#### City of Grand Island



#### Tuesday, January 20, 2015 Study Session Packet

**City Council:** 

**Linna Dee Donaldson** 

Michelle Fitzke

**Chuck Haase** 

Julie Hehnke

Vaughn Minton

**Mitchell Nickerson** 

Mike Paulick

**Roger Steele** 

Mark Stelk

Mayor:

Jeremy L. Jensen

**City Administrator:** 

Marlan Ferguson

**City Clerk:** 

RaNae Edwards

7:00 PM Council Chambers - City Hall 100 East 1st Street

#### Call to Order

This is an open meeting of the Grand Island City Council. The City of Grand Island abides by the Open Meetings Act in conducting business. A copy of the Open Meetings Act is displayed in the back of this room as required by state law.

The City Council may vote to go into Closed Session on any agenda item as allowed by state law.

Invocation

Pledge of Allegiance

**Roll Call** 

#### A - SUBMITTAL OF REQUESTS FOR FUTURE ITEMS

Individuals who have appropriate items for City Council consideration should complete the Request for Future Agenda Items form located at the Information Booth. If the issue can be handled administratively without Council action, notification will be provided. If the item is scheduled for a meeting or study session, notification of the date will be given.

#### B - RESERVE TIME TO SPEAK ON AGENDA ITEMS

This is an opportunity for individuals wishing to provide input on any of tonight's agenda items to reserve time to speak. Please come forward, state your name and address, and the Agenda topic on which you will be speaking.



#### **City of Grand Island**

Tuesday, January 20, 2015 Study Session

#### Item -1

Ambulance Billing Presentation by Life Line Billing Systems, LLC dba. LifeQuest Services

**Staff Contact: Cory Schmidt, Fire Chief** 

#### Council Agenda Memo

**From:** Cory Schmidt, Fire Chief

Meeting: January 20, 2015

**Subject:** EMS Billing

**Item #'s:** 1

**Presenter(s):** Cory Schmidt, Fire Chief

William Clingman, Interim Finance Director

#### **Background**

Currently the City of Grand Island Finance Department staff processes the billing of all ambulance department services. This requires staff time equivalent of 1.5 FTEs in the Finance Department.

A request for proposals (RFP) was sent out in August of 2014 in search of an Ambulance and Fire Department billing service provider. The City received three responses and the selection committee invited two for in-depth demonstrations. The recommendation the selection committee is bringing forward is a contract with Life Line Billing Systems, LLC, doing business as LifeQuest Services.

#### **Discussion**

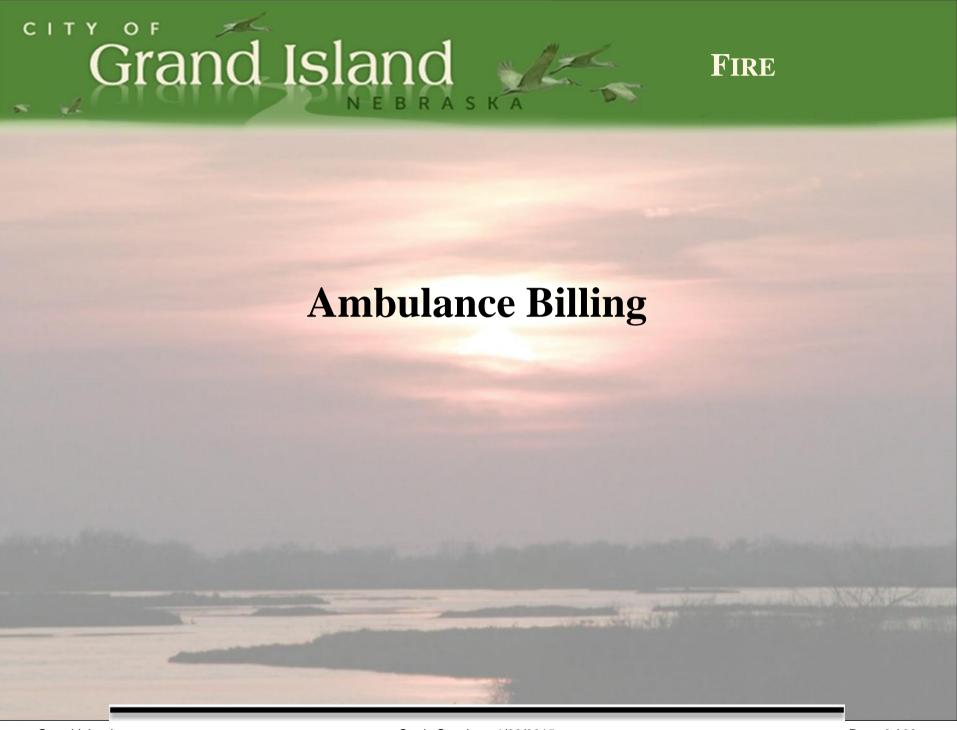
With recent changes in the healthcare industry requiring continued training of city staff to understand the constant changes of rules and regulations surrounding ambulance billing, a third party vendor will be able to bring efficiency as well as expertise in Emergency Management Services billing and collections of insurance submission. LifeQuest Services has the expertise that is required and the ability to keep up to date on the ever changing environment of healthcare billing and insurance submission.

