

Health and Human Services Agency

*Emergency Medical
Services*



September 18, 2013 Board of Supervisors Presentation



EMS Agency Mission

“The mission of the El Dorado County EMS Agency is to ensure that the EMS system delivers the highest possible quality of pre-hospital emergency medical care to victims of illness and injury in El Dorado County.”



El Dorado County EMS Agency

- The EMS Agency functions under the Public Health Division of the Health and Human Services Agency
- We provide oversight required by the Health & Safety Code for the quality and delivery of emergency medical services and ambulance transportation in El Dorado County
- We work collaboratively with fire districts, hospitals, air ambulance services and other stakeholders to ensure high quality services
- County is the provider of service under the Public Utility Model



EMS Agency Responsibilities

- Personnel Certification and Accreditation
- Long-range EMS System Planning
- Training
- Regulatory compliance
- Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI)
- Medical oversight by EMS Medical Director
- Contractor performance monitoring

EMS Agency Responsibilities Continued...

The eight components of the EMS System:

- Manpower and Training
- Communications
- Transportation
- Assessment of hospitals and critical care units
- System organization and management
- Data collection and evaluation
- Public information and education
- Disaster response

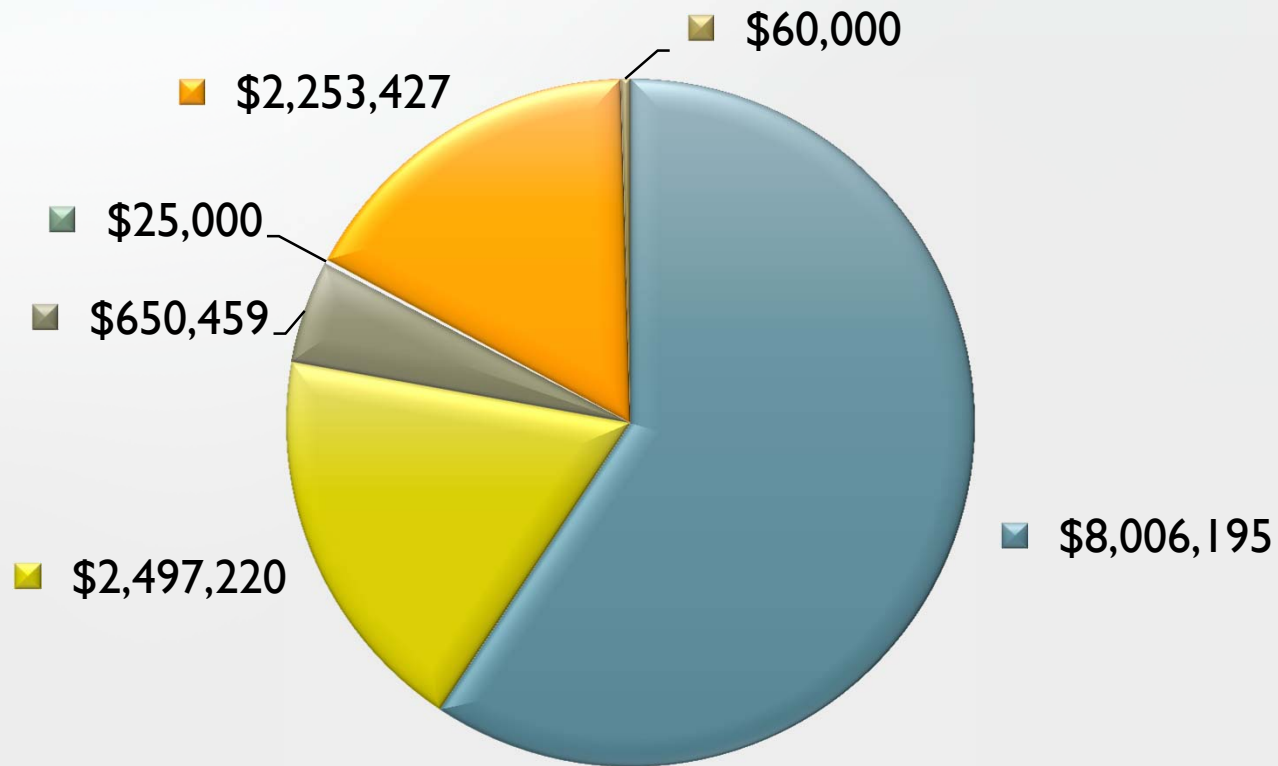
Funding for EMS

- El Dorado County's EMS System is funded from:
 - Property taxes
 - Special taxes
 - Benefit assessment
 - Ambulance billing revenue
 - Miscellaneous Revenue
- Approximately \$13M annually
 - 40% from tax/assessments
 - 60% from ambulance billing
- The EMS Agency is funded thru the general fund



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FY 2013-2014 EMS Funding Sources = Total \$13,492,301



■ Ambulance Billing - 59.34%
■ Other - 4.82%
■ Direct Assessment - 16.70%

■ Property Tax - 18.51%
■ Interest - .19%
■ Audit Reimbursement - .44%

EMS Service Areas

Due to geography, El Dorado County has three EMS service areas:

