

**MINUTES  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

A meeting of the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board (the “Board”) was held on Tuesday, December 13, 2022, at 10:00am in the IS&T Conference Room, Lafayette City Hall.

Attendees: Stephanie Arceneaux, Dr. Paul Azar, Lance Beal, Chris John, and William Ritchey  
Absent: Dr. Anu Desai and Karen Rue  
Guests: Debbie Sonnier, Executive Secretary to CAO, Cydra Wingerter, Lafayette Consolidated Government  
Troy Guidry, Regional Vice President, Acadian Ambulance and Air-Med Services

**Call to Order**

Board Chairman, Dr. Paul Azar, called the meeting to order at 10:01am in accordance with Article II, Section 7-18 of the Lafayette City-Parish Consolidated Government Code of Ordinances (the “Code”).

**Approval of Minutes**

Copies of the March 17, 2022 meeting minutes were provided to Board members for review. Upon completion of the review of the minutes, motion was made by Board member, Chris John to accept the minutes of the March 17, 2022 meeting of the Board. The motion was seconded by Board member, William Ritchey. There was no further discussion and the vote was as follows:

Yeas: Stephanie Arceneaux, Dr. Paul Azar, Lance Beal, Chris John, and William Ritchey  
Nays: None  
Absent: Dr. Anu Desai and Karen Rue

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Acadian Service Contract and Rates**

Troy Guidry, Regional Vice President, was in attendance to answer questions from the Board. He presented the 2023 rates of which represented a 3% increase from 2022 noting that this was less than the Medical CPI which is currently at 6.5%. There were noted concerns of fuel costs, increase in overtime pay due to staff shortages, increase in call volume as well as an increase in long distance transports. Some of the issues discussed are being seen nationwide in all industries. Board member, Lance Beal voiced concern of the possibility of an increase in rates during the year and could we be proactive and stay ahead. Guidry assured the board that Acadian meets monthly to stay on top of all concerns in hopes of not having to propose an increase during the year.

There was a motion by Board member, William Ritchey, seconded by Board member, Stephanie Arceneaux to accept the 3% increase for 2023. There was no further discussion and the vote was as follows:

Yeas: Stephanie Arceneaux, Dr. Paul Azar, Lance Beal, Chris John, and William Ritchey

Nays: None  
Absent: Dr. Anu Desai and Karen Rue

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Board Chairman, Dr. Paul Azar expressed that Acadian has done a fine job and met the standard in spite of dealing with extreme costs of operating. He also noted that Acadian had met the response time criteria.

**Board Vacancies**

Effective March 1, 2023 there will be two board vacancies. The first position held by William Ritchey who is not eligible for re-appointment and the second held by Stephanie Arceneaux who is eligible for re-appointment. Board member, Stephanie Arceneaux expressed her desire to serve another term. Board Member, William Ritchey spoke of someone interested in the vacant position and will advise to send in a resume.

With William's term expiring, he was thanked by all for his service. Board Chairman, Dr. Paul Azar expressed his appreciation to William and stated that his service and friendship had been outstanding.

**Other Business**


Dr. Azar opened the floor for any other business. It was announced that the next meeting would be scheduled in either February or March.

There being no other business, a motion was made by Board member, Lance Beal to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Board member, Chris John. There was no other discussion, and the vote was as follows:

Yeas: Stephanie Arceneaux, Dr. Paul Azar, Lance Beal, Chris John, and William Ritchey  
Nays: None  
Absent: Dr. Anu Desai and Karen Rue

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:18am.

  
Stephanie Arceneaux  
Board Secretary