The charge for the billing services that LifeQuest will perform for the City is 6% of net fees collected on behalf of the City of Grand Island. For the 2014 fiscal year this would have equated to approximately \$72,000 in fees. In reviewing the LifeQuest proposal, we believe the City will reduce the 1.5 FTE staff time spent on ambulance billing to .5 FTE or less.

#### **Conclusion**

This item is presented to the City Council in a Study Session to allow for any questions to be answered and to create a greater understanding of the issue at hand.

It is the intent of City Administration to bring this issue to a future council meeting for approval.

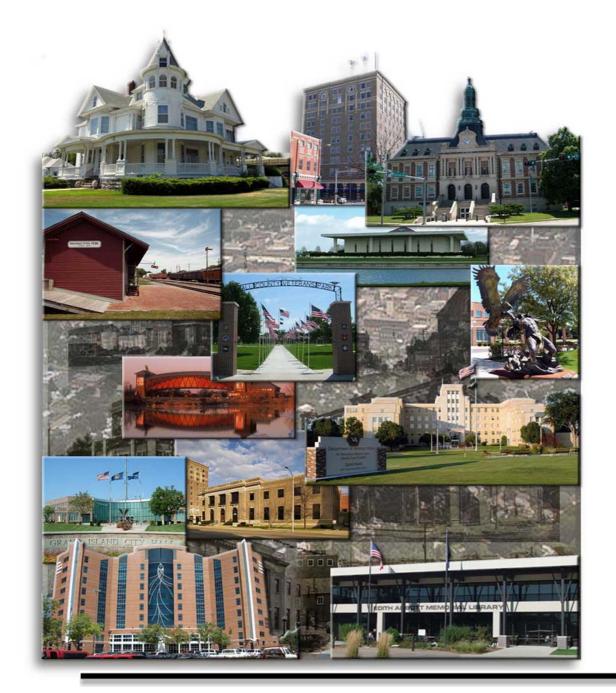


#### **History of Ambulance Billing**

- Finance Department has billing services since 1980
- One and a half city employees perform duties
- ➡ Future complications of billing: ICD-10, NEMSIS 3.0, and Medicare requirements
- ₹ Full time position currently open due to retirement

#### **Request for Proposal**

- Finance Department issued Request for Proposal in August 2014
- Three proposals received
- Evaluated by an Ambulance Billing Committee
- LifeQuest Services was chosen due to lowest price and services offered





Partnership
With
GRAND ISLAND,
NEBRASKA

**20 January 2015** 

#### **LifeQuest: Discussion Points**

- Introduction/Overview
  - Grand Island EMS and Fire Department Priorities
  - LifeQuest Background
- Perspective: Billing/Collections Success
- Summary
  - LifeQuest Partnership
  - Questions and Answers



### **Grand Island Fire Department**

**Mission Statement:** "The Grand Island Fire Department promptly responds to emergencies that threaten life, property, and the environment. We are dedicated to the prevention of these emergencies through planning and public education."

