



**SAN BENITO COUNTY
AGENDA ITEM
TRANSMITTAL FORM**

Dom Zanger
District No. 1
Vice-Chair

Kollin Kosmicki
District No. 2
Chair

Mindy Sotelo
District No. 3

Angela Curro
District No. 4

Ignacio Velazquez
District No. 5

Item Number: 1.17

MEETING DATE: 08/12/2025

DEPARTMENT: EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

AGENDA ITEM PREPARER: Kris Mangano

DEPT HEAD/DIRECTOR: Kris Mangano

SUBJECT:

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES - K. MANGANO

1. Approve an increase of \$180,000.00 to the 911 Ambulance subsidy with American Medical Response for the Fiscal Year 2025/2026, supplementing the current subsidy of \$421,458.00 and bringing the total annual subsidy to \$601,458.00; and

2. Approve a 3.4% increase (\$124.55) to the current base ambulance rate of \$3,663.14, resulting in a new base rate of \$3,787.69, effective September 1, 2025, pursuant to Section 9.03 of the Agreement to Provide Advanced Life Support Ambulance Service to the County of San Benito.

SBC FILE NUMBER: 1068

AGENDA SECTION:

CONSENT AGENDA

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:

Pursuant to Section 9.03 of the Agreement to Provide Advanced Life Support Ambulance Service to the County of San Benito, American Medical Response, the contracted 911 ambulance provider, is formally requesting a subsidy increase for the Fiscal Year 2025 in the amount of \$180,000.00, to supplement the current amount of \$421,458.00, bringing the total annual subsidy to \$601,458.00. Additionally an increase of 3.4% will be added to the current ambulance base rate of \$3,663.14. The ambulance base rate will increase by \$124.55 for a new base rate of \$3,787.69.

Based on the average of only 224 monthly transports, government payor sources exceeding 70% of the total insured, and a decreasing annual collection rate currently projected to linger under 20%, the subsidy increase is the only sound approach to safeguard fiscal stability in the current economic environment. The subsidy will be paid out of the CSA 36 funds, Advanced Life Support (paramedic services), which was adopted by the Board of Supervisors in 1990. The Benefit Assessment Unit (BAU)

is \$20.00, which is the maximum amount allowed.

The subsidy increase has been included in the budget.

RESOLUTION OR ORDINANCE NEEDED FOR THIS ITEM:

No

CONTRACT NEEDED FOR THIS ITEM:

No

RFP AND BID HISTORY:

Current contract with American Medical Response is effective July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2026.

The California EMS Authority designated the County as an Exclusive Operating Area without the use of a competitive bid process. This was done by using the grandfather provision of Health & Safety Code §1797.224 and to acknowledge that San Benito has continued using, in the same manner and scope without interruption of services, existing Emergency Ambulance Service Providers since January 1, 1981. On July 10, 2006, the California EMS Authority notified San Benito County EMS that it meets EOA grandfathering provisions of Health & Safety Code Section 1797.224.

LAST CONTRACT AMOUNT OR N/A:

Current subsidy of \$421,458.00 annually

CONTRACT HISTORY (Describe all amendments and previous contracts):

Contract History:

2004-2009 - no subsidy

2009-2014 - no subsidy

2014-2019 - no subsidy

2019-2021 - extensions on contract due to Covid

2021-2026 - current contract

Subsidy Amount Paid to AMR:

7/1/2019-6/30/2021 \$5,000 subsidy

7/20/2021 - December 2022 \$178,658 subsidy and added 3rd unit to the system (5% increase in ambulance base rate)

2023 calendar year -\$300,958 subsidy (5% increase in ambulance base rate)

2024 calendar year - \$421,458 subsidy (no increase in ambulance base rate)

2025 - requesting increase to \$601,458 subsidy with a 3.4% increase in ambulance base rate

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 1. Operational Development & Excellence

Yes

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 2. Planning And Sustainable Growth

Yes

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 3. Technology

No

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 4. Community Engagement

Yes

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 5. Health & Safe Community

Yes

BUDGETED:

Yes

BUDGET ADJUSTMENT NEEDED:

No

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Non-general Fund

UNFUNDED MANDATE:

No

SBC BUDGET LINE ITEM NUMBER:

227.15.2475.1000.619.250

CURRENT FY COST:

\$421,458.00

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

1. Approve an increase of \$180,000 to the 911 Ambulance subsidy with American Medical Response for the Fiscal Year 2025/2026, supplementing the current subsidy of \$421,458 and bringing the total annual subsidy to \$601,458.
2. Approve a 3.4% increase (\$124.55) to the current base ambulance rate of \$3,663.14, resulting in a new base rate of \$3,787.69, effective September 1, 2025, pursuant to Section 9.03 of the Agreement to Provide Advanced Life Support Ambulance Service to the County of San Benito.

ATTACHMENTS:

[AMR Rate Increase Request](#)
[AMR Contract 2021](#)