



CITRUS COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES • SEPTEMBER 22, 2021

Emergency Meeting

Citrus County Courthouse

5:15 PM

Room 100, 110 N. Apopka Avenue, Inverness, FL 34450

A. CALL TO ORDER

September 22, 2021 Citrus County Courthouse

The meeting was called to order at 5:15 PM

- 1. Invocation**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Roll Call**

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Scott Carnahan	Chair, District 4	Present	
Ronald E. Kitchen Jr.	1st Vice Chair, District 2	Present	
Ruthie Davis Schlabach	2nd Vice Chair, District 3	Remote	
Jeff Kinnard D.C.	Commissioner District 1	Present	
Holly L. Davis	Commissioner, District 5	Remote	
Denise A. Dymond Lyn	County Attorney	Present	
Charles R. Oliver	County Administrator	Present	
Amy Charley	Deputy Clerk	Present	

B. EMERGENCY MEETING: DETERMINE THE ADVISABILITY OF CONTINUING THE DECLARATION OF GENERAL EMERGENCY**B.1. Emergency Meeting - Declaration of General Emergency**

The Board of County Commissioners will hold an Emergency Meeting on September 22, 2021 at 5:15 pm to determine the advisability of continuing the Declaration of General Emergency relating to emergency medical transportation executed on September 17, 2021.

County Administrator Charles R. Oliver and Fire Chief Craig Stevens provided an update, followed by Board discussion with Mr. Oliver and Mr. Stevens.

County Attorney Denise A. Dymond Lyn provided an explanation regarding the Declaration of General Emergency, followed by Board discussion with Mr. Oliver.

Motion to continue the Declaration of General Emergency relating to emergency medical transportation executed on September 17, 2021 and authorize the Chairman to sign it.

Jennifer Rey, General Counsel for Nature Coast Emergency Medical Services commented.

Ms. Lyn responded to comments from Ms. Rey, followed by Board discussion with Mr. Oliver and Ms. Rey.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Ronald E. Kitchen Jr., 1st Vice Chair, District 2
SECONDER:	Jeff Kinnard D.C., Commissioner District 1
AYES:	Carnahan, Kitchen Jr., Schlabach, Kinnard D.C., Davis

C. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

The following citizens addressed the Board of various issues: Scott Baxter, CEO of Nature Coast Emergency Medical Services; and Mary Hedges, Chairman of the Nature Coast EMS Board of Directors.

Public Works Director Randall Olney, Fire Chief Craig Stevens, and Commissioners responded to comments from the public.

D. UPCOMING MEETING

1. Regular Meeting: September 28, 2021 at 1:00 PM , Citrus County Courthouse, Room 100, 110 N. Apopka Avenue, Inverness, FL 34450
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E. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 5:49 PM



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

FROM:	Charles R. Oliver, County Administrator
SUBJECT:	Emergency Meeting - Declaration of General Emergency
AGENDA DATE:	September 22, 2021

BRIEF OVERVIEW:

The Board of County Commissioners will hold an Emergency Meeting on September 22, 2021 at 5:15 pm to determine the advisability of continuing the Declaration of General Emergency relating to emergency medical transportation executed on September 17, 2021.

BUDGET IMPACT/FUNDING SOURCE:

Account No.	Account Title	Current Budget	YTD Expenditures	Encumbrances	Available Balance
					\$0

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The Board of County Commissioners will hold an Emergency Meeting on September 22, 2021 at 5:15 pm to determine the advisability of continuing the Declaration of General Emergency relating to emergency medical transportation executed on September 17, 2021.

**PROCLAMATION DECLARING A STATE OF GENERAL EMERGENCY,
CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA**

WHEREAS, emergency medical transportation services are essential to the health and well-being of all citizens of Citrus County; and

WHEREAS, Citrus County has engaged Nature Coast Emergency Medical Foundation, Inc. to manage and operate emergency transport and medical services for the transportation of ill, injured or otherwise incapacitated persons; and

WHEREAS, Citrus County has engaged Nature Coast Emergency Medical Foundation, Inc. to respond to all requests for Advanced Life Support and Basic Life Support ambulance service in Citrus County, including emergency calls from residents, the Citrus County Sheriff's Office, police departments, fire departments, the Florida Highway Patrol and various other governmental agencies; and

WHEREAS, on September 14, 2021, the Board determined that because of increased funding requests, the County would transition from Nature Coast Emergency Medical Foundation, Inc., providing services to the County providing such services beginning on October 1, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Citrus County has a duty to take protective measures to support the public health and safety of the community; and

WHEREAS, Section 252.38(3)(a)(5), Florida Statutes, provides authority for counties to declare a State of General Emergency; and

WHEREAS, after due and reasonable effort, it is not possible to convene the Board of County Commissioners in a special emergency meeting; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Citrus County Code Section 30-35, in the event a special meeting of the Board of County Commissioners cannot be convened, the Chair of the Board of County Commissioners may declare a state of general emergency; and

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to Citrus County Code Section 30-35, I hereby resolve, find, and declare:

1. The above recitals are true.
2. I am the duly selected Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners of Citrus County, Florida.