#### **City Council:**



Linna Dee Donaldson Northelle Fitzke Nor

Mitch Nickerson Mike Paulick Roger Steele Mark Stelk

#### **Additional Attendees:**

William Clingman, Interim Finance Director Marlan Ferguson, City Administrator Jeremy Jensen, Mayor Cory Schmidt, Fire Chief

LIFE QUEST

JUEST EMS & Fire Billing for the City of Grand Island, Nebraska

# LifeQuest Senior Team



Presenter	Michael Finn	Ted Wolf	Chip (Earl) Kramer	Tim Rosin
Overview	CEO Owner, Client Partnership Development	CFO Financial Forecasting/Annual Budgeting	Sr. Business Dev. Executive Sales Project Manager/Trainer	Sales/Marketing Manager Client/Customer Care/Business Development
Experience/ Background	Operations Executive, Performance Improvement Specialist, Consulting, Financial Back Office	Chief Financial Officer, Controller, Financial Analyst, Senior Auditor	Retired Fire Captain and Training Officer, Trauma Specialist, Flight Paramedic, Ambulance Service General Manager	EMT-Paramedic, Director of Paramedic Operations, Internal Auditor, Business Development
Education/ Certifications	University of IL, BS in Nuclear Engineering The London School of Economics and Political Science, MsC University of Chicago, MBA	University of WI, BS in Business Administration/Accounting Evans Scholarship recipient University of WI, MBA	University of Southern CO, Biology/Paramedicine Trauma Specialist/Aeromedical Firefighter III	Fox Valley Technical College, EMT- Paramedic, Accounting and Business Administration



LIFE OUEST EMS & Fire Billing for the City of Grand Island, Nebraska

## LifeQuest Background

- History
- Executive/Ownership Team
- Key Tenets/Success Criteria
  - Focus
  - Results
  - Fortune 500 Skills/Nimble Delivery
  - Best Practice Based Partnership
  - Internal Expertise, Process Control, Tier 1 Partners
- Competitive Advantage



## Inhouse versus Billing Partner

- Results specialists collect more and drive effective processes
- Expertise/Experience billing companies deal with hundreds of companies – utilizing best practices, lessons learned and thousands of situations with insurance companies, providers, Medicare, Medicaid
- Costs/Efficiency staff/healthcare/postage/legal/processing billing companies manage the money and take the costs out of your equation
- Compliance -changing laws and requirements are difficult for an individual or small staff to master and ensure up to date
- Trained and certified expert staff
- Technology, NEMSIS3, ICD10, Audits,



### LifeQuest: Your Billing Partner

LifeQuest is dedicated to EMS and Fire Billing and Collections

- We bring our expertise to provide the Grand Island Fire Department the most comprehensive package in the market today – one that delivers revenue recovery results
- We have a unique mix of deep industry expertise and field experience, great success in revenue recovery, and a corporate/operations ownership team
- We are confident our suite of services, delivery and execution, and ability to customize makes our services the best value decision a partner in any state can make

6

Page 15 / 33

### **Industry Expertise**

- Industry Experts
- Knowledgeable in Local, State and Federal Rules, Regulations and Laws
  - Closely Work with WPS
  - Work with MACs, Partners Across the US
  - Best Practice View/Processes/Measures
- Professionally Trained, Certified CACs
- Business Owners and Operators
- Innovative Revenue Recovery Support (TRIP)

### Compliance

- Unblemished Compliance Record
- Expert In-House Compliance Officer, Support and Legal Partnerships
- Licensed/Bonded Collection Agency
- Internal Compliance Audits
  - SAS 70 type II (SSAE-16)
  - Professional Practices Management System Certification (PPMS™) Compliant Network Security
  - PCI DSS Certification



