

THE COUNTY OF DENTON

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**SANGER FIRE DEPARTMENT -
AMBULANCE SERVICES**

STATE OF TEXAS

INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT
AMBULANCE SERVICE

THIS AGREEMENT, which has an effective date of October 1, 2022, is made and entered into by and between Denton County, Texas (“the **COUNTY**”), and the Sanger Fire Department (“the **AGENCY**”).

WHEREAS, the **COUNTY** is a duly organized political subdivision of the State of Texas engaged in the administration of county government and related services for the benefit of the citizens of Denton County; and

WHEREAS, the **AGENCY** is a non-profit agency, duly organized and operating under the laws of the State of Texas and engaged in the provision of ambulance services and related services for the benefit of the citizens of the City of Sanger; and

WHEREAS, the **AGENCY** is an owner and operator of certain ambulance vehicles and other equipment designed for the transportation of persons who are sick, infirmed or injured and has in its employ trained personnel whose duties are related to the treatment of said individuals and the use of such vehicles and equipment; and

WHEREAS, the **COUNTY** desires to obtain emergency ambulance and related services for the benefit of residents of the **COUNTY** living in unincorporated areas of the **COUNTY** which the **AGENCY** is capable of providing; and

WHEREAS, the provision of emergency ambulance and related services is a governmental function that serves the public health and welfare and is of mutual concern to both the **COUNTY** and the **AGENCY**; and

WHEREAS, the **COUNTY** desires to enter into an exclusive agreement with the **AGENCY** to provide efficient emergency ambulance service; and

WHEREAS, the **COUNTY** desires to expend County funds to defray the expense of establishing, operating and maintaining emergency ambulance services in the County; and

WHEREAS, the **COUNTY** and the **AGENCY** mutually desire to be subject to and contract pursuant to the provisions of Texas Government Code, Chapter 791 and Texas Health and Safety Code, Section 774.003, and

NOW THEREFORE, the **COUNTY** and the **AGENCY**, in consideration of the mutual promises, covenants, and Agreements stated herein, agree as follows:

I.
TERM

The term of this Agreement shall be for the period beginning of October 1, 2022, and ending on September 30, 2023.

II.
DEFINITIONS

As used herein, the words and phrases hereinafter set forth shall have the meanings as follows:

- A. "Emergency" shall mean any circumstance that calls for immediate action and in which the element of time in transporting the sick, wounded or injured for medical treatment is essential to the health or life of a person or persons. Whether an emergency, in fact, exists is solely up to the discretion of the **AGENCY**. For dispatch purposes only, "emergency" shall include, but not be limited to:
 - 1. The representation by the individual requesting ambulance service that an immediate need exists for the transportation of a person from any location within the agreed operating area of the **AGENCY** to a place where emergency medical treatment may be obtained; or
 - 2. The representation by the individual requesting ambulance service that an immediate need exists for the transportation of a person from any location within the agreed operating area of the **AGENCY** to the closest medical facility.
- B. "Rural area" means any area within the boundaries of the **COUNTY**, but outside the corporate limits of all incorporated cities, towns and villages within the **COUNTY**.
- C. "Urban area" means any area within the corporate limits of an incorporated city, town or village within the **COUNTY**.
- D. "Emergency ambulance call" means a response to a request for ambulance service by the personnel of the **AGENCY** in a situation involving an emergency, as defined above, by an ambulance vehicle. A single response to a call may involve the transportation of more than one person at a time, but shall be considered as only one call.

III. **SERVICES**

The services to be rendered under this Agreement by the **AGENCY** are the ambulance services normally rendered by the **AGENCY** to citizens of City of Sanger in circumstances of emergency, but which services will now be extended to all citizens of the **COUNTY** residing in the unincorporated areas of the **COUNTY** within the operating territory or jurisdiction of the **AGENCY**, as agreed to by the **AGENCY** and the **COUNTY** in this Agreement and as set forth in "Exhibit A," attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

It is recognized that the officers and employees of the **AGENCY** have the duty and responsibility of rendering ambulance services to citizens of the **AGENCY** and the **COUNTY**. In the performance of these duties and responsibilities, it shall be within the sole responsibility and discretion of the officers and employees of the **AGENCY** to determine priorities in the dispatching and use of such equipment and personnel and the judgment of the officer or employee shall be final.

The **COUNTY** shall designate the County Judge to act on behalf of the **COUNTY** and to serve as "Liaison Officer" between the **COUNTY** and the **AGENCY**. The County Judge, or his designated substitute, shall devote sufficient time and attention to insure the performance of all duties and obligations of the **COUNTY** under this Agreement and shall provide for the immediate and direct supervision of employees, agents, contractors, sub-contractors and/or laborers of the **COUNTY** engaged in the performance of this Agreement.

IV. **PERFORMANCE OF SERVICES**

The **AGENCY** shall devote sufficient time and attention to insure the performance of all duties and obligations of the **AGENCY** under this Agreement and shall provide immediate and direct supervision of the **AGENCY**'s employees, agents, contractors, sub-contractors and/or laborers engaged in the performance of this Agreement for the mutual benefit of the **AGENCY** and the **COUNTY**.