3. After due and reasonable effort, it is not possible to convene the Board of County Commissioners in a special emergency meeting.
4. Pursuant to Citrus County Code Section 30-35, in the event a special meeting of the Board of County Commissioners cannot be convened, the Chair of the Board of County Commissioners may declare a state of general emergency.
5. The lack of emergency medical transport services, appropriate equipment and appropriately trained personnel to respond to emergency calls poses a serious threat to the health of the citizens, residents, and guests of Citrus County. A State of General Emergency is hereby declared in Citrus County, Florida, effective for seven (7) days beginning 3:00 p.m., this 17th day of September, 2021.
6. On behalf of the Board of County Commissioners, I hereby waive the procedures and formalities otherwise required of Citrus County pertaining to:
 - a. Performance of public work and taking whatever prudent action is necessary to insure the health, safety, and welfare of the community.
 - b. Entering into contracts.
 - c. Incurring obligations.
 - d. Employment of permanent and temporary workers.
 - e. Utilization of volunteer workers.
 - f. Rental of equipment.
 - g. Acquisition and distribution, with or without compensation, of supplies, materials, and facilities.
 - h. Appropriation and expenditure of public funds.
7. The County Administrator, or his designee is hereby empowered, authorized, and directed to exercise, on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners, such emergency powers as are necessary to carry out the provisions of Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, including, but not limited to, requesting

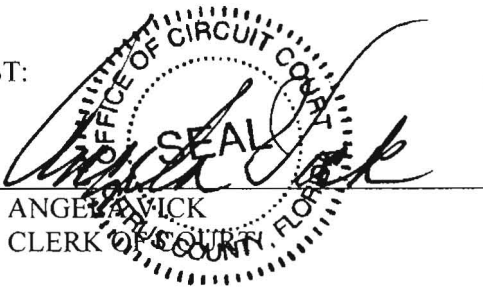
assistance from the state or invoking emergency-related mutual-aid assistance to perform emergency medical response and transport services and taking whatever prudent action is necessary to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the community, while under a State of General Emergency, as well as any other powers expressly or implicitly conferred pursuant to Chapters 125 and 252, Florida Statutes, and any other provision of law or county ordinance.

8. This authority shall extend only for the period of the State of General Emergency, as determined by the County Administrator or his designee, or until further action by the Board of County Commissioners terminates such authority or declares that the State of General Emergency has ended.

ATTEST:

By: _____

ANGELA WICK
CLERK OF COUNTY



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: _____

SCOTT CARNAHAN
CHAIRMAN



Board of County Commissioners Executive Office

110 N. Apopka Ave., New Courthouse, Inverness, Florida 34450
(352) 341-6560 • Toll Free From Citrus Springs/Dunnellon • (352) 489-2120
Fax (352) 341-6584 • Website: www.citrusbocc.com

Our Vision

"We are a user-friendly and common sense organization dedicated to responsive citizen services."

September 17, 2021

Nature Coast Emergency Medical Foundation, Inc.
c/o Mary Hedges, Chairman
3876 W. Country Hill Dr.
Lecanto, FL 34461
and via email – maryfran.hedges@gmail.com

RE: Termination of Contract

Dear Ms. Hedges,

On January 8, 2020, Nature Coast Emergency Medical Foundation, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as "Nature Coast EMS"), was notified of the Board of County Commissioners of Citrus County, Florida's (hereinafter referred to as "BOCC"), determination that Nature Coast EMS was not in compliance with the parties' agreement dated September 19, 2017. Nature Coast EMS was given forty-five days to come into compliance. On February 13, 2020, Nature Coast EMS was given notice of its deficiencies regarding its certificate of public convenience and necessity and given until February 28, 2020, to demonstrate that it was financially and operationally able to maintain emergency medical transport services at a level that protected the public's interests. Nature Coast EMS hired Fitch & Associates to review its operation and make recommendations to enable Nature Coast to become fiscally viable and meets its operational requirements and on June 23, 2020, Fitch & Associates, presented its plan and recommendations to the BOCC. On September 22, 2020, the parties amended the September 19, 2017 agreement to address Nature Coast's operational and financial issues, however, despite the County's increase in the subsidy paid Nature Coast and assumption of some of Nature Coast's financial liabilities, Nature Coast continues to have staffing and financial issues that prevent it from meeting its contractual obligations and adequately serving the public's need for emergency and non-emergency transport. As a result of Nature Coast EMS's continued noncompliance with the terms of the September 19, 2017 agreement, as amended on September 22, 2020, Citrus County, Florida hereby terminates its agreement with Nature Coast EMS effective October 1, 2021.

