

A RESOLUTION

TO REQUEST REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GREENVILLE HOSPITAL SYSTEM AND BON SECOURS ST. FRANCIS TO MEET TO FORMULATE A PLAN FOR THE FUTURE OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FOR GREENVILLE COUNTY.

WHEREAS, Greenville County's foremost responsibility is to ensure the safety and health of its residents; and

WHEREAS, the mission of Greenville County's Emergency Medical Services ("EMS"), as compassionate professionals, is to provide exceptional pre-hospital care in a timely and efficient manner to the citizens and visitors of Greenville County; and

WHEREAS, EMS is a unique public service system because it interfaces in multiple public healthcare arenas and plays a vital role not only in individual patient care, but also in the community's public safety and public health arenas; and

WHEREAS, the healthcare environment is changing and hospitals will no longer be reimbursed by fee for service, but instead hospitals' reimbursement will be based on quality of care; and

WHEREAS, the Affordable Care Act's reimbursement schedule for hospitals make EMS a vital part of being able to maximize the reimbursement for care for hospitals; and

WHEREAS, EMS' current compensation from Medicare and insurance is based on fee for service, and future EMS reimbursements may be changed; and

WHEREAS, EMS has a projected loss of five million dollars for 2016-2017 Budget Year, and any plan to change the operation and management of EMS must be based on a fiscally sound decision for Greenville County because a Mobile Integrated Health Practice ("MIHP") will greatly reduce Greenville County EMS' income; and

WHEREAS, a MIHP will be important to both hospitals in Greenville and a successful MIHP must rely on collaboration of all providers of health services, and all providers must work together to improve access to the appropriate levels of care through the entire health continuum, otherwise population management efforts will not work; and

WHEREAS, a proposed agreement has been made to form a partnership between Greenville County and the Greenville Health System ("GHS") for management and developing a MIHP, but GHS and Bon Secours/St. Francis ("BSSF") have not agreed as to how to work together if a MIHP is developed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY GREENVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL that Greenville County Council is asking that by September 30, 2015, GHS representatives and BSSF representatives meet together, without any County representation present, and formulate a plan as to how they can work together to develop a MIHP to improve access, outcomes and value for the citizens of Greenville County. This proposed plan should then be presented to the County so that a formal contract, which addresses several additional County issues, may be agreed upon by all parties in order to implement the plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the event that either GHS or BSSF refuse to meet or are unable to find a workable plan, Greenville County will then look at alternatives to previous proposals and the current EMS operation. Any alternatives will include looking at the current management of day-to-day operations and medical oversight including the position of medical director for EMS.

DONE IN REGULAR MEETING THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2015.

GREENVILLE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

Bob Taylor, Chairman
Greenville County Council

ATTEST:

Theresa B. Kizer
Clerk to Council

Joseph M. Kernell
County Administrator