## **Billing Processes**

- Seamless Workflow
- Information Verification
- Hospital Database Accessibility
- Claim Accountability
- Report Card Tracking
- Quality Assurance
- Accountability



QUEST EMS & Fire Billing for the City of Grand Island, Nebraska

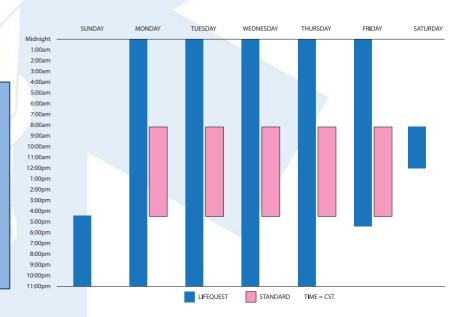
# Patient Support/Philosophy

- All inquiries addressed promptly
- Knowledgeable, friendly staff
- All incoming and outgoing calls are digitally recorded
- Bilingual staff, Foreign Language Translation
- Toll Free Access Numbers

#### **Customer Service Phone Hours**

24 Hour Coverage Sunday 4:30 p.m. through Friday 5:30 p.m. CST

Delinquent Account Collections Only Saturday 8 a.m. to 12 noon CST





**QUEST** EMS & Fire Billing for the City of Grand Island, Nebraska

## **Patient Support Technology**

Patient information site www.MyAmbulanceBill.com

#### Patient ambulance survey

example: www.research.net/s/(by Client)



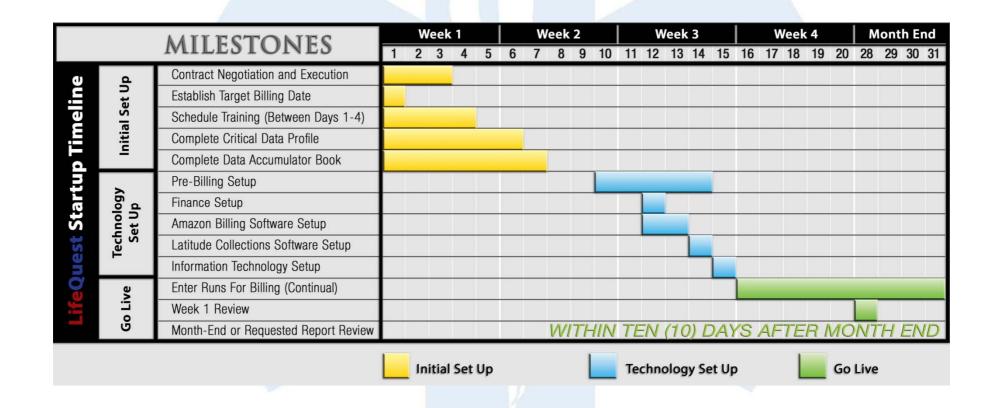


## Implementation Process

- Target Billing Date
- Critical Data Profile/Data Accumulator
- Pre-Billing Setup
- Technology and Interface Testing
- Review Processes, Confirm Protocols
- Continual Training
- Reports, Report Card, Best Practice Assessments

Page 21 / 33

## Implementation Process





LIFE OUEST EMS & Fire Billing for the City of Grand Island, Nebraska

#### Your LifeQuest Partner Team



Chip Kramer
Retired Fire Captain and Training Officer
Senior Business Development Executive
920-787-2291 #140
chip@lifequest-services.com
Sales, Client development and Support,
ImageTrend/interface consulting.





