

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

TO: Honorable Board of County Commissioners

THROUGH: John A. Titkanich, Jr., County Administrator
David Johnson, Director of Emergency Services

FROM: Alicia Reyes, Staff Assistant IV
Department of Emergency Services

DATE: August 28, 2023

SUBJECT: Request from HCA Florida Lawnwood Hospital for a Class “B”
Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Provide
BLS/ALS Non-Emergency Ambulance Inter-Facility Transport
Originating within Indian River County

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 February 2, 2023, HCA Florida Lawnwood Hospital submitted an application for Class “B” Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to provide BLS/ALS Non-Emergency Interfacility transports originating within Indian River County. 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:

- RG Ambulance Services, Inc dba All County and American Ambulance
- Coastal Health Systems of Brevard
- Cleveland Clinic Advanced Medical Transport
- National Health Transport
- United Medical Transportation
- East Coast ambulance, LLC

On August 17, 2023, all current providers, municipalities, and interested groups were informed via letter of the request from HCA Florida Lawnwood Hospital of their proposed services and advised to respond by August 23, 2023, with any feedback. We received feedback from one provider over the impacts generated by HCA Florida Lawnwood Hospital, but will discuss those at the Public Hearing should they choose to.

Funding:

Funding for the advertisement for the Public Hearing process is budgeted and available in the Emergency Services Department – Fire Rescue account number 11412022-034910, for a total of \$ 117.99 which is funded from other professional services.

Description	Account Number	Amount
Emergency Services - Fire Rescue	11412022-034910	\$117.99

Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the Board approve and grant a Class “B” to HCA Florida Lawnwood Hospital for a period of two (2) years.

Attachments:

1. Application for Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for HCA Florida Lawnwood Hospital

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.