Sincerely,

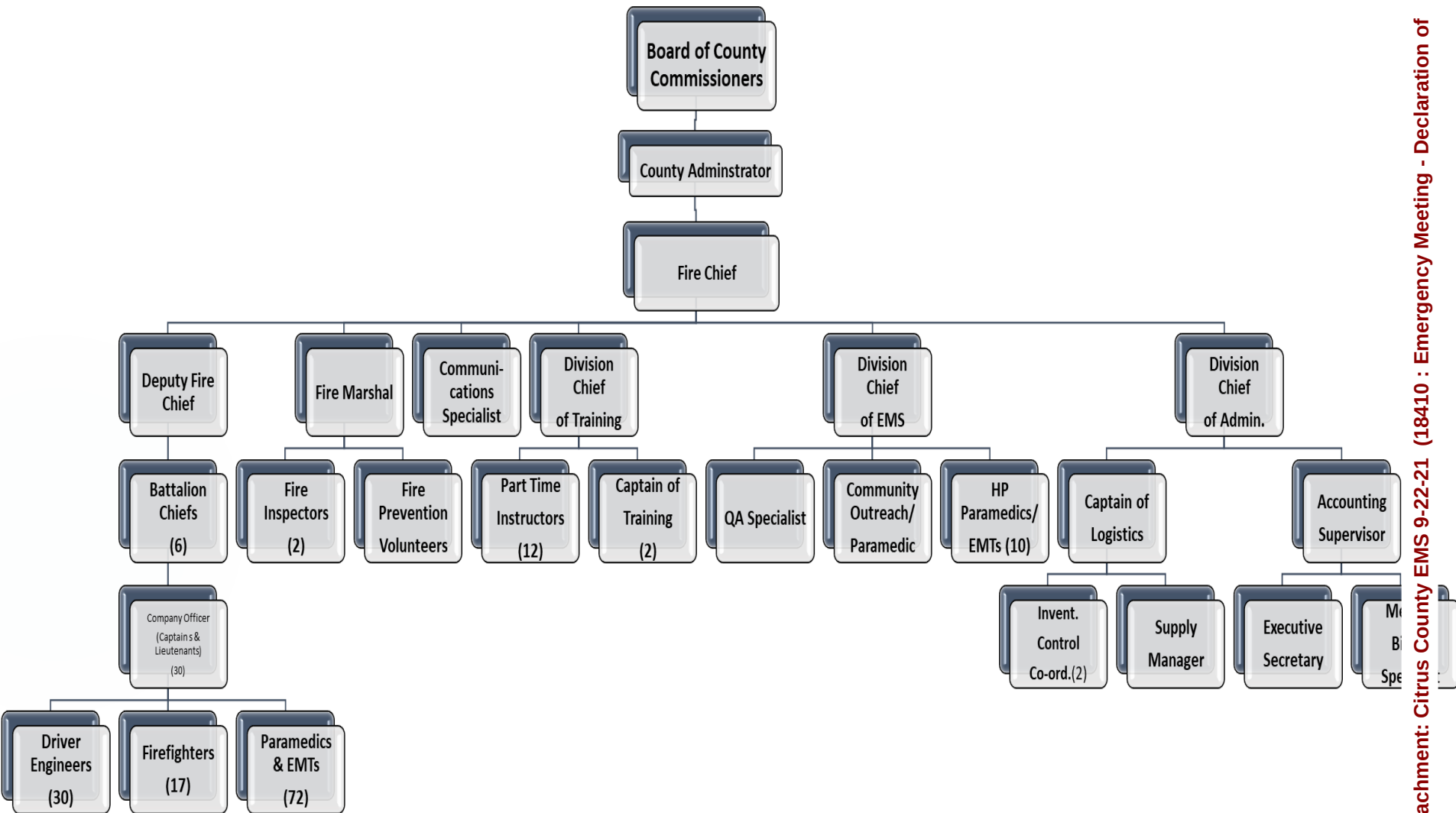
Charles R. Oliver
County Administrator



Citrus County Emergency Medical Services

September 22, 2021

Citrus County Fire Rescue/ Emergency Services



EMS Funding Current Year

EMS FUND

Revenues:

State Revenue Sharing -transfer	\$	653,165
Sales Tax - transfer		888,788
Total Revenues	\$	<u>1,541,953</u>

Expenses:

Equipment Maintenance	\$	91,800
Software Maint./ Support		285
Office/ Non-capital equipment		165,786
Uniforms		4,720
Computer Accessories		22,093
Computer Software		28,050
Medical Supplies		24,391
Machinery & Equipment		<u>1,204,828</u>
Total Expenses	\$	<u>1,541,953</u>



EMS Proposed Budget FY21-22 - Revenues

EMS FUND

Revenues:

Ambulance Fees	\$ 9,946,454
Medicaid Reimbursement	98,000
General Fund - Transfers (A)	1,749,522
Transfers - ARPA (B)	1,186,746
Total Revenues	<u>\$ 12,980,722</u>

(A) General Fund Transfers includes Sales Tax \$500K, Cash Carryforward \$862,749, & Contingency \$386,773.

