

RESOLUTION 20-10863

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE MAYOR'S DIRECTIVE UNDER SECTIONS 2-903(2) AND 2-905, BMCC, TO ALLOW BASIC LIFE SUPPORT LEVEL RESPONSE TO CERTAIN EMERGENCY MEDICAL CALLS BY AMERICAN MEDICAL RESPONSE AS DIRECTED BY ITS MEDICAL CONTROL PHYSICIAN

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 nationwide emergency has placed an extraordinary and unprecedented demand upon the emergency medical system; and

WHEREAS, American Medical Response (AMR) is required to operate within the City of Billings under a 24 hour/7 day a week Advanced Life Support (ALS) license as required by Sections 15-703 (2) and (3), BMCC; and

WHEREAS in order to be more efficient in the resource allocation of emergency services and equipment during the COVID-19 emergency, in addition to its Advanced Life Support (ALS) services, AMR has requested that it be allowed to operate under a Basic Life Support (BLS) level in responding to certain specific emergency calls for service as supervised by its Medical Control physician, and

WHEREAS, the Mayor has agreed with such request and on April 4, 2020, issued a directive to authorize such responses under the emergency authority granted to the Mayor in Sections 2-903(2) and (3), BMCC, which has the effect of an ordinance under section 2-903(2), and

WHEREAS, Section 2-903(2) requires that the City Council later confirm the Mayor's emergency directive, and

WHEREAS, the City Council, during its April 13, 2020 Regular Business Meeting, approved an amendment to the language contained in the Mayor's emergency directive of April 4, 2020, and that amendment is reflected in this Resolution, see Exhibit A attached.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BILLINGS, MONTANA, as follows:

1. **EMERGENCY DIRECTIVE CONFIRMED.** The emergency directive from the Mayor to the City Administrator authorizing a temporary licensing authority to American Medical Response under Section 15-703(2) and (3), BMCC, to include Basic Life Support services along with and to supplement current Advanced Life Support services at the direction of and upon the supervision of its local Medical Control physician is hereby confirmed and approved by the City Council. Such sections shall read as follows:

Sec. 15-703. - Criteria for license.

Any person desiring to obtain the license required by this article shall demonstrate the ability to meet the following requirements:

...

- (2) "During an emergency as declared by the Mayor that permits a Basic Life Support (BLS) response under specific circumstances as determined by the appropriate medical control physician, Basic Life Support response will be limited to low acuity call response codes known as Alpha and Bravo. This temporary change shall not reduce the response requirement to calls coded for ALS (Charlie, Delta and Echo). Therefore, the applicant must otherwise provide emergency medical services at the advanced life support level throughout the city, twenty-four (24) hours per day, seven (7) days per week..

Except as provided in subsection (2), the applicant must have adequate personnel, vehicles, equipment and facilities to respond at the advanced life support level to emergency calls to all locations within the corporate limits of the city within eight (8) minutes or less on at least ninety (90) percent of such calls. The response time does not apply to calls that have been screened by 9-1-1 dispatch and are dispatched to an ambulance with the specific statement that it is "no code," mean not life threatening."

2. EFFECT AND DURATION OF CONFIRMATION. Pursuant to Section 2-908, BMCC, this confirmation shall act as a temporary emergency amendment to the emergency services licensing requirements at section 15-703(2) and (3), until such time as expiration of any declaration of emergency applicable to residents of the City of Billings or the majority vote of the city council terminating the emergency directive referenced in Paragraph 1, whichever occurs first.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Billings, Montana, this 13th day of April, 2020.



CITY OF BILLINGS

By: William A. Cole
William A. Cole, Mayor

ATTEST:

By: Denise R. Bohlman
Denise R. Bohlman, City Clerk



CITY OF BILLINGS

Exhibit A

BILL COLE, MAYOR

P.O. BOX 1178
BILLINGS, MONTANA 59103
(406) 657-8296
FAX (406) 657-8390
coleb@ci.billings.mt.us

April 20, 2020

Chris Kukulski
City of Billings
210 N. 27th Street
Billings, MT 59101

Dear Mr. Kukulski:

This letter amends the emergency directive included in my letter of April 4, 2020 relating to the level of emergency response described in Billings Montana City Code, Section 15-703(2) and (3).

Consistent with Section 2-903(2), BMCC, the City Council considered my April 4, 2020 directive at its regular business meeting held on April 13, 2020. More specifically, the council voted to confirm the temporary directive but with an amendment to the new language that was included in the original directive.

In accordance with the action taken by the City Council, Section 15-703(2) and (3), BMCC, are therefore hereby amended to provide as follows during the course of the current emergency.

Sec. 15-703. - Criteria for license.

Any person desiring to obtain the license required by this article shall demonstrate the ability to meet the following requirements:

.....

- (2) During an emergency as declared by the Mayor that permits a Basic Life Support level of response under specific circumstances as determined by the appropriate medical control physician, Basic Life Support response will be limited to low acuity call response codes known as Alpha and Bravo. This temporary change shall not reduce the response requirement to calls coded for ALS (Charlie, Delta and Echo). Therefore, the applicant must otherwise provide emergency medical services at the advanced life support level throughout the city, twenty-four (24) hours per day, seven (7) days per week.
- (3) Except as provided in subsection (2), the applicant must have adequate personnel, vehicles, equipment and facilities to respond at the advanced life support level to emergency calls to all locations within the corporate limits of the city within eight (8)

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City-wide*

Chris Kukulski
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minutes or less on at least ninety (90) percent of such calls. The response time does not apply to calls that have been screened by 9-1-1 dispatch and are dispatched to an ambulance with the specific statement that it is "no code," mean not life threatening.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill Cole".

William A. Cole, Mayor
City of Billings

cc: Rocco Roncarati, Regional Director, American Medical Response
Bill Rash, Chief, Billings Fire Department
Kevin Iffland, Assistant City Administrator
Brent Brooks, Billings City Attorney