V.
COMPENSATION

COUNTY agrees to pay to the **AGENCY** an estimated fee of \$180,430.00 (amount rounded to the nearest dollar) based on a funding formula as follows:

1. A fixed sum based on a population percentage .4677 per capita; said sum computes to \$7,549.99.
2. A fixed sum of \$249.7469 per ambulance transport for an estimated maximum amount of \$88,660.14. Said sum is based upon 355 transports made by the **AGENCY** in fiscal year 2022.
3. A fixed sum based on 112.89 rural miles in the agreed operating territory; said sum computes to \$84,219.60.

The first and third sums are based upon population and mileage figures obtained from the North Central Texas Council of Governments. The second sum is based upon the definition of an “ambulance call” for purposes of this Agreement. Payment shall not be allowed for any instance in which a patient is not transported. Consistent with the reporting procedures described below, the **AGENCY** shall receive payment for transporting the patient regardless of the service delivery area in which the call originated.

Requests for payment shall be submitted on the standardized ambulance transportation reporting form approved and provided by the **COUNTY**. It shall be the responsibility of the **AGENCY** to fully complete the forms and to provide complete and accurate patient information. Requests for payment shall be submitted within five (5) days of the performance of service by the **AGENCY**. Requests not timely submitted shall not be considered for payment. Requests for payment may be submitted by personal delivery, U.S. Mail, facsimile or computer telephone link to the office of the Denton County Fire Marshal. The date of submission shall be the date the fully documented request is received in said office.

VI.
FINANCIAL RECORDS

The **AGENCY** agrees to make its financial records available for audit and/or review by the **COUNTY**, upon request by the **COUNTY**.

VII.
RESPONSIBILITY OF THE COUNTY

The **COUNTY**, to the extent permitted by law, shall be responsible for the acts, omissions and negligence of all officers, employees and agents of the **COUNTY** who are engaged in the performance of this Agreement.

VIII.
RESPONSIBILITY OF THE AGENCY

The **AGENCY**, to the extent permitted by law, shall be responsible for the acts, omissions and negligence of all officers, employees and agents of the **AGENCY** who are engaged in the performance of this Agreement.

IX.
APPLICABLE LAW

The **COUNTY** and the **AGENCY** understand and agree that liability under this contract is governed by Texas Government Code, Chapter 791 and Texas Health and Safety Code, Section 774.003. This Agreement is made in contemplation of the applicability of these laws to the Agreement. Insofar as legally possible the **COUNTY** and the **AGENCY** agree to be bound by the above mentioned statutes as they exist as of the date of this Agreement.

X.
DEFAULT

In the event of default of any of the covenants herein contained, this Agreement may be terminated at the discretion of the non-defaulting party if such default continues for a period of ten (10) days after notice to the other party in writing of such default and the intent to terminate this Agreement due to the default. Unless the default is cured, this Agreement shall terminate.

XI.
TERMINATION

This Agreement may be terminated at any time by either the **COUNTY** or the **AGENCY** by giving sixty (60) days advance written notice to the other party. In the event of termination by either party, the **AGENCY** shall be compensated pro rata for all services performed to termination date together with reimbursable expenses then due as authorized by this Agreement. In the event of such termination, should the **AGENCY** be overcompensated on a pro rata basis for all services performed to the termination date and/or be overcompensated for reimbursable expenses, the **COUNTY** shall be reimbursed pro rata for all such overcompensation.

Acceptance of such reimbursement shall not constitute a waiver of any claim that may otherwise arise out of this Agreement.

XII.
GOVERNMENTAL IMMUNITY

The fact that the **COUNTY** and the **AGENCY** accept certain responsibilities relating to the rendering of ambulance services under this Agreement as a part of their responsibility for providing protection for the public health makes it imperative that the performance of these vital services be recognized as a governmental function and that the doctrine of governmental immunity shall be, and is hereby, invoked to the extent permitted under the law. Neither the **AGENCY**, nor the **COUNTY** waive, nor shall be deemed to have hereby waived any immunity or defense that would otherwise be available to it against claims arising from the exercise of governmental powers and functions.

XIII.
ENTIRE AGREEMENT

This Agreement represents the entire Agreement between the **COUNTY** and the **AGENCY** and supersedes all prior negotiations, representations and Agreements, either written or oral. This Agreement may be amended only by written instrument signed by both parties.

XIV.
LAW OF CONTRACT

This Agreement and any of its terms or provisions, as well as the rights and duties of the parties hereto, shall be governed by the laws of the State of Texas. The venue for any dispute, or matter, arising under this Agreement shall lie in Denton County, Texas.

XV.
SEVERABILITY

In the event that any portion of this Agreement shall be found to be contrary to law, it is the intent of the parties hereto that the remaining portions of this Agreement shall remain valid and in full force and effect to the fullest extent possible.

XVI.
AUTHORITY

The undersigned officer or agents of the parties are the properly authorized officials and have the necessary authority to execute this Agreement on behalf of the Parties.

XVII.
SERVICE AREA

Acceptance of this Agreement constitutes approval of the service area set out in attached Exhibit "A".

EXECUTED this _____ day of _____, 20____.

COUNTY:

Denton County, Texas
1 Courthouse Drive, Suite 3100
Denton, Texas 76208

AGENCY:

Sanger Fire Department
City of Sanger
P.O. Box 1729
Sanger, Texas 76266

By: _____
Andy Eads
Denton County Judge

By: _____
Name _____
Title _____

ATTEST:

By: _____
Denton County Clerk

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

By: _____
Denton County Fire Marshal

AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that funds are available in the amount of \$_____ to accomplish and pay the obligation of Denton County under this Agreement.

Denton County Auditor