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News Release

Union-EMS Contract Extended

August 18, 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 one additional month. The current agreement with Union-EMS is scheduled to expire on Aug. 31, 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.

On Jan. 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.

At the Board's June 30 meeting, authority was given to the county manager to extend the existing contract until Aug. 31, 2014. Since that time, the county has worked with CHS to implement many of the recommendations, as well as develop a long-term agreement. The agreement will not be completed by the expiration of the current extension on Aug. 31.

To ensure services remain uninterrupted, the proposed extension amendment will continue the existing agreement for one additional month.

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