

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: Tad Stone, Director
Department of Emergency Services

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

DATE: August 6, 2021

SUBJECT: Request from National Health Transport, Inc. for a Class “B” Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Provide Non-Emergency Ambulance Inter-Facility Transports Originating from Indian River County - 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 contact 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 non-emergency 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 June 1, 2021, National Health Transport, Inc. 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. Pursuant to the Code, staff initiated an investigation to be made regarding the application.

There are five (5) 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.
United Medical Transportation

At an informal meeting, which was held on July 1, 2021, 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. Only one of the current providers attended the meeting and they raised a few concerns over the impacts generated by National Health Transport, Inc. but will discuss those at the Public Hearing should they choose to.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the Board approve and grant a Class “B” COPCN to National Health Transport, Inc for a period of two (2) years.

Attachments:

1. Application for Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for National Health Transport, Inc.
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.