

Item Title: Public Hearing on a request from Meraki HealthFirst Transport, LLC for a Non-Emergency Ambulance Franchise (First Reading)

Specific Action Requested:

That the Board of Commissioners holds a public hearing to grant a non-emergency ambulance franchise to Meraki HealthFirst Transport, LLC for the operation of a medical transportation service in Wake County effective October 8, 2019 for a five-year period.

Item Summary:

Purpose: Request from Meraki HealthFirst Transport, LLC for issuance of a Non-Emergency Ambulance Franchise.

Background: Meraki HealthFirst Transport, LLC of Raleigh, North Carolina, is requesting the issuance of an ambulance franchise for operation of a non-emergency convalescent-care medical transport service pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 111 of the Wake County Code of Ordinances.

EMS staff have reviewed Meraki HealthFirst Transport, LLC's application for a non-emergency convalescent-care franchise and has determined that Meraki HealthFirst Transport, LLC's representations are consistent with the requirements of Wake County's ambulance franchise ordinance.

Meraki HealthFirst Transport, LLC requests issuance of this franchise subject to the EMS Deputy Director's finding of "on-the-ground" compliance of Meraki HealthFirst Transport, LLC with Chapter 111 of the Wake County Code of Ordinances, and all applicable state statutes and regulations.

Board Goal: This action supports routine County operations.

Fiscal Impact: Award of a convalescent ambulance franchise represents permission to deliver non-emergency ambulance transportation services and does not involve county subsidies or payments. The County will receive \$2,392 for a one-time application fee to be deposited in the County's General Fund.

Additional Information:

There are currently five franchised non-emergency ambulance providers in Wake County including Meraki HealthFirst Transport, LLC.

Because a franchise ordinance requires two readings, if this request is approved by the Board of Commissioners on September 16, 2019, a second reading and approval will be required at the Board's October 7, 2019 meeting.

Attachments:

1. Ordinance Granting Franchise to Meraki HealthFirst Transport, LLC
2. Wake County, NC Code of Ordinances Chapter 111: Emergency Medical Services and Ambulance Services