

Restated and Amended MedStar Interlocal Cooperative Agreement

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MedStar Interlocal Agreement Background

1988: Area Metropolitan Ambulance Authority d/b/a Medstar, an administrative agency was created to ensure ambulance service to Fort Worth and participating cities was created through an interlocal cooperation agreement

1998: Participating cities entered into a Restated Emergency Medical Services Interlocal Agreement (M&C C-17191) to:

- Further define the Authority's term of existence
- Makeup of the Board of Directors
- Requirements for Authority membership
- Financial responsibilities
- Define Authority's duties and powers.

2005: Medstar's contractor for ambulance service defaulted and Medstar took over the direct operation of the ambulance service.

MedStar Interlocal Agreement Current Agreement

Current agreement was approved by Mayor & Council in 2017

Renamed the Authority to the Metropolitan Area EMS Authority (MAEMSA)

Addressed six (6) key items:

- **Establishment of a First Responder Advisory Board (FRAB) so that First Responders of member jurisdictions will be fully integrated into the system**
- **Provided additional clarity regarding the relationship between EPAB and the Authority**
- **Maintained the Authority as the direct provider of ambulance services** but gives the Authority the discretion to use a subcontractor
- **Continued practices that enhance fiscal and operational transparency**, including independent financial audits on a yearly basis. EPAB and the Office of the Medical Director are part of the Authority budget and financial reports.
- **Continued discretion to participating cities in providing subsidies to the Authority.** The subsidy may be in any amount, with no subsidy as a required option in the Interlocal Agreement.
- **Allowed for the Authority to provide mobile integrated healthcare.**

MedStar Interlocal Agreement

Current Interlocal - MAEMSA Board Composition

- The ten-member board of directors includes six voting members, four members representing the City of Fort Worth, one member representing the suburban member cities and a physician representative of the Emergency Physicians Advisory Board (EPAB).
- Two appointed members of the First Responder Advisory Board (FRAB), the system Medical Director and the EMS Authority's CEO serve as ex-officio (non-voting) members of the Board.
- The Authority Board has broad duties and powers related to:
 - Providing advanced life support ambulance service,
 - Setting response time standards for all areas of each member jurisdiction; and
 - Other powers necessary to operate as an independent entity.



MedStar Interlocal Agreement Current Agreement - Advisory Boards under MAEMSA

EPAB – Emergency Physicians Advisory Board

- 16 members
- Provides independent medical oversight for and advise and inform the Authority on all clinical aspects of Medical Transportation, the Authority's MIH program, and prehospital emergency medical services in this Jurisdiction, including such services provided by the Authority and First Responders, and exercises independent professional judgment in all matters related to Patient care.

FRAB – First Responder Advisory Board

- Currently FRAB does not have voting members on the MAEMSA board
- Advise and inform the Authority and EPAB on matters related to first response and prehospital emergency medical services in the Service Area, and response times.

MedStar Interlocal Agreement

Drafting an Updated Interlocal Agreement

2018

- Determined that established process for input and action by the MAEMSA Board and EPAB related to personnel decisions regarding the medical director needed to be created

January 2019

- Stakeholders gathered with a professional mediator to achieve consensus on the best processes and structure going forward

Summer 2019

- Stakeholders continued to discuss their concerns through a structured process that provided an inclusive forum for stakeholder groups to discuss the outstanding issues

January 2020

- Stakeholder meetings wrapped up and the group reached consensus on final language for a revised MedStar interlocal agreement

MedStar Interlocal Agreement Stakeholder Group Participants

CM Brian Byrd
MAEMSA Board
Chair

Chief Jim Davis
Fort Worth Fire

Doug Hooten
MedStar, CEO

Kristofer
Schleicher
MedStar Attorney

Chief Doug
Spears
Saginaw Fire
Department

Chief KT
Freeman
Burleson Fire
Department

Leann Guzman
City Attorney's
Office

Valerie
Washington
City Manager's
Office

Matt Aikens
MAEMSA Board
Member

Dr. Gary Floyd
EPAB

Dr. Steve Martin
EPAB

Dr. Veer Vithalani
Interim Medical
Director

MedStar Interlocal Agreement Overview of Interlocal Changes

MAEMSA Board of Directors:

- Expanded from 6 to 9 voting directors, giving EPAB an additional voting member and giving FRAB two voting directors, one of which is the Fort Worth Fire Chief.
- EPAB's two appointments have a 3 year term on the MAEMSA Board
- Suburban City rep can be removed at any time with 2/3 vote of suburban cities

Emergency Physicians Advisory Board (EPAB):

- Provides independent medical oversight to the system and is an advisory board to the MAEMSA Board
- Voting directors must live in, work, or have formerly worked in the service area, with preference to those who live or work in the service area
- May add non-voting members with a 2/3 vote of its board

First Responder Advisory Board (FRAB)

- FRAB may add non-voting members with a 2/3 vote

MedStar Interlocal Agreement Overview of Interlocal Changes – continued

Medical Director

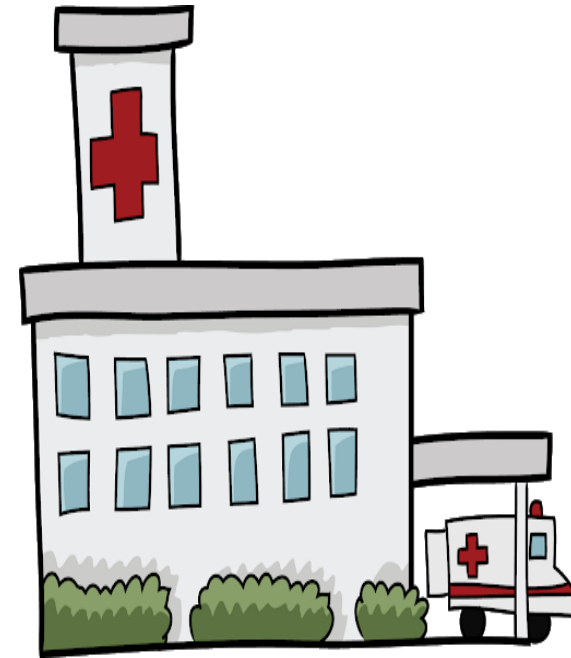
- May be an employee or contractor of MAEMSA
- Responsible for the employees in the Office of Medical Director
- Duties updated to align with state law and current practice

Other language updates:

- Annual Uniform Schedule of Pricing Options sent to the cities by MAEMSA will no longer be required
- MAEMSA Board to adopt its own conflict of interest policy
- Defines the executive personnel hired by the Board – the Medical Director, CEO, and General Counsel – and the reporting structure, duties, and procedures for hiring and firing these positions
- Clarifies the ability of member jurisdictions to govern EMS standby care at special events in their jurisdiction

MedStar Interlocal Agreement Hospital Resource and Continuity Committee

- Needed to develop a way to receive input from the local area hospital CEO's
 - Reached out to the Mayor's Office and sent a letter requesting involvement in the MedStar interlocal process
 - CEOs want to ensure they have a forum to discuss issues and share information
 - MAEMSA Board passed a resolution February 26, 2020 supporting a Hospital Resource and Continuity Committee, organized by the hospital CEOs, and for which MAEMSA will provide administrative support. Topics that may be addressed by this group:
 - Mental health and how to ensure that one hospital is not getting all mental health patients
 - Resuscitation Centers
 - Other items tied to policy



MedStar Interlocal Agreement Next Steps

Draft agreement and ordinance has been approved by each stakeholder group (MAEMSA, EPAB, and FRAB)

Letter sent to city managers & mayors of the 15-member city jurisdictions outlining the proposed ILA changes

Presentation for Mayor & Council included in the **April 24th** council packet

M&C to approve the new interlocal and the corresponding ordinance is scheduled for the **May 19th** council meeting.

Each member city must approve the new agreement before it can be finalized

Goal to have the new interlocal agreement in place by **June 1st**



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