



Department of Health

ANDREW M. CUOMO
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LISA J. PINO, M.A., J.D.
Executive Deputy Commissioner

April 29, 2021

Via Email

Nick Palevsky, Supervisor
Town of Richfield
PO Box 786
Richfield Springs, NY 13439

Dear Supervisor Palevsky,

I was a pleasure to speak to you yesterday and clear up the confusion around your town's ambulance operating authority. I have outlined the issues we discussed and the suggested solution to the problem.

1. The Town of Richfield (Richfield) passed a resolution in September 2019 requesting the state to issue municipal ambulance operating authority. This was approved and a two-year temporary agency code # 6273 as granted on 9/17/19, expiring on 9/17/21.
2. The municipal operating authority needed to be made permanent within the two-year time frame by submitting the required application to the Adirondack Appalachian Region Emergency Medical Services Council (AAREMS) at least 180 days prior to the expiration date. This would give AAREMS the time required to fulfill their statutory obligation of determining the need for the service.
3. In order for an ambulance service to remain certified, there is a requirement of providing at least one ambulance call every 30 days.
4. Since your municipal service did not complete the required application, there has been no service provided under agency code # 6273 for 19 months. Due to a recent action by AAREMS, in which they denied a transfer of an agency operating authority due to not providing service for 30 days, I doubt they will approve your application for permanent operating authority.

As we discussed, I believe this issue can be resolved if the following actions are taken.

1. At the next town board meeting, pass a resolution rescinding the original resolution of 2019. See note below.
2. Work with the Village of Richfield Springs attorneys to come to agreement that works for both parties.
3. At a following town board meeting, pass a new resolution requesting the state to issue new municipal ambulance operating authority.
4. Once the service provides service for a period of time, submit the application to AAREMS for permanent authority.

Note: Requires submission to the Department the same way the original resolution was submitted (certified / receipted hardcopy delivery of a certified copy to Attn: Secretary of SEMSCO @ 875 address).

Respectfully,

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