

Borough of Harmony

Butler County, Pennsylvania

RESOLUTION No. 2024-9-3

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL APPROVING PARTICIPATION IN THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL PROJECT ENTITLED THE SOUTHWESTERN BUTLER COUNTY EMS ALLIANCE ALTERNATIVES FUNDING ANALYSIS BETWEEN EIGHT MUNICIPALITIES, TWO EMS PROVIDERS, AND THE COUNTY OF BUTLER.

WHEREAS, EMS systems across the Commonwealth are in a crisis and EMS services are woefully lacking in funding; and,

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Senate adopted PA Senate Resolution 6 (SR6) which resulted in a 2018 report that highlights the urgency of the challenge EMS agencies are facing and recommends a series of initiatives including exploration of alternative funding models and government partnerships to find solutions; and,

WHEREAS, since the 2018 SR6 report, EMS funding has continued to be problematic without a clear solution coming from State, Federal, or other agencies; and,

WHEREAS, the municipalities in the southwestern corner of Butler County had already been meeting and had established a cooperative approach to resolving collective stormwater challenges in the area; and,

WHEREAS, a group of the communities that have been working collaboratively on stormwater issues, along with neighboring communities recognize the challenges with EMS and the importance of collaboration in evaluating EMS funding alternatives; and,

WHEREAS, the communities would like to extend their cooperative efforts to explore potential solutions to the EMS funding challenges; and,

WHEREAS, the communities recognize it is in their mutual interest to collaborate with each other and their respective EMS Agencies; and,

WHEREAS, the Butler County Board of Commissioners has also taken a leadership role in exploring and funding EMS solutions throughout Butler County; and,

WHEREAS, Butler County Board of Commissioners has agreed to fund a portion of the initial study to explore potential funding solutions for the participating communities; and,

WHEREAS, the communities that have agreed to participate in the study effort include Cranberry Township, Evans City Borough, Forward Township, Harmony Borough, Jackson Township Lancaster Township, Seven Fields Borough, and Zelienople Borough; and,

WHEREAS, the communities are currently served by two independent EMS Agencies, Cranberry Township EMS and Harmony EMS, which have both submitted a letter of commitment to participate in the study; and,

WHEREAS, the communities recognize the exceptional quality of services that each of their respective EMS Agencies provides and wish to continue to maintain a high standard of response and care for their constituents; and,

WHEREAS, the purpose of the study is to evaluate potential municipal funding alternatives for the EMS without change to the current service areas and operational activities of the existing EMS providers; and,

WHEREAS, municipalities in Pennsylvania are responsible for designating a primary EMS Provider for their respective communities; and,

WHEREAS, the municipalities taking part in this study accept that EMS services, in part, require funding support from local government and that cooperative approaches to solving the funding challenges faced by EMS may be in the best interest of public health, safety, and welfare of their communities; and,

WHEREAS, as a result of these collaborative discussions and a firm commitment to their EMS responsibilities it has been determined the best way forward to address the funding challenges is to evaluate potential alternative funding approaches by conducting a study; and,

WHEREAS, the group of participating municipalities understands the two EMS providers (Cranberry & Harmony) represent more than just the initiating communities of this study, and that additional communities that are part of the EMS Agencies' service areas will be engaged as part of the study and given an opportunity to participate in any recommended solution, even though not having provided initial funding towards the study; and,

WHEREAS, the group has reviewed the scope of work proposed by ROBB Consulting LLC. to undertake the Scope of Work as identified in their Proposal Dated May 10, 2024, in the amount of \$44,000.00, as shown in Attachment A, plus expenses estimated at \$3,600.00; and,

WHEREAS, the group is recommending Cranberry Township engage ROBB Consulting, LLC and Cranberry Township has agreed to retain the consultant, who has been endorsed by this group, to undertake this study, provided agreements can be reached with each of the eight municipalities upon sharing of the costs of this Study; and,

WHEREAS, Butler County has agreed to contribute approximately 80% of the cost of this Study, in the amount of \$38,000.00, with the balance being divided between the eight municipalities, in the following amounts:

Cranberry Township:	\$ 1,200
Evans City Borough:	\$ 1,200
Forward Township	\$ 1,200
Harmony Borough:	\$ 1,200
Jackson Township:	\$ 1,200

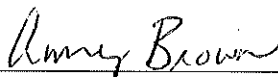
Lancaster Township:	\$ 1,200
Seven Fields Borough	\$ 1,200
Zelienople Borough:	\$ 1,200
TOTAL	\$ 47,600

WHEREAS, this group of municipalities will continue to be involved in monitoring the work of the consultants as to the successful conclusion of the Study; and,

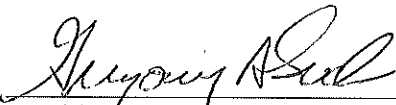
WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of each participating municipality's representative to be actively engaged with this Study and provide appropriate updates to their respective governing body on the progress of this Study; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Borough Council of Harmony agrees to contribute \$1,200.00 toward this intergovernmental Study and authorize the appropriate payment(s) to Cranberry Township as their contributions as the work is performed under the referenced Proposal.

RESOLVED, and APPROVED by the (Harmony Borough Council) this 3rd day of September 2024.



 Secretary



 President, Borough Council