

FINAL

MINUTES EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

A meeting of the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board (the "Board") was held on Wednesday, November 5, 2025 at 9:30 am in the Executive Conference Room, Lafayette City-Parish Hall.

Attendees: Brenda Andrus, Stephanie Arceneaux, Lance Beal, Michael Gervais, Chris John and Dr. Frankie Rholdon
Absent: Chad Sonnier
Guests: Rachel Godeaux, CAO, Lafayette Consolidated Government
Pat Ottinger, City-Parish Attorney, Lafayette Consolidated Government
Debbie Sonnier, Executive Secretary to CAO Rachel Godeaux, Lafayette Consolidated Government
Taylor Richard, Regional Vice President, Acadian Companies
Daniel Powers, Director of Operations, Acadian Companies
Rebekah Cummings-Operations Manager, Acadian Companies
Mary Pham-Community Relations Supervisor, Acadian Companies
Abby Benoit-Director of Community Relations, Acadian Companies

Call to Order

Board Chairman, Chris John, called the meeting to order at 9:32 am in accordance with Article II, Section 7-18 of the Lafayette City-Parish Consolidated Government Code of Ordinances.

Following the call to order, Chairman Chris John asked for a roll call to confirm that quorum was present.

Guests in attendance were introduced.

Approval of Minutes

Copies of the June 18, 2025 meeting minutes were provided to Board members for review. Upon completion of the review of the minutes, motion was made by Board member Stephanie Arceneaux to accept the minutes of the June 18th meeting of the Board. The motion was seconded by Board member Dr. Frankie Rholdon. There was no further discussion and the vote was as follows:

Yeas: Brenda Andrus, Stephanie Arceneaux, Lance Beal, Michael Gervais, Chris John and Dr. Frankie Rholdon
Nays: None
Absent: Chad Sonnier

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Hearing for Acadian Ambulance Service, Inc.

The main purpose of the Board is to review the compliance reports submitted monthly and ensure that compliance is met. The September Compliance Report reflected a substantial deficiency. The required non-emergency 90% response time was reported as 76.8%. Taylor Richard with Acadian presented information regarding the factors involved as well as the remediation plan which included increasing the number of available ambulances and an accelerated EMT class to address the staffing issue. Extensive discussion followed with the Board voicing their concerns.

Board Chairman, Chris John questioned if there were any consequences or complications due to the non-compliance and Taylor Richard replied that there were none. He stated that they were in communication with their hospital partners and knowing that September would be an issue, they worked together to prioritize and space out calls.

Vote on assessment of \$5000 fine/penalty to Acadian Ambulance Service, Inc

A motion was made by Board member Michael Gervais to waive the fees/penalty since it was the non-emergency that was affected.

A motion was then made by Board member Lance Beal to defer the maximum penalty of \$5,000 until next month's compliance report is in. If next month's report shows non-compliance, the penalty will be imposed. Should Acadian be in compliance, the penalty will be waived. At this time, Board member Michael Gervais withdrew his motion and seconded the motion made by Board member Lance Beal.

There was no further discussion and the vote was as follows:

Yeas: Brenda Andrus, Stephanie Arceneaux, Lance Beal, Michael Gervais and Chris John
Nays: Dr. Frankie Rholdon
Absent: Chad Sonnier

The motion passed.

Ambulance Service Contract and Rates

Chairman Chris John spoke of the obligation of the board/committee to review the contract and rates. The contract is approaching renewal in March, 2026. The term of the contract allows for a two-year extension. He asked that Acadian provide some history at which time Taylor Richard referred to his handout with proposed changes regarding the rates and the fact that Lafayette has fallen behind in allowed billable rates compared to national, state and local standards.

Taylor Richard also proposed new language in the upcoming contract to allow for an annual review of the rates as well as updating the response times. Extensive discussion followed along with questions from Board members in regards to what is allowed by Medicare and the rates in the different parishes. There was concern expressed that those without insurance would be paying the most.

As it neared time to vote on the extension, Chairman Chris John spoke of extending the contract for two years as is with a sidenote that the two parties develop a contract amendment.

Taylor Richard recommended that the response times be updated to a more standard uniform reporting system. Adjust from fractile to an average response time to get a more accurate look, remove allowed exceptions as well as add in what is being done in other cities to achieve uniformity.

At this time Chairman Chris John suggested that the Board vote to renew the contract for a two (2) year term and note that the two legal parties will work on the changes discussed and follow up with a recommendation.

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Stephanie Arceneaux to renew for a two (2) year term. The motion was seconded by Board member Dr. Frankie Rholdon. There was no further discussion and the vote was as follows:

Yeas: Brenda Andrus, Stephanie Arceneaux, Lance Beal, Michael Gervais, Chris John and Dr. Frankie Rholdon
Nays: None
Absent: Chad Sonnier

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Other Business

Reminder from Chairman Chris John that ethics training is required for all Board members and needs to be completed before the end of the calendar year.

Annual Report


The annual report will be prepared for the next Board meeting.

There being no other business, a motion was made by Board member Michael Gervais to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Board member Brenda Andrus. There was no further discussion, and the vote was as follows:

Yeas: Brenda Andrus, Stephanie Arceneaux, Lance Beal, Michael Gervais, Chris John and Dr. Frankie Rholdon
Nays: None
Absent: Chad Sonnier

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:14 am.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Gervais', is written over a horizontal line.

Michael Gervais
Board Secretary