Elissa Armstrong
Billing Services Manager
920-787-2291 #104
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Revenue Recovery, Management and Patient Care

Kay Foret
Collections Manager
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Revenue Recovery, Management and
Patient Care





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Jim Mulvey
IT Manager
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jmulvey@lifequest-services.com
Technology - infrastructure, and development





Becky Grimm
Compliance Officer/Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI)
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Compliance, Quality Assurance, Process Improvements and
SSAE-16 (SAS 70 Type II)

Shawna Finger
Billing Specialist/CAC
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sfinger@lifequest-services.com
Claims Coding, Support Specialist



Michael Finn
Chief Executive Officer
920-787-2291 #144
mfinn@lifequest-services.com
Operational Oversight, Business Development and
Company Growth

Tim Rosin

EMT-P, Hazmat Tech

Client Relations/Sales Manager

920-787-2291 #160

twrosin@lifequest-services.com

Client Relations, Marketing Development and Sales Growth





LIFE OUEST EMS & Fire Billing for the City of Grand Island, Nebraska

# **Our Recent Partners/References**

- Lincoln, NE
- Coral Springs, FL
- Racine, WI
- Cherokee County, GA
- Salisbury, MD
- Omaha, NE
- Carlsbad, NM
- Guam
- City of Dallas, TX



QUEST EMS & Fire Billing for the City of Grand Island, Nebraska

#### Our Success is Determined by Our **Client Partner Success**



LIFE QUEST EMS & Fire Billing for the City of Grand Island, Nebraska

# **Questions and Answers**



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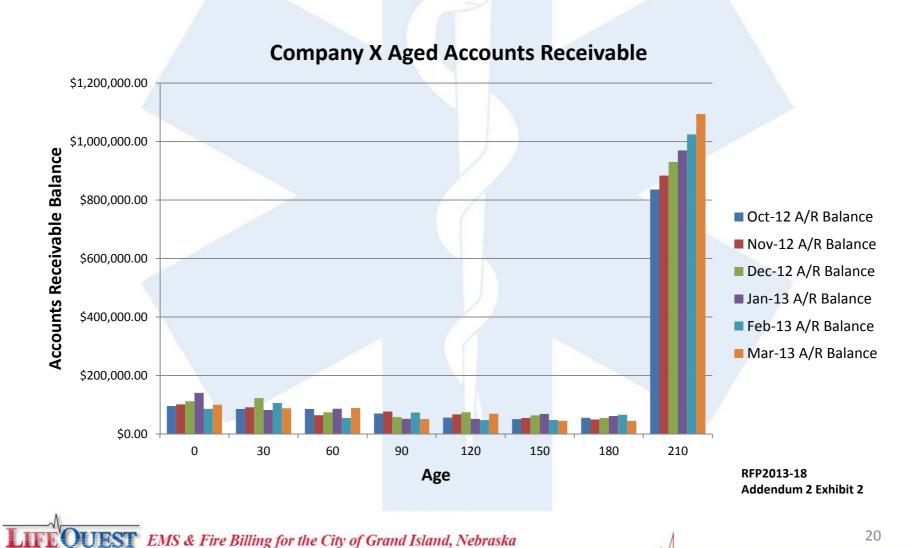


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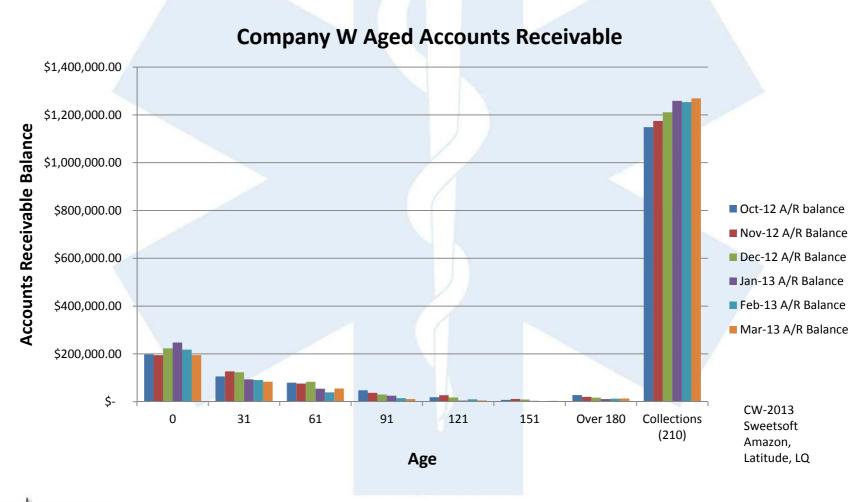
### Your Revenue Recovery Partner

