



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Public Health
Department No.: 041
For Agenda Of: 03/24/20: Set Hearing
04/21/20: First Reading
05/05/20: Second Reading
Placement: April 21, 2020
Estimated Time: 30 minutes
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Van Do-Reynoso, MPH, PhD
Director(s) Public Health Department
Contact Info: Nick Clay, Director, EMS Agency
(805) 681-5394
SUBJECT: Adopt an Ordinance Increasing Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency Fees for Emergency Medical Technician Certification and Re-Certification and Paramedic Accreditation

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: N/A

As to form: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

Request Board of Supervisors:

On March 24, 2020, set a public hearing on the Departmental Agenda of April 21, 2020 to consider a fee increase for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency Fees for EMT certification, EMT re-certification, and Paramedic accreditation.

On April 21, 2020:

- a) Receive a Presentation regarding Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and Paramedic certification and accreditation fees;
- b) Approve the introduction (First Reading) of an Ordinance to increase fees for EMS Agency Fees for EMT certification, EMT re-certification, and Paramedic accreditation;
- c) Read the title of the Ordinance and waive further reading of the Ordinance in full; and

- d) Continue the item to the Administrative Agenda for May 5, 2020 to consider the adoption (Second Reading) of an Ordinance increasing EMS Agency Fees for EMT certification, EMT re-certification, and Paramedic accreditation.

On May 5, 2020:

- i. Adopt the attached Ordinance (Second Reading) increasing EMS Agency Fees for EMT certification, EMT re-certification, and Paramedic accreditation with an effective date of July 1, 2020; and
- ii. Determine the above recommended actions are not a “Project” under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and that the actions are exempt per CEQA Guideline Section 15378(b)(5) as organizational or administrative activities of the government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment, and direct staff to file a Notice of Exemption (Attachment D).

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda for your Board to consider adopting an ordinance (Attachment B) to increase fees for EMT certification, EMT re-certification, and Paramedic accreditation. The Public Health Department (PHD) serves as the Local EMS Agency (LEMSA) and administers the EMT certification, EMT re-certification, and Paramedic accreditation processes in Santa Barbara County. Fees were established in 1981 and last increased in 2012. The LEMSAs ensure that all services offered are done in an efficient manner. The proposed fee increases establish the reasonable cost of administering certification provisions of the Emergency Medical Services System and the Prehospital Emergency Medical Care Personnel Act. (Health & Saf. Code §§ 1797 *et seq.*) To determine cost recovery, the LEMSAs conducted an activity-based fee study, ensuring that all processes were captured, and as a result recommends an increase to the current fees. The fee study was done in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and incorporated all costs incurred in providing services as well as OMB Circular 2 CFR 200 overhead charges. The Health and Safety Code expressly prohibits collecting a fee for Paramedic certification or re-certification. (§ 1797.212.)

Background:

The LEMSAs are statutorily responsible for planning, evaluating, and implementing an EMS System. (Health & Saf. Code §§ 1797.200, 1797.204.) The LEMSAs administer the EMT certification and Paramedic accreditation process in Santa Barbara County. The LEMSAs may establish fees to cover the cost of administering EMT certification and re-certification, as well as establish fees for Paramedic accreditation. (Health & Saf. Code § 1797.212; 22 CCR § 100172(a).)

The fee study was based on the actual cost of providing the service and is anticipated to increase cost recovery by \$4,855 annually.

Classification	Current Rate	Proposed Rate	Cases Per Year	Projected Yearly Revenue
EMT Certification	\$89.00	\$116.00	120	\$13,920
EMT Re-certification	\$57.00	\$59.00	200	\$11,800
New Paramedic Accreditation	\$209.00	\$245.00	23	\$5,635

Based on a recent survey of other LEMSA EMT and Paramedic fees across California counties (Attachment C), fees vary greatly, from \$0 to \$171 for EMT certification or re-certification; and \$0 to \$325 for Paramedic accreditation.

Performance Measure:

N/A

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

There is no increase in the use of the County’s General Fund resources by the PHD as a result of adopting this Ordinance. If adopted, the proposed fees will increase cost recovery by approximately \$4,855 in addition to the current budgeted amount of \$26,500. The projected total yearly revenue is \$31,355 and will be used to offset increasing EMS Agency operations costs.

The fee study incorporated all costs, both direct and indirect, with the provision of these services. Upon adoption of the Ordinance, PHD will plan to implement the proposed fee schedule on July 1, 2020. The increase in fees is included in the FY 20-21 Recommended Budget for the EMS Agency of the PHD.

This action will not result in a need for additional facilities.

Key Contract Risks:

N/A

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:
0

FTEs:
0

Special Instructions:

Original documents to be filed with the Clerk of the Board.

Please direct the Clerk of the Board to publish the attached Notice of Public Hearing (Attachment A) in a publication regularly published once a week five and ten days prior to the hearing, per Government Code Section 6062a.

Please execute two (2) Ordinances and retain one (1) executed Ordinance and a certified copy of the Minute Order for pickup by PHD. Please email PHDCU@SBPCPHD.ORG when the documents are ready.

Attachments:

- A. EMT and Paramedic Certification and Accreditation Fees Ordinance Strikethrough Version
- B. EMT and Paramedic Certification and Accreditation Fees Ordinance Final Version
- C. LEMSA Survey of EMT and Paramedic Certification and Accreditation Fee Study
- D. EMT & Paramedic Fees Ordinance Notice of Exemption
- E. EMT & Paramedic Fees Ordinance Public Notice
- F. EMT and Paramedic Certification and Accreditation Fees Presentation

Authored by:

Nicholas Clay, Emergency Medical Services Director