatch center for 911 response. He said in previous years CRESA would do call-taking and ship the call to American Medical Response Northwest's (AMR) control center, but with the last bid AMR proposed to improve coordination of EMS response. In order to make that happen, one of the enhancements paid for by AMR was Automatic Vehicle Recognition (AVR). He further explained.

Boldt wanted to know if that's fed into the system when there's new road construction.

Smith-Lee said that as new neighborhoods or roads go in, GIS makes updates.

Stuart asked if that would be fed into that same program if they were doing construction on existing roadways and, if not, was there a way to partner up to have the Public Works Department provide that information.

Smith-Lee said information for large construction projects on existing roadways—not new roadways—is faxed or emailed to 911 and all EMS providers. He continued his presentation, stating that AMR had purchased a whole new fleet of ambulances. AMR also paid $40,000 towards the hiring of an EMS Data Analyst and that individual puts together the response time performance reports, as well as the clinical performance reports. Additionally, AMR also purchased 50 Automatic External Defibrillators (AED), with 25 going to response units that didn't previously have AED's and 23 going to law enforcement units. He said they purchased a life net system and provided further information. In addition, there were two new partnerships with Fire District 3 and Fire District 12 in which they purchased ALS supplies, as well as an ALS

transport capable unit. For District 11 they increased the unit hours for that ambulance being out on the road. Lastly, he said fees were lowered this past contract year. Smith-Lee said that in terms of reaching out to the community, AMR conducted 21 car seat clinics; held 72 classes in CPR; and provided nearly $25,000 in community education to prevent illness and injury. He described some of the benchmarking against other high-performance EMS standards as well.

Stuart referenced the graphs and noted that there had been several showing the mean and median. He asked if that was for the district or other service providers.

Smith-Lee said that pertained to other service providers. He said they are bench-marking themselves against 17 other high-performance systems.

[Brief discussion continued.]

Morris wanted to know how a public utility model pertained to the discussion about ambulance services.

Smith-Lee said there a number of different ways in which ambulance service is provided, one way being a public utility contract. He said the governmental entity owns the equipment, owns the infrastructure and does the billing. They just contract out for the operations.

Morris said where "District" is listed, that means us and do we have all those capabilities.

Smith-Lee said yes.

Morris asked if that was significantly advanced training.

Smith-Lee said yes.

Morris asked if this was the only EMS district that has that.

Smith-Lee said that under the Medical Program Director all the ambulance services are to provide that same level of care. He further explained. He pointed out that the ambulance service within the district is accredited. He said the district's unit hour cost and transport is below the mean and just slightly above the median. Smith-Lee also explained the annual audit report.

Boldt referenced one of the graphs and asked who's paying the bill.

Smith-Lee said it would be the patient or patient's family, or AMR will write it off for those who are uninsured or unable to pay. He further described the collection rates. He said if any of the jurisdictions chose to subsidize, at $27.23 per capita break out there would be no ambulance bill.

Boldt said they require ambulance service be provided for the jail and asked if the county is responsible for that.

Smith-Lee said his understanding was that the Sheriff's Office would be responsible.

Morris said that's a huge cost.

Smith-Lee summarized that they are providing a high level of care at a very efficient cost.

Boldt said for awhile there had been a lot of ambulance service at the Public Health Services Building. He asked if the county was paying for ambulance service to that building.

Smith-Lee said yes.

Bill Barron, County Administrator, confirmed that was correct, unless it's a veteran's assistance case.

There being no further comment, **MOVED** by Stuart to approve a revised equipment lease agreement between the EMS District 2 and American Medical Response Northwest. Board members Boldt, Stuart, and Morris voted aye. Motion carried. (See Tape 277)

There being no further comment, **MOVED** by Stuart to approve Resolution 2006-05-01 EMS2 adopting the ability to correct ambulance unit status times and addendum to the ambulance contract between the EMS District 2 and American Medical Response Northwest. Commissioners Boldt, Stuart, and Morris voted aye. Motion carried. (See 277)

There being no further comment, **MOVED** by Stuart to approve the 2005 Clark County EMS District 2 Annual Report. Commissioners Boldt, Stuart, and Morris voted aye. Motion carried. (See Tape 277)

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DISTRICT #2 BOARD

Marc Boldt, Board Member

Steve Stuart, Board Member

Betty Sue Morris, Board Member

Attest:

Deputy Clerk of the Board

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