



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: June 18, 2019
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Van Do-Reynoso, MPH, PhD, Director
Director(s) Public Health Department
Contact Info: Nicholas Clay, Emergency Medical Services Director
805-681-5394
SUBJECT: Agreement for Emergency Air Medical Transport Services with CALSTAR Air Medical Services LLC (CALSTAR) and REACH Air Medical Services LLC (REACH)

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board consider the following recommendations:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement for professional services with CALSTAR/REACH to provide non-exclusive emergency air ambulance transport services within the County of Santa Barbara for the period of July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2023 with the County receiving \$103,575 for oversight costs (Attachment A).
- b) Find that the proposed action does not constitute a "Project" within the meaning of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Section 15378(b)(4) of the CEQA Guidelines, because it consists of the creation of government funding mechanisms or other government fiscal activities, which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant impact on the environment.

Summary Text:

This item is on the Agenda to execute an Agreement with CALSTAR/REACH's air ambulance transport services. All Emergency Medical Services (EMS) agencies that use air ambulance services are mandated by state regulations to set minimum standards for the integration of EMS aircraft and personnel into the local prehospital patient transport system. The EMS Agency is required to enter into an agreement with all Advance Life Support (ALS) providers providing services as part of an organized

EMS system. This Agreement with CALSTAR/REACH is for a non-exclusive air ambulance service area, serving the entire county.

Background:

Air transport programs play a significant role in EMS systems delivering critical patients to acute care centers and severely injured trauma victims to trauma centers. CALSTAR/REACH is a licensed Air Ambulance service defined by Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations, section 100280, as:

Air Ambulance - any aircraft specially constructed, modified or equipped, and used for the primary purposes of responding to emergency calls and transporting critically ill or injured patients whose medical flight crew has at a minimum two (2) attendants certified or licensed in advanced life support.

CALSTAR has operated as an air ambulance provider under an Agreement with Santa Barbara County since October 1, 2006. CALSTAR is a regional company with a flight operations based in Santa Barbara County, located at the Santa Maria Airport. In 2016, CALSTAR Air Medical Services LLC merged with REACH Air Medical Services LLC. CALSTAR/REACH is a subsidiary of Global Medical Response, Inc., which also owns American Medical Response. This provides the Santa Barbara County CALSTAR/REACH operations with access to a nationwide network of resources to enhance operational efficiency and improve clinical performance. The CALSTAR/REACH flight crew consists of a Pilot and two (2) critical care Flight Nurses (RNs), or one (1) critical care Flight RN and one (1) locally accredited Paramedic. CALSTAR/REACH's operations are accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport Systems (CAMTS). Prior to commencing flight duties, all Flight RNs and Paramedics undergo an intensive course (didactic & clinical) in aero medical transport, pediatrics, basic trauma life support and pre-hospital care.

This Agreement includes a detailed scope of operations with clearly defined performance requirements. CALSTAR/REACH agrees to comply with Santa Barbara County EMS Policies and Procedures. CALSTAR/REACH also agrees to only provide air medical transport services and patient care when requested through Santa Barbara County Public Safety Communication Center in accordance with Santa Barbara County EMS Agency's Air Medical Transport policy. The EMS Agency will review CALSTAR/REACH's contract performance.

Performance Measure:

Exhibit A of this agreement contains multiple performance measures, including maintaining current accreditation with the CAMTS, certification and licensing of staff, adhering to EMS Agency policies & procedures and following hospital flight guidelines.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: No

Fiscal Analysis:

By executing this agreement, CALSTAR/REACH agrees to pay the County \$103,575 for the term of the contract; \$24,758 for the first year of the contract and an additional 3% increase annually through FY 2022-23 to cover the costs of system oversight. This amount is not included in the FY 2019-20 Recommended Budget and the Public Health Department will return to your Board in FY 2019-20 with a Budget Revision request to amend the adopted budget for the revenues and appropriations for the agreement in the amount of \$24,758.

There is no increase in the use of the County's General Fund resources as a result of executing this agreement.

Key Contract Risks:

N/A

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:

0

FTEs:

0

There are no staffing impacts.

Special Instructions:

Please execute two (2) original Agreements with CALSTAR/REACH Air Medical Services and retain one (1) original Agreement and one (1) Minute Order for pick up by the department. Please email the PHD Contracts Unit at phdcu@sbcphd.org when available for pick up.

Attachments:

- A. CALSTAR/REACH Air Medical Services Agreement

Authored by:

Nicholas Clay, Emergency Medical Services Director