(B) ARPA - reserve for Capital Projects



EMS Proposed Budget FY21-22 - Expenses

B.1.c

Expenses:

Personal Services	\$	8,081,039
Professional/Contractual Services		568,026
Communication Services		48,358
Office supplies, postage, printing, misc.		8,200
Utility Services		25,147
Rentals & Leases		66,448
Lease Payoffs		933,707
Insurance/ GL Claims		138,477
Repairs and Maintenance:		
Vehicles, Equipment, General		601,735
Software Support		317,861
Non-capital equipment		68,300
Uniforms		46,545
Fuel and Lubes		309,284
Computer Accessories		14,950
Medical Supplies		487,327
Dues, Memberships		1,592
Machinery & Equipment		860,000
Annual CAD Maintenance		100,000
Staff Support - Other Funds		237,585
Reserve Cash Forward		66,141
Total Expenses	\$	12,980,722

Attachment: Citrus County EMS 9-22-21 (18410 : Emergency Meeting - Declaration of



CAD Funding

FY 2021-22 Budget

CIP - General Fund	\$ 994,388.34
Fire Services	\$ 994,388.33
American Rescue Plan Act	\$ 994,388.33
Total	<u>\$ 2,983,165.00</u>



Questions?



Proof of Publication

from the
CITRUS COUNTY CHRONICLE
Crystal River, Citrus County, Florida
PUBLISHED DAILY

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF CITRUS

Before the undersigned authority personally appeared

Theresa Holland and/or Mary Ann Naczi and/or Tonya Knight and/or Jeanne Ethridge

Of the Citrus County Chronicle, a newspaper published daily at Crystal River, in Citrus County, Florida, that the attached copy of advertisement being a public notice in the matter of the Court,

2147-0920 MCRN PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Citrus County Board of County Commissioners will conduct an Emergency Meeting on Wednesday September 22, 2021, at 5:15 PM in the Citrus County Courthouse, 110 North Apopka Avenue, Inverness

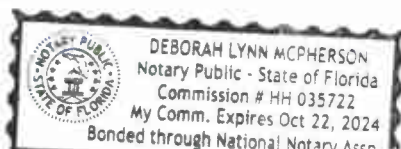
was published in said newspaper in the issues of
September 20th, 2021,

Affiant further says that the Citrus County Chronicle is a Newspaper published at Crystal River in said Citrus County, Florida, and that the said newspaper has heretofore been continuously published in Citrus County, Marion County and Levy County, Florida, each week and has been entered as second class mail matter at the post office in Inverness in said Citrus County, Florida, for a period of one year next preceding the first publication of the attached copy of advertisement; and affiant further says that he/she has neither paid nor promised any person, firm or corporation any discount, rebate, commission or refund for the purpose of securing this advertisement for publication in the said newspaper.

Jeanne Ethridge
The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me.

This 20th day of Sept 2021
By: Theresa Holland and/or Mary Ann Naczi and/or Tonya Knight and/or Jeanne Ethridge
who appeared by (X) means of physical presence or () via online notarization.

Deborah L. McPherson
Notary Public



2147-0920 MCRN PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Citrus County Board of County Commissioners will conduct an **Emergency Meeting on Wednesday September 22, 2021, at 5:15 PM** in the Citrus County Courthouse, 110 North Apopka Avenue, Inverness Florida to determine the advisability of continuing the Declaration of General Emergency relating to emergency medical transportation executed on September 17, 2021.

Any person requiring reasonable accommodation at this meeting because of a disability or physical impairment should contact the County Administrator's Office, 3600 W. Sovereign Path, Suite 267, Lecanto, FL 34461, (352) 527-5210, at least two days before the meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired, dial 7-1-1, 1-800-955-8771 (TTY) or 1-800-955-8770 (v), via Florida Relay Service.

If you need a Spanish Translator, please make arrangements with the County by telephone within two days of the publication 352-527-5370

Si necesita un traductor de español por favor haga arreglos con el Condado dentro de dos días de la notificación de la publicación 352-527-5370

Any person who decides to appeal an decision of the Governing Body with respect to any matter considered at this meeting will need a record of the proceedings and for such purpose may need to provide that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. (Section 286.0101, Florida Statutes)

Published September 20, 2021

Communication: Proof of Publication (Adjourn)

Ad # 5001 22
\$ 20.42

SEP 23 '21 10:55