

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO SAN DIEGO
COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING
MEETING AGENDA
TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2024, 9:00 AM
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER, ROOM 310
1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY, SAN DIEGO, CA 92101

- A. Roll Call
- B. Statement (just cause) and/or Consideration of a Request to Participate Remotely (emergency circumstances) by a Supervisor/Member/Director, if applicable.
- C. Non-Agenda Public Communication: Opportunity for members of the public to speak to the Board on any subject matter within the Board's jurisdiction but not an item on today's agenda.
- D. Approval of the Statement of Proceedings/Minutes for the meeting of March 12, 2024.

NOTICE: THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MAY TAKE ANY ACTION WITH RESPECT TO THE ITEMS INCLUDED ON THIS AGENDA. RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY COUNTY STAFF DO NOT LIMIT ACTIONS THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MAY TAKE. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC SHOULD NOT RELY UPON THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE BOARD LETTER AS DETERMINATIVE OF THE ACTION THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MAY TAKE ON A PARTICULAR MATTER.

Supporting documentation and attachments for items listed on the agenda can be viewed online at www.sandiegocob.com or in the Office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors at the County Administration Center, 1600 Pacific Highway, Room 402, San Diego, CA 92101. To access the meeting virtually and offer public comment via a call-in option, please go to: www.sandiegocounty.gov/telecomments for instructions.

ASSISTANCE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES:

Agendas and records are available in alternative formats upon request. Contact the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors office at 619-531-5434 with questions or to request a disability-related accommodation. Individuals requiring sign language interpreters should contact the Countywide ADA Title II Coordinator at (619) 531-4908. To the extent reasonably possible, requests for accommodation or assistance should be submitted at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting so that arrangements may be made. An area in the front of the room is designated for individuals requiring the use of wheelchair or other accessible devices.

LANGUAGE TRANSLATION ASSISTANCE:

Language translation services for public speakers are available upon request to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors at least 72 hours prior to the meeting (refer to Board Policy A-139 for additional information). Please contact the Clerk of the Board's office at (619) 531-5434 or via e-mail at publiccomment@sdcounty.ca.gov.

LEVINE ACT NOTICE: DISCLOSURES REQUIRED ON SPECIFIED ITEMS (GOVERNMENT CODE § 84308)

The Levine Act states that parties to any proceeding involving a license, permit or other entitlement for use pending before the Board must disclose on the record of the proceeding any campaign contributions of more than \$250 (aggregated) made by the parties or their agents to Board Members within the preceding 12 months. Participants with financial interests, and agents of either parties or participants, are requested to disclose such contributions also. The disclosure must include the name of the party or participant and any other person making the contribution; the name of the recipient; the amount of the contribution; and the date the contribution was made. This disclosure can be made orally during the proceeding or in writing on a request to speak.

Agenda Items

CONSENT CALENDAR

All agenda items listed under this section are considered to be routine and will be acted upon with one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a member of the Board of Directors or the Chief Administrative Officer so requests, in which event, the item will be considered separately in its normal sequence.

Agenda #	Subject
1.	ESTABLISHING REVENUE AGREEMENT FOR SERVICES WITHIN THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT GROUND AMBULANCE SERVICE AREA

1. SUBJECT: ESTABLISHING REVENUE AGREEMENT FOR SERVICES WITHIN THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT GROUND AMBULANCE SERVICE AREA (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

On May 23, 2023 (FP 01), the Board of Directors authorized the San Diego County Fire Protection District's (SDCFPD) Executive Director, or designee, to enter into an agreement with the County of San Diego to exclusively provide and/or manage emergency ambulance transportation services in the areas where the County has, or will have, the responsibility for ambulance transportation services. On September 30, 2023, the SDCFPD Ground Ambulance Service Area (ASA) became operational through a public-private partnership with CAL FIRE and American Medical Response (AMR). The SDCFPD became responsible for billing for ambulance transports and minimizing the financial impact to the County of San Diego.

Within the ASA exists large congregate care facilities with volumes of patients needing emergency and non-emergency ambulance transportation to local hospitals. One of the largest prisons is the California Department of Correction's (CDCR) R.J. Donovan facility in East Otay Mesa. In the first six months the ASA has been operational, there have been an average of 157 monthly ambulance transports from the facility. Penal Code Section 5023.5 provides statutory limits on reimbursements for ambulance transports, which is capped at 120% of the Medicare rate. Without a contract for services, a provider may only be reimbursed for 100% of Medicare. There is currently no such contract in place with the SDCFPD.

Today's request is for the Board of Directors to approve a revenue agreement of up to \$3.0 million annually between SDCFPD and Network Providers LLC, an affiliate of Health Net Federal Services, a CDCR-contracted healthcare provider, for ambulance transportation reimbursement. It also includes a request to waive Board Policy B-29 Fees, Grants, Revenue Contracts-Department Responsibility for Cost Recovery, which requires prior approval and full cost recovery for revenue agreements.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

1. Authorize the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, on behalf of the San Diego County Fire Protection District, to execute a revenue agreement with Network Providers, LLC, an affiliate of Health Net Federal Services, a California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation contracted healthcare provider, in an amount up to \$3.0 million annually, for ambulance transportation services to ensure the San Diego County Fire Protection District collects at least 120% of the Medicare reimbursement rate through December 31, 2033.
2. Authorize the Executive Director, or designee, of the San Diego County Fire Protection District to execute all required documents, including any extensions, amendments, or revisions thereto that do not materially impact either the program or funding level.
3. Waive Board Policy B-29 Fees, Grants, Revenue Contracts-Department Responsibility for Cost Recovery which requires prior approval and full cost recovery for revenue agreements.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Advanced (paramedic) and Basic (Emergency Medical Technician) Life Support ambulances are critical components to an emergency medical services (EMS) system that seeks to reduce health disparities in our region. Maximizing revenue from health insurance companies and congregate care facilities ensures the San Diego County Fire Protection District Ground Ambulance Service Area has the financial resources to provide an equitable level of ambulance coverage in unincorporated communities.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Approving revenue agreements supports a San Diego County Fire Protection District Ground Ambulance Service Area that is fiscally sustainable and provides for just and equitable access to County resources.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this request are partially included in the Fiscal Year 2023-24 Operational Plan for San Diego County Fire Protection District and are based on the current rate. Funds for Fiscal Year 2024-25, estimated at \$3,000,000, are included in the Fiscal Years 2024-26 CAO Recommended Operational Plan for the San Diego County Fire Protection District. Funds for subsequent years will be included in future Operational Plans for San Diego County Fire Protection District based on estimated costs and revenue for each year within the term of the agreement. There is no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A