

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA
M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Honorable Board of County Commissioners

THROUGH: Jason E. Brown, County Administrator

THROUGH: David Johnson, Director
Department of Emergency Services

FROM: Erin Sawyer, Staff Assistant IV
Department of Emergency Services

DATE: November 28, 2022

SUBJECT: Request from East Coast Ambulance, LLC. for a Class “B” Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Provide Non-Emergency Ambulance Inter-Facility Transports Originating from Indian River County and Class “C” Non-Emergency Inter-Facility Transports Requiring a Physician’s Order - Administrative

It is respectfully requested that the information contained herein be given formal consideration by the Indian River County Board of County Commissioners (the “Board”) at the next scheduled meeting.

Background:

Chapter 304 of the Indian River County Code of Ordinance (the “Code”) governs certificates of public convenience and necessity in Indian River County for various uses, including wheelchair vehicle services. Per section 304.07 of the Code, after an application has been received by Indian River County, the EMS director makes an investigation and a determination of the public need for the proposed service in the geographical area requested. As part of this investigation, the EMS director contacts the medical director, all other service providers in the county, and any municipality in which the applicant desires to provide service. The EMS director also is required to schedule a public hearing before the Board with notice to all other service providers in the requested service area, any municipality in the requested service area and to the general public by publication in the local newspaper with at least one week's notice.

At the public hearing, the Board shall consider the EMS director's recommendation and any input from other service providers, municipalities, or interested groups or citizens and may grant or deny the requested certificate of public convenience and necessity.

In making his recommendation, the EMS director shall consider the following factors:

- (a) The population density and composition of the likely areas within which the proposed

ALS, BLS, or nonemergency medical transport service will operate.

(b) The need of the people in the area for ALS, BLS, or non-emergency medical transport service.

(c) A comparison of estimated annual requests for service in the particular certificate category with the current number of vehicles satisfying requests.

(d) Such other factors as may be considered important by the EMS director.

Analysis:

On July 27, 2022, East Coast Ambulance submitted an application for Class “B” Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to provide non-emergency ambulance inter-facility transports originating within Indian River County and a Class “C” non-emergency inter-facility transports which require special clinical capabilities and require a physician’s order. Pursuant to the Code, staff initiated an investigation to be made regarding the application.

There are six (6) other providers who hold a Class “B” certificate in the County as follows:

All County Ambulance
American Ambulance
Cleveland Clinic Advanced Medical Transport
Coastal Health Systems of Brevard Inc.
National Health Transport, Inc.
United Medical Transportation

There are no other providers who hold a Class “C” Certificate in the County.

At an informal meeting, which was held on September 22, 2022, all current providers, municipalities, and interested groups were invited to attend for the purpose of receiving information about the proposed service and discuss the need for additional service in the County. The providers who attended voiced few concerns over the impacts generated by East Coast Ambulance, but will discuss those at the Public Hearing should they choose to.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the Board approve and grant a Class “B” & Class “C” COPCN to East Coast Ambulance, LLC for a period of two (2) years.

Attachments:

1. Application for Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for East Coast Ambulance, LLC

Due to the size of the entire application, it is available for review during regular business hours (8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday) at the Offices of Emergency Services.