

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

TO : THE CITY COUNCIL
FROM: THE CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

COUNCIL MEETING DATE
AUGUST 2, 1989

SUBJECT: LODI AMBULANCE SERVICE (DIVISION OF LIFE MEDICAL AMBULANCE) AMENDED RATES

PREPARED BY: City Manager

RECOMMENDED ACTION: That the City Council review the requested amended rate schedule for ambulance service in the City of Lodi and take action as deemed appropriate.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The City Code provides that the City Council "reserves the right to finally determine and fix by resolution, the rates to be charged by the operator of the ambulance service." Mr. Michael N. Nilssen, owner-operator of Lodi Ambulance Service, has, in accordance with the provisions of the City Code, filed with the City Clerk a request to amend the ambulance rates charged in the City of Lodi. A copy of the requested new rate schedule is attached (Exhibit A). Also attached (Exhibit B) is a copy of a letter from Ms. Elaine L. Hatch, the County of San Joaquin's Emergency Medical Services Coordinator, advising of the action of the County Board of Supervisors to establish the County ceiling for ambulance rates. The request of Lodi Ambulance Service is in accordance with the new ceiling. The basic rate ceiling was increased 15%; the advanced life support rate ceiling was increased 5%; and the oxygen rate ceiling was increased 7%. The other charges remain unchanged. The new rate schedule would be effective August 10, 1989. The last increase was effective December 1, 1988. The County's plan is to from this point forward review the ambulance rate schedule at mid-year. Previous reviews were toward the end of each year. A copy of the appropriate resolution is also attached (Exhibit C).

Mr. Nilssen will be in attendance at Wednesday night's meeting to present this request and to answer any questions Councilmembers may have.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas A. Peterson
City Manager

TAP :br

Attachments

COUNC606

EXHIBIT A

JUL 10 '89

LIFE MEDICAL INDUSTRIES, INC.

Ambulance and Paramedic Service
City Manager's Office

July 10, 1989

Mr. Thomas Peterson
City Manager
City of Lodi
221 W. Pine St.
Lodi, CA 95240

Re: Fee Adjustment
Board of Supervisors R-89

Dear Mr. Peterson:

San Joaquin County has established a fee adjustment schedule yearly for the month of **June**. This schedule will be extensively evaluated yearly by the County **Emergency Medical Services Agency**.

Since January of 1989, an extensive evaluation of our financial records and **Statewide ambulance fee surveys** have been conducted by the County **Emergency Medical Services Agency** in conjunction with the County Health Care Services under the **direction and supervision of Michael N. Smith, Director**. We believe the thoroughness and **history of the fee investigation is ample protection of the consumers of ambulance service in Lodi**. We are giving a 30 day notice under City of Lodi Ordinance **1347, Section 25 of our fee adjustment**.

Enclosed is a fee schedule adopted by the Board of Supervisors effective **June 1, 1989**. I will make myself present at your convenience for discussion and comment.

Respectfully,



Michael N. Nilssen

MN:M1rd

encl:

Life Medical Industries, Inc.
Service Rate Adjustments

	<u>Current Rate</u>	<u>Proposed Rate</u>
Base Rate, Non-emergency	\$148.00	\$170.00
Advance Life Support	\$356.00	\$375.00
Emergency	\$ 46.00	\$ 46.00
Night Call, 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.	\$ 46.00	\$ 46.00
Oxygen	\$ 28.00	\$ 30.00
Mileage	\$ 8.60	\$ 8.60

EXHIBIT B

JUL 10 '89

City Manager's Office



SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY HEALTH CARE SERVICES
POST OFFICE BOX 1020
STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA 95201
TELEPHONE 468-6818

June 29, 1989

Thomas A. Peterson, City Manager
city of Lodi
Call Box 3006
Lodi, CA 95241-1910

Dear Mr. Peterson:

The Board of Supervisors recently increased the county's ceiling for ambulance rates. The attached resolution was adopted by the Board of Supervisors on June 13, 1989. Increases were granted in the BLS base rate, the ALS base rate, and oxygen charges. The remaining charges were left unchanged. The Ordinance requires ambulance providers to post changes in their rates at least 30 days prior to implementation, and receive the approval of the EMS Agency. Requests for increases above their ceiling must receive the additional approval of the City they serve.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Elaine L. Hatch
EMS Coordinator

ELH:DG

c: E. DeSelms, Ambulance Ordinance Officer

Enclosure

BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SAG JOAQUIN,
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

R-89-490

RESOLUTION SETTING AMBULANCE RATES

-oOo-

Effective June 1, 1989

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors hereby sets the ambulance rates under the Ordinance Code of San Joaquin County, Section 4-7909 as follows:

I. POLICIES

- A. Ambulance providers may charge rates equal to or below the rates listed in Sections II & III below.
- B. The rate structure applies to county areas and to incorporated areas where the City Council has adopted the ordinance.
- C. Changes in rates must be posted with the EMS Agency at least 30 days prior to its implementation.

