

**Creating An EMS Advisory Board For The County Of Ulster**

Referred to: The Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee (Chairman Briggs and Legislators Gregorius, Loughran, Maio, and Ronk) and The Public Health and Social Services Committee (Chairman Lopez and Legislators Allen, Belfiglio, Litts and Provenzano)

Chairman John Parete and Legislators Carl Belfiglio, Thomas Briggs, Craig Lopez and Mary Wawro offer the following:

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Article 5 Section 223-B (EMS training and mutual aid programs) of New York County Law, “Any county may create a County EMS Advisory Board and may establish the office of county EMS coordinator”; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Resolution No. 253 of 2009, the Ulster County Legislature supported the creation of a Volunteer Coordinator For Emergency Medical Services in Ulster County; and

WHEREAS, Section C-11K of the Ulster County Charter authorizes the County Legislature to appoint citizens' committees, commissions and boards.” and Section C-16 of the Charter states, “Members of all citizens’ committees, commissions and boards appointed pursuant to § C-11K of this Charter shall serve at the pleasure of the County Legislature. They shall serve without compensation other than for actual and necessary expenses within appropriations made therefor, unless otherwise provided by resolution of the County Legislature. The Chairman of the County Legislature shall be a member ex officio of all such committees, commissions and boards.”; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature recognizes that volunteers and career personnel serve as the backbone of the local Fire Departments, Emergency Responders and Ambulance/ Rescue Squads and as such, is committed to supporting these professionals to ensure the safety of all Ulster County’s residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, Emergency Medical Services ("EMS") are a branch of emergency services dedicated to providing out-of-hospital acute medical care and/or transport to definitive care, to patients with illnesses and injuries which the patient, or the medical practitioner, believes constitute a medical emergency; and

WHEREAS, the goal of EMS is to provide treatment to those in need of urgent medical care, with the goal of satisfactorily treating the injury / illness, and arranging for timely transportation of the patient to the next level of definitive care; and

**Resolution No. 276      August 19, 2014**

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WHEREAS, the term Emergency Medical Service evolved to reflect a change from a simple transportation system (ambulance service) to a system in which actual medical care occurred in addition to transportation; and

WHEREAS, it shall be the duty of such board to cooperate with appropriate state agencies in relation to such programs for EMS training, EMS-related activities and mutual aid; to act as an advisory body to the county government and to the county EMS coordinator in connection with the county participation in such programs for EMS training, EMS-related activities and mutual aid and mutual aid programs in cases of emergencies in which the services of EMS providers would be used; to perform such other duties as may be prescribed in relation to EMS training, EMS-related activities and mutual aid in cases of emergencies in which the services of EMS providers would be used; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, the Ulster County EMS Advisory Board shall consist of not more than 21 voting Members to be appointed by the Chairman of the Ulster County Legislature bi-annually, and is hereby created and established for the purposes of:

- i) Advising the Ulster County Legislature on EMS-related issues
- ii) Advising the Legislature on the adoption, repeal or amendments to Laws and Regulations as they relate to Ulster County EMS-related functions;

and, be it further

RESOLVED, membership of the Ulster County EMS Advisory Board should include, but not be limited to, representatives from the Ulster County Fire Coordinator's Office, volunteer fire departments, ambulance / rescue squads, basic life support first responder agencies, health care professionals, and local government officials; and, be it further

RESOLVED, representatives from Ulster County government may be called upon from time to time to advise the EMS Advisory Board at the request of the Chairman of the Ulster County Legislature or the EMS Advisory Board; and, be it further

RESOLVED, the Ulster County EMS Advisory Board shall issue an annual report to the County Legislature no later than March 1<sup>st</sup> of the proceeding year,

and move its adoption.

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ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:                  NOES:

Passed Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on \_\_\_\_\_.

Passed Committee: Public Health and Social Services on \_\_\_\_\_.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

NONE