

**RESOLUTION TO RE-AUTHORIZE THE AD-HOC COMMITTEE TO STUDY
ALTERNATIVES TO PROVIDING EMERGENCY CARE IN NORTHAMPTON
COUNTY**

Whereas, Riverside Hospital Corporation of Newport News, VA has acquired Shore Memorial Hospital in Nassawadox, VA and renamed it as Riverside Shore Memorial Hospital; and

Whereas, Riverside Shore Memorial Hospital has obtained approval from the Virginia State Health Commissioner to construct a new hospital facility in Onley, VA and to close the hospital in Nassawadox, VA; and

Whereas, Riverside Shore Memorial Hospital has indicated that some services will remain in Nassawadox, VA but will not encompass the retention of the Emergency Room; and

Whereas, the relocation of the hospital, including the Emergency Room, will negatively impact the current delivery of emergency medical services in Northampton County; and

Whereas, the Northampton County Board of Supervisors wishes to explore all alternatives to improve emergency medical services; and

Whereas, the Northampton County Board of Supervisors created an Ad-Hoc Committee to explore all options to provide emergency medical services to Northampton County including, but not limited to, the establishment of an emergency room, expand EMS Transport capabilities with associated staffing capabilities, and any other service offerings that could improve the provision of Emergency Care in Northampton County; and

Whereas, the Ad-Hoc Committee was composed of representation from the Board of Supervisors, representatives from the county that have experience and knowledge in the provision of medical services, financial experience and any other relevant areas; membership shall not exceed seven (7) members; and

Whereas, the Ad-Hoc Committee delivered a report to the Northampton County Board of Supervisors on February 11, 2014 which contained certain recommendations;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Northampton County Board of Supervisors authorizes the Ad-Hoc Committee this new charge as follows:

1. Engage in discussions with existing medical service providers as well as potential new providers to determine level of interest to extend existing hours of operation and/or establish new levels of service delivery in Northampton County; determine costs for providing new and/or expanded hours of operation and if financial assistance either by the County or through outside funds (federal or state grants or through donations) is necessary in order for such expanded service to be offered.
2. Work with County personnel and the volunteer companies in examining the requirements and potential implementation of an "EMS" tax to support the cost of

increasing the number of qualified EMTs, as identified in the Ad-Hoc Committee report.

3. Work with the County EMS Department, the volunteer EMS companies, and the appropriate state agencies to review the current required EMS protocols relating to EMS response and transport to “defined medical facilities” and determine if flexible language can and should be pursued to expand the types of medical facilities that can receive transports from EMS units.
4. Work with County personnel to develop recommendations for specific property locations for helipads in the northern, central and southern locations; include in this recommendation an estimated cost to improve the potential property(ies) and rank the suitability of property, if there is more than one choice per the 3 “zones” of northern, central and southern locations.
5. Work with County personnel and the volunteer EMS companies to develop a proposed agreement that addresses staffing needs and assignments, including the usage of paid County staff within the volunteer companies, status of equipment and development of a proposed capital plan for ambulance replacement, requirements of training to maintain certifications, and consideration of potential stipend payments relative to both staffing needs and training needs.

The committee will present interim reports as needed to the Board of Supervisors; a final report addressing each charge will be presented to the Board of Supervisors no later than December 31, 2015.