



County of Sonoma

State of California

Date: May 24, 2022

Item Number: _____

Resolution Number: _____

4/5 Vote Required

**Resolution Of The Board Of Supervisors Of The County Of Sonoma, State Of California,
Making Certain Findings And Adopting The County Of Sonoma's Written Policy Regarding
Emergency Ambulance Services Contracts Pursuant to AB 389**

Whereas, the County of Sonoma ("County") is committed to: improving the availability, quality, and sustainability of emergency medical services ("EMS") provided to the residents of and visitors to County; recognizing the diversity of agencies involved in the provision of EMS within County as well as the diverse needs of the rural and urban communities they serve; ensuring the coordination of the provision of health care within the out-of-hospital environment in Sonoma County is done in partnership with public safety agencies, public and private ambulance services, hospitals and health care systems as well as allied community partners; recognizing the resources and needs within County communities vary from rural to urban settings and to consider the EMS system as a whole in planning and coordination efforts; recognizing that some EMS services are provided by agencies with additional public safety responsibilities and to ensure consideration where appropriate is given to multi-disciplinary agencies' needs in providing services to their communities; and transparency and good governance in the regulation of EMS and emergency ambulance services; and

Whereas, the Board of Supervisors ("Board") adopted Ordinance No. 6294, Emergency and Pre-Hospital Medical Services System Ordinance of Sonoma County ("EMS Ordinance"), on November 12, 2019 to further the foregoing County commitments and express the Board's policies for consideration in selecting an exclusive provider for an exclusive operating area; and

Whereas, County designated the Department of Health Services ("DHS") as its local EMS agency for purposes of the Emergency Medical Services System and Pre-hospital Emergency Care Personnel Act of 1980 ("EMS Act") (California Health and Safety Code Sections 1797 *et seq.*); and

Whereas, California Health and Safety Code Sections 1797.85 and 1797.224 ("Section 1797.224") authorize DHS, upon County's recommendation, to designate, within DHS's local EMS plan, exclusive operating areas ("EOAs") for emergency ambulance services or providers of advanced life support or limited advanced life support using competitive or grandfathering processes; and

Whereas, on December 31, 2008, the County and American Medical Response West ("AMR") entered into an exclusive agreement for emergency ambulance service for the

exclusive operating area known as “EOA-1”, and the agreement was modified by the parties as modification number one, effective November 9, 2011, modification number two, effective October 18, 2013, and modification number three, effective July 1, 2019.

Whereas, the County and AMR now desire to enter into an Amendment Number Four for the purposes of extending the emergency ground ambulance agreement by approximately eighteen months.

Whereas, Assembly Bill 389, Ambulance Services, Stats. 2021 ch. 460 (“AB 389”) amends the EMS Act by enacting Health and Safety Code Sections 1797.230 (“Section 1797.230”) and 1797.231, effective January 1, 2022; and

Whereas, Section 1797.230(c), which may apply, provides that, on or after January 1, 2022, a county shall not enter into or renew a contract for emergency ambulance services unless the Board has adopted, by ordinance or resolution, a written policy setting forth issues to be considered for inclusion in the county contract for emergency ambulance services; and

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved the Board finds and declares that the foregoing recitals are true and correct.

Be It Further Resolved the County’s written policy setting forth issues to be considered for inclusion within county contracts for emergency ambulance services is reflected within the existing EMS Ordinance.

Supervisors:

Gorin: Rabbitt: Coursey: Hopkins: Gore:

Ayes: Noes: Absent: Abstain:

So Ordered.