



AGENDA COVER MEMO

Memorandum Date: June 10, 2025

Order Date: June 24, 2025

TO: Board of County Commissioners

DEPARTMENT: Health & Human Services

PRESENTED BY: Eve Gray, Director

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: ORDER____/ IN THE MATTER OF ESTABLISHING A LIMITED-DURATION TASK FORCE TO ADDRESS CHALLENGES FACING EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES IN LANE COUNTY WITH MEMBERS LISTED IN TASK FORCE ROSTER

I. MOTION

In the Matter of Establishing a Limited-Duration Task Force to Address Challenges Facing Emergency Medical Services in Lane County.

II. DISCUSSION

The Lane County Department of Health and Human Services, Division is requesting the establishment of a Task Force to address the challenges facing Emergency Medical Services (EMS) in Lane County and advise solutions for long-term sustainability.

III. BACKGROUND / IMPLICATIONS OF ACTION

A. Board action and other history

At the Board meeting on 10.22.2024, the Board heard from Health and Human Services Director Eve Gray, Eugene-Springfield Fire Chief Mike Caven and Oakridge Mayor Bryan Cutchen about the challenges facing EMS providers and funding in Lane County. The Board gave approval for the Health and Human Services Department to proceed with preparations and assembling personnel from county EMS providers and jurisdictions to join an EMS task force, in line with the model of the previously assembled Joint Elected Officials Ambulance Taskforce in October 2011.

On 01.28.25, Director Gray updated the Board and requested an extension to the start of this work due to not all municipalities having the capacity to participate in the spring. The Board agreed to this request.

In the intervening months, Director Gray has worked with the local fire chiefs to identify participants for the task force. All ambulance service areas have identified participants.

B. Policy Issues

A task force may be created by the County Administrator following an Order from the Board of County Commissioners (Lane Manual 3.105).

C. Board Goals

Maintaining the stability of the emergency medical system in Lane County is directly in line with the strategic priority of “A Safe, Healthy County”.

D. Financial and/or Resource Considerations

The only anticipated resource will be staff time required to support the task force.

E. Health Implications

Lane County residents' access to emergency medical services is critical for offering the right care at the right time and positively impacts overall health and well being of the community.

F. Analysis

For the 06.24.25 Board meeting, the Board of Commissioners is being asked to formally authorize the Joint Elected EMS Funding Task Force through a Notice of Board Action. The charge of the task force is to analyze the current financial outlook for EMS operations in Lane County and recommend options for sustainably funding EMS services into the future. Updates will be provided to the Board of County Commissioners every 6 months, with a goal of task force completion within 18 months.

The following individuals are being recommended to the Board of County Commissioners as members of the Joint Elected EMS Funding Task Force.

- Commissioner Heather Buch – Lane County
- Director Eve Gray – Lane County
- Chief Mike Caven – Eugene/Springfield Fire & EMS
- Councilor Eliza Kashinsky – Eugene
- Councilor Kori Rodley – Springfield
- Fire Chief Michael Schick – Western Lane Fire & EMS
- EMS Chief Rob Chance – Western Lane Fire & EMS
- Board President Mike Webb – Western Lane Fire & EMS
- Chief John Wooten – South Lane Fire & EMS
- Board Member Tom Monroe – South Lane Fire & EMS
- Board Member Debbie Stumph – South Lane Fire & EMS
- Chief Scott Hollett – Oakridge Fire & EMS
- Mayor Bryan Cutchen – Oakridge Fire & EMS
- Councilor Marty Scott – Oakridge Fire & EMS
- Chief Dale Borland – Lane Fire Authority
- Board Member Greg Deedon – Lane Fire Authority

G. Alternatives / Options

1. Approve the establishment of a limited-duration emergency medical services task force with all of the recommended individuals as members
2. Approve the establishment of a limited-duration emergency medical services task force with some of the recommended individuals and direct staff to recruit additional/alternative members
3. Decline the establishment of a limited-duration task force for emergency medical services

H. Recommendation

1. Lane County Health & Human Services recommends #1 – Approve the establishment of a limited-duration emergency medical services task force with all of the recommended individuals as members

I. Timing/Implementation

1. If the Order is approved as written, the task force will begin work in July 2025 with reports to the Board of County Commissioners every 6 months and conclude its work by December 31, 2026.

J. Follow-Up

1. Upon completion of the task force's work, the Director of Health & Human Services will return to the Board with the task force's report and recommendations for consideration.

K. Attachments

Board Order

Exhibit A – June 24, 2025 Emergency Medical Services Task Force Roster

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF LANE COUNTY, OREGON

ORDER NO:

IN THE MATTER OF ESTABLISHING A LIMITED-DURATION TASK FORCE TO ADDRESS CHALLENGES FACING EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES IN LANE COUNTY WITH MEMBERS LISTED IN TASK FORCE ROSTER

WHEREAS, the Lane County Department of Health & Human Services was given approval by the Board of County Commissioners to proceed with preparations and assembling personnel from county EMS providers and jurisdictions to join an EMS task force; and

WHEREAS, Lane County Emergency Medical Services face significant challenges and require a collaborative effort to address; And

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners of Lane County **ORDERS** as follows:

1. The limited-duration task force to address challenges facing emergency medical services in Lane County is hereby established.

ADOPTED this 24th day of June, 2025.

David Loveall, Chair
Lane County Board of Commissioners

Exhibit A – June 24, 2025 Emergency Medical Services Task Force Roster

Member Name	Member Position	Affiliation
Heather Buch	County Commissioner	Lane County
Eve Gray	Health & Human Services Director	Lane County
Mike Caven	Fire & EMS Chief	Eugene/Springfield Fire & EMS
Eliza Kashinsky	City Councilor	Eugene
Kori Rodley	City Councilor	Springfield
Michael Schick	Fire Chief	Western Lane Fire & EMS
Rob Chance	EMS Chief	Western Lane Fire & EMS
Mike Webb	Board President	Western Lane Fire & EMS
John Wooten	Fire & EMS Chief	South Lane Fire & EMS
Tom Monroe	Board Member	South Lane Fire & EMS
Debbie Stumph	Board Member	South Lane Fire & EMS
Scott Hollett	Fire & EMS Chief	Oakridge Fire & EMS
Bryan Cutchen	Mayor	Oakridge Fire & EMS
Marty Scott	Councilor	Oakridge Fire & EMS
Dale Borland	Fire Chief	Lane Fire Authority
Greg Deedon	Board Member	Lane Fire Authority