

6F-1

PALM BEACH COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date: December 7, 2021 [] Consent [X] Regular [] Workshop [] Public Hearing

Department: Fire-Rescue

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to approve: on preliminary reading and advertise for public hearing on December 21, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.; an ordinance of the Board of County Commissioners of Palm Beach County, Florida, amending Chapter 13, Article II, Division 3 of the Palm Beach County Code, known as the "Palm Beach County Fire Rescue Emergency Transport Fee Ordinance"; repealing and replacing section 13-58(b) to provide for an increase in emergency transport fees; providing for recitals; providing for repeal of laws in conflict; providing for savings clause; providing for severability; providing for inclusion in the code of laws and ordinances; providing for captions; and providing for an effective date.

Summary: The current fees for emergency transport services are as follows:

Table with 5 columns: Effective Date, Basic Life Support (BLS), Advanced Life Support-1 (ALS1), Advanced Life Support-2 (ALS2), Mileage. Row 1: January 1, 2018, \$670.00, \$670.00, \$830.00, \$13.50

The proposed ordinance amendment provides for an increase in the emergency transport fee schedule as follows:

Table with 5 columns: Effective Date, Basic Life Support (BLS), Advanced Life Support-1 (ALS1), Advanced Life Support-2 (ALS2), Mileage. Rows: January 1, 2022, January 1, 2023, January 1, 2024

Establishing these new rates will ensure that Fire Rescue continues to receive the Medicare maximum allowance for ground transportation services. These fees were last increased on January 1, 2018. The proposed rates are comparable to other billing agencies within the County and are estimated to result in an additional \$727,183 in revenues in the first full year. Countywide (SB)

Background and Policy Issues: The Board of County Commissioners established emergency transport fees through the enactment of Chapter 13, Article II, Division 3 of the Palm Beach County Code. Historically, Fire-Rescue has adjusted its emergency transport fees to remain comparable with other local agency rates. On January 1 of each year, Medicare publishes a new fee schedule for ground transportation services. Adopting these rates will ensure that Fire Rescue continues to receive the Medicare maximum allowance for emergency transport services.

- Attachments: 1. Ordinance 2. Local Agency Comparative Fee Schedule

Recommended by: [Signature] Assistant Fire Chief Date: 11-18-2021
Approved by: [Signature] Fire Rescue Administrator Date: 11-18-2021
Approved by: [Signature] County Administrator Date: 12/6/21

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal Years	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Capital Expenditures	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Operating Costs	<u>\$25,451</u>	<u>\$52,043</u>	<u>\$79,813</u>	_____	_____
External Revenues	<u>(\$727,183)</u>	<u>(\$1,486,944)</u>	<u>(\$2,280,378)</u>	_____	_____
Program Income (County)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
In-Kind Match (County)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
NET FISCAL IMPACT	<u>(\$701,732)</u>	<u>(\$1,434,901)</u>	<u>(\$2,200,565)</u>	_____	_____
 # ADDITIONAL FTE POSITIONS (Cumulative)	<u>0</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____


Is Item Included in Proposed Budget? Yes ___ No X

Does this item include the use of federal funds? Yes ___ No X

Budget Account No.: Fund 1300 Dept 440 Unit 4210
Revenue Source 4260 /Object _____

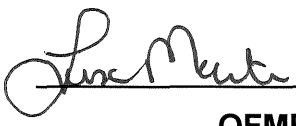
B. Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact:

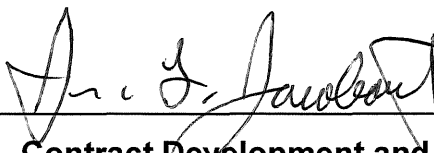
* This ordinance will allow for the incremental revenues as provided above.

C. Departmental Fiscal Review: 

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Development and Control Comments:

 11/18/21
OFMB AP 11/18/21

 12/2/21
Contract Development and Control
12-1-21 TW

B. Legal Sufficiency

 12/2/21
Assistant County Attorney

C. Other Department Review:

Department Director

REVISED 9/03
ADM FORM 01

(THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE USED AS A BASIS FOR PAYMENT.)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 13, ARTICLE II, DIVISION 3 OF THE PALM BEACH COUNTY CODE, KNOWN AS THE "PALM BEACH COUNTY FIRE RESCUE EMERGENCY TRANSPORT FEE ORDINANCE"; REPEALING AND REPLACING SECTION 13-58(b) TO PROVIDE FOR AN INCREASE IN EMERGENCY TRANSPORT FEES; PROVIDING FOR RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF LAWS IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE OF LAWS AND ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR CAPTIONS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners enacted Chapter 13, Article II, Division 3 of the Palm Beach County Code, known as the "Palm Beach County Fire Rescue Emergency Transport Fee Ordinance," which established fees to be charged by Palm Beach County Fire Rescue for the provision of transport services; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners desires to ensure the receipt of the Medicare maximum allowance for ground transport services; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:

SECTION 1. The foregoing recitals and findings are hereby confirmed and incorporated herein.

