

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-069

Approving a change to ambulance staffing in accordance with the Settlement Agreement between Multnomah County and American Medical Response Northwest, Inc. (AMR).

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:

- A. Ambulance staffing is a state-required, material component of county ambulance standards. Multnomah County's standards are included in Ordinance 1238, County Code 21.400 et seq., and in contracts for ambulance services.
- B. Per Ordinance 1238, Multnomah County Code 21.417, and the contract for ambulance services, the Multnomah County Emergency Medical Services Medical Director (EMSMD) serves as the physician supervisor for all Emergency Medical Services (EMS) providers in the employ of licensed ambulance services within the county and working within the county.
- C. The EMSMD is responsible for approving the standards for training and continuing education for EMS providers. This includes issuing, limiting, and setting standing orders and authorization of 911 ambulance lead Paramedics, and 911 ambulance non-lead Paramedics.
- D. The current minimum emergency ambulance staffing standard is two Oregon State Licensed Paramedics, one an EMSMD certified and approved lead Paramedic, and one EMSMD County certified and approved non-lead Paramedic.
- E. The EMSMD may not implement protocols or take actions that would change the patient care standards specifically identified in the ASP or in County Code Chapter 21.400 et seq without approval of the Board of Commissioners (§ 21.417 (F)).
- F. The EMSMD is responsible for recommending any alteration of ambulance staffing standards when such a change is desirable or necessary. The criteria and process for an EMSMD recommended staffing change is referenced in Multnomah County's Ambulance Service Plan (ASP).

- G. Through a mediated dispute resolution process with AMR, the EMSMD has consulted an expert panel of operational and clinical experts to evaluate a staffing change proposal. This group and the EMSMD now recommend a temporary change to ambulance staffing standards as detailed in the Settlement Agreement between AMR and Multnomah County.
- H. The EMSMD continues to require one State Licensed and County EMSMD approved lead Paramedic on all ALS and Hybrid ALS ambulances.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Resolves:

To approve the ambulance staffing changes detailed in the Settlement Agreement, for the duration of the Settlement Agreement, and suspend those portions of the Ambulance Service Plan, Ordinance 1238, and all applicable provisions of the Multnomah County Code, including MCC § 21.406, that conflict with the Settlement Agreement.

ADOPTED this 15th day of August, 2024.



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

Jessica Vega Pederson, Chair

REVIEWED:
JENNY MADKOUR, COUNTY ATTORNEY
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By

Robert E. Sinnott, Senior Assistant County Attorney

SUBMITTED BY: Rachael Banks, Health Department Director