II. MAXIMUM RATES FOR BASIC LIFE SUPPORT SERVICES

Base Rate	\$ 170.00
Emergency	\$ 46.00
Night	\$ 45.00
Oxygen	\$ 30.00
Mileage	\$ 8.60

iii. MAXIMUM RATES FOR ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT SERVICES

Not to exceed \$375.00, not including the following maximum charges:

Night Call	\$ 46.00
Oxygen	\$ 33.00
Mileage	\$ 8.60

IV. CHARGES ABOVE MAXIMUM RATES

An ambulance provider may charge above the rates listed in Sections II and III above after meeting the following conditions:

- A. The ambulance provider must present justification for its higher charges to the city Council within its service zone.
- B. Upon the City Council approval and the Board of Supervisors' concurrence with the higher charges, the ambulance provider may set higher fees for its service areas.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 13th day of June, 1989 by the following vote of the Board of Supervisors to wit:

AYES : BARBER, WILHOIT, SIMAS, COSTA

NOES : NONE

ABSENT: SOUSA

ATTEST: JORETTA J. HAYDE
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
of the **County** of San Joaquin,
State of California

By CAROL TAYLOR
Deputy Clerk



EVELYN L. COSTA

EVELYN COSTA, CHAIFMAN
Board of Supervisors
County of San Joaquin
State of California

DIST: COB-Orig.; CAP-2
county Counsel, HCS-2

CITY COUNCIL

JOHNR. (Randy) SNIDER, Mayor
DAVID M. HINCHMAN
Mayor Pro Tempore
EVELYN M. OLSON
JAMES W. PINKERTON, Jr.
FRED M. REID

CITY OF LODI

CITY HALL, 221 WEST PINE STREET
CALL BOX 3006

LODI, CALIFORNIA 95241-1910
(209) 334-5634

TELECOPIER (209) 133.6795

THOMAS A. PETERSON
City Manager

ALICE M REIMCHE
City Clerk

BOB McNATT
City Attorney

August 4, 1989

Mr. Michael N. Nilssen
CEO
Life Medical Industries, Inc.
P.O. Box 692170
Stockton, CA 95269-2170

Dear Mr. Nilssen:

Enclosed herewith please find a certified copy of Resolution No. 89-93 approving the amended fee schedule for service provided by Life Medical Industries, Inc. which was adopted by the Lodi City Council at its Regular Meeting of August 2, 1989.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to call this office.

Very truly yours,


Alice M. Reimche
City Clerk

AMR/jmr

Enclosure

RESOLUTION NO, 89-93

A RESOLUTION OF THE LODI CITY COUNCIL
APPROVING AMENDED FEE SCHEDULE FOR SERVICE PROVIDED BY
LIFE MEDICAL INDUSTRIES, INC.

RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Lodi does hereby approve the amended fee schedule for service provided by Life Medical Industries, Inc., effective August 10, 1989, as shown on Exhibit A attached hereto and thereby made a part hereof.

Dated: August 2, 1989

I hereby certify that Resolution No. 89-93 was passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Lodi in a regular meeting held August 2, 1989 by the following vote:

Ryes : Council Members - Hinchman, Olson, Pinkerton, Reid and Snider (Mayor)
Noes : Council Members - None
Absent: Council Members - None

Alice M. Reimche
Alice M. Reimche
City Clerk

Life Medical Industries, Inc.
Service Rate Adjustments

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Mileage	\$ 8.60	\$ 8.60

Dear Council Members

RECEIVED
1989 JUN - 24 AM 11:48
ALICE M. KENNEDY
CITY CLERK
CITY OF LODI

I understand that you are to consider possible rate increases again for Lodi Ambulance Service. I feel their rates are so high now that any additional approved increase would be an insult to every person in this town.

Recently a friend of mine was taken from Lodi Mem. Hospital to Dr's Hospital for test and back. Lucky he had insurance the bill was \$405.²⁰ What Lodi Ambulance needs is competition from another ambulance company not a rate increase again

MORRIS KIRST
1 So. Mills
Lodi CA
Ph. 369-6210