- Assist you with billing database setup, all regulations, customized reporting and best practice assessments
- Train all personnel on documentation and medical necessity
- Train your trainers for ongoing sessions
- Provide follow up training sessions via audio, webinar, or in person
- Quarterly/Annual reviews and comparative report
- Client log in site: <a href="https://lifequest-services.com">https://lifequest-services.com</a>

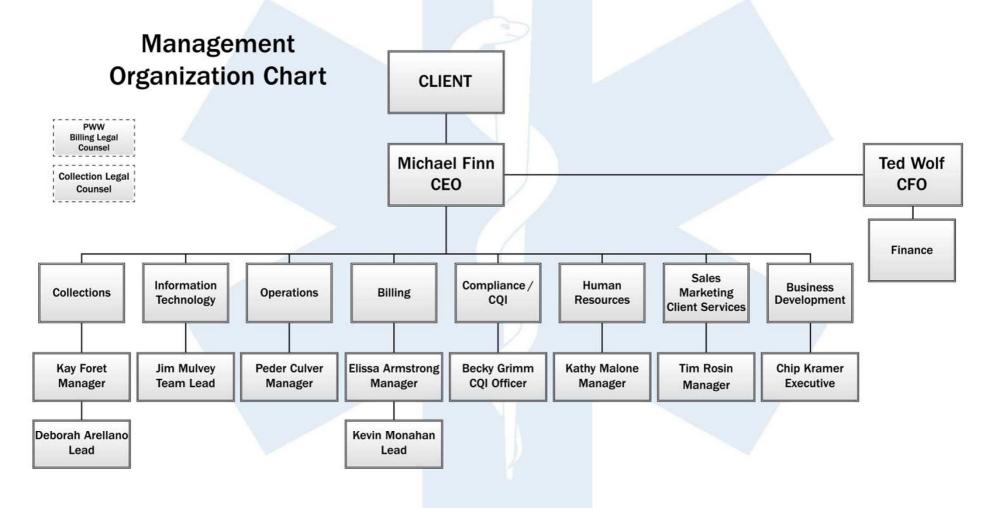
# **Competitor Billing**



## LifeQuest Billing Results



## **LifeQuest Organization Chart**

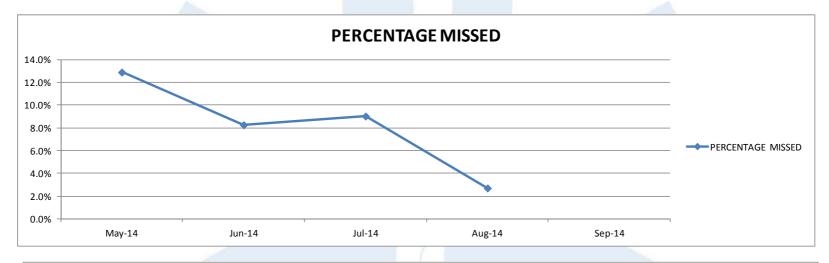


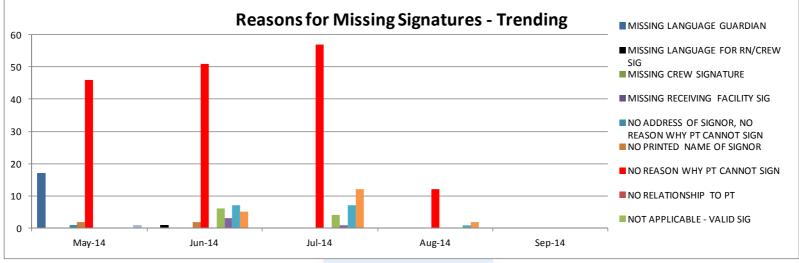


LIFE QUEST EMS & Fire Billing for the City of Grand Island, Nebraska

.....Services.com

#### Sample Partner Best Practice: Missing Signatures









### WAUTOMA CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS

