



OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS AND MANAGER

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News Release

Union-EMS Contract Extended

June 30, 2014, Monroe, NC – The Union County Board of Commissioners has authorized County Manager Cindy Coto to approve an extension amendment between Union County and Carolinas Union Healthcare, Inc., a subsidiary of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Hospital Authority, that will extend medical services provided by Union-EMS for two additional months. The current agreement with Union-EMS is scheduled to expire on June 30, 2014.

Union-EMS has provided emergency medical services to Union County since 1997. Prior to 1997, Union County operated Emergency Medical Services as a department of county government. In April of 1997, the county outsourced these services by entering into an agreement with Carolinas Union Healthcare, Inc. Since that time, the agreement has been extended on numerous occasions, most recently by amendment for an extension expiring on January 31, 2014.

On January 28, 2013, the county engaged Fitch & Associates, LLC, to provide expert assistance in the analysis of current service levels and to recommend future service delivery options that maintain or improve service levels and achieve financial stability and sustainability. Fitch has completed their initial engagement with Union County and their recommendations have been shared with representatives from CHS.

The county is working with CHS and Fitch and Associates to implement many of the recommendations as well as develop a long-term agreement. The agreement is nearing completion, but will not be completed by the expiration of the current extension on June 30, 2014.

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