SECTION 2. Section 13-58, paragraph (b), of Chapter 13, Article II, Division 3 of the Palm Beach County Code, is hereby repealed and replaced in its entirety to read as follows:

(b) The following fees and service charges are to be imposed:

Effective January 1, 2022:

(1) BLS Transport Fee	\$690.00
(2) ALS1 Transport Fee	\$690.00
(3) ALS2 Transport Fee	\$850.00
(4) Mileage	\$14.00

Effective January 1, 2023:

(1) BLS Transport Fee	\$710.00
(2) ALS1 Transport Fee	\$710.00
(3) ALS2 Transport Fee	\$870.00
(4) Mileage	\$14.50

Effective January 1, 2024:

(1) BLS Transport Fee	\$730.00
(2) ALS1 Transport Fee	\$730.00
(3) ALS2 Transport Fee	\$890.00
(4) Mileage	\$15.00"

1 **SECTION 3. Repeal of Laws in Conflict:**

2 Any laws or ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance which Palm Beach County
3 is authorized to repeal are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

4 **SECTION 4. Savings Clause:** Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary,

5 the provisions of Section 13-58(b), Palm Beach County Code, as originally enacted,
6 amended, and in place prior to this Ordinance are hereby specifically preserved, and
7 shall remain in full force and effect, for the limited purpose of enforcing any alleged
8 violations of said law which occurred prior to its repeal or replacement.

9 **SECTION 5. Severability:**

10 If any section, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this Ordinance is
11 for any reason held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional,
12 inoperative or void, such holding shall not affect the remainder of this Ordinance.

13 **SECTION 6. Inclusion in the Code of Laws and Ordinances:**

14 The provisions of this Ordinance shall become and be made a part of the Code
15 of Laws and Ordinances of Palm Beach County, Florida. The sections of this Ordinance
16 may be renumbered or re-lettered to accomplish such, and the word “ordinance” may be
17 changed to “section”, “article”, or any other appropriate word.

18 **SECTION 7. Captions:** The captions, section headings, and section

19 designations used in this Ordinance are for convenience only and shall have no effect
20 on the interpretation of the provisions of this Ordinance.

21 **SECTION 8. Effective Date:**

22 The provisions of this Ordinance shall become effective upon the date this
23 Ordinance is filed with Department of State or January 1, 2022, whichever date is later.
24

25 **APPROVED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Palm
26 Beach County, Florida, on the _____ day of _____, 2021.

27
28 Attest:
29
30 Joseph Abruzzo, Clerk of the
31 Circuit Court & Comptroller

PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, BY ITS
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

32
33 By: _____
34 Deputy Clerk

By: _____
Robert S. Weinroth, Mayor

35
36
37 APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
38 LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

39
40 
41 _____
42 County Attorney

43 Filed with the Department of State on the _____ day of _____, 20____.

LOCAL AGENCY COMPARATIVE FEE SCHEDULE*

Prepared by Palm Beach County Fire-Rescue
Last Updated November 1, 2021

Agency	Effective Date	BLS	[SORT FIELD] ALS1	ALS2	Specialty	Oxygen	Miles
EST. MEDICARE ALLOWABLE RATE	2022	\$379.61	\$450.78	\$685.72			\$8.02
MIAMI DADE	2021	\$800.00	\$800.00	\$900.00	\$900.00		\$15.00
PALM BEACH GARDENS	2020	\$700.00	\$750.00	\$800.00	\$850.00	\$30.00	\$12.00
BOCA RATON	2021	\$750.00	\$750.00	\$850.00	\$850.00	--	\$12.00
PALM BEACH	2016	\$750.00	\$750.00	\$850.00	--	--	\$12.00
WEST PALM BEACH	2021	\$700.00	\$700.00	\$800.00	\$850.00	--	\$12.00
DELRAY BEACH	2021	\$650.00	\$700.00	\$800.00	\$850.00	--	\$12.00
PALM BEACH COUNTY (Proposed)	2022	\$690.00	\$690.00	\$850.00	--	--	\$14.00
BOYNTON BEACH	2018	\$690.00	\$690.00	\$850.00	--	--	\$14.00
NORTH PALM BEACH	2021	\$610.00	\$675.00	\$745.00	--	--	\$12.00
RIVIERA BEACH	2018	\$670.00	\$670.00	\$830.00	--	--	\$13.50
PALM BEACH COUNTY (Current)	2018	\$670.00	\$670.00	\$830.00	--	--	\$13.50
TEQUESTA	2021	\$610.00	\$670.00	\$845.00	--	--	\$12.00
GREENACRES	2021	\$670.00	\$670.00	\$830.00	--	--	\$13.50
AMERICAN MEDICAL RESPONSE	2020	\$450.00	\$550.00	\$800.00	--	\$30.00	\$10.50
MEDICS AMBULANCE SERVICE	2020	\$450.00	\$550.00	\$800.00	\$735.00	\$30.00	\$10.50
PALM BEACH COUNTY (Proposed)		\$690.00	\$690.00	\$850.00	n/a	n/a	\$14.00
Average Rate of Agencies Surveyed:		\$657.33	\$685.67	\$825.33	\$811.67	\$30.00	\$12.57
% Proposed Rate Over Average Rate		5.0%	0.6%	3.0%			11.4%
Rates if 10% above Average		\$723.07	\$754.23	\$907.87			\$13.82

*The above rates were obtained by Fire Rescue Support Staff through communication with staff at local agencies listed.