

Item Title: Approval of a Multi-Year Contract for EMS System Medical Director Services

Specific Action Requested:

The Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to execute a multi-year contract for the services of the EMS System Medical Director on behalf of Wake County, subject to the terms and conditions acceptable to the County Attorney.

Item Summary:

Purpose: The Board of Commissioners approves multi-year contracts.

Background: Wake County is required by general statute to provide medical oversight to the county EMS System. This oversight is provided through the combination of direct physician involvement (i.e., medical director and associate medical director), quality improvement practices, and a peer review committee. The medical director, a contracted provider, assists the EMS Director with tasks including, but not limited to, medical direction for emergency medical services, protocol development, clinical disciplinary procedures, chart review, and clinical evaluation of field technicians.

Staff recommend executing a multi-year contract with Wake Emergency Physicians, P.A. (WEPPA) for the services of Dr. Jefferson Williams. Dr. Williams has worked with the Wake County EMS System since September 2011 in various capacities. Most recently, he has served as the interim Medical Director since the departure of Dr. Jose Cabanas. Dr. Williams has extensive experience developing and implementing medical protocols and training and is deeply familiar with Wake EMS operations.

Strategic Plan: This action supports Safer Community Together Goal 1: By 2029, 80% of all County public safety calls will receive an appropriate and timely emergency response.

Fiscal Impact: The FY 2027 cost of \$343,786 will be paid out of Emergency Medical Services' FY 2027 Operating Budget. Ongoing expenditures will be included as part of the annual budget process.

Additional Information:

Staff recommends approving a five-year contract with WEPPA for Dr. Williams' services as Wake County EMS System Medical Director, rather than single-year contracts. The five-year contract will provide stability for the EMS System.

Details for the five-year contract are as follows:

The County shall compensate Wake Emergency Physicians, P.A. (WEPPA) for services provided during the initial term as follows: for services provided from July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027, the cost will be \$343,786. For each subsequent fiscal year, beginning July 1, 2027, the annual compensation shall equal the immediately prior year's annual compensation plus a 3% increase. The maximum amount payable for the five-year contract will be \$1,825,082.91. This amount represents the maximum amount payable during the initial contract term and includes annual compensation for each subsequent fiscal year during which this contract is in effect.

Attachments:

None.