West Slope

- Exclusive (911 and IFT) ambulance services provided under contract by El Dorado County Emergency Services Authority, also known as the “West Slope JPA”

Tahoe South Shore

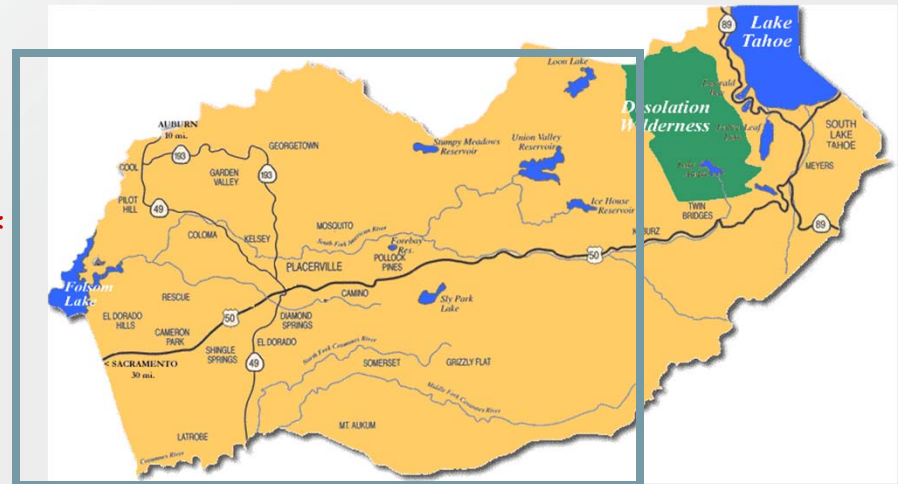
- Exclusive (all services) ambulance services provided under contract by California Tahoe Emergency Services Operations Authority, also known as the “Cal Tahoe JPA”

Tahoe West Shore

- Non-exclusive ambulance services provided under contract by North Tahoe Fire Protection District

El Dorado County Emergency Services Authority (West Slope JPA)

- Joint Powers Authority formed in 1996
- 10 member agencies:
 - Cameron Park CSD *
 - Diamond Springs/El Dorado FPD*
 - El Dorado County FPD ****
 - El Dorado Hills FPD *
 - Garden Valley FPD
 - Georgetown FPD *
 - Latrobe FPD
 - Mosquito FPD
 - Pioneer FPD
 - Rescue FPD



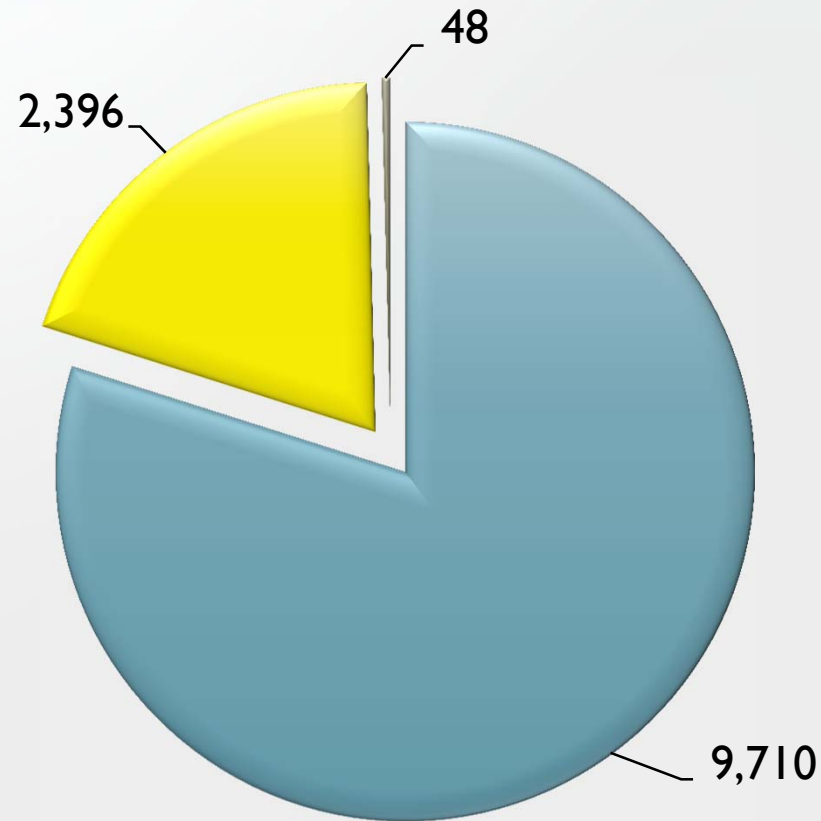
West Slope Service Area

- The JPA operates eight full-time ambulances
- 11,000 calls for service annually

* Indicates location/number of ambulances

EMS Transports in 2013 by Service Area

Area Total = 12,154



■ Western Slope ■ Tahoe South Shore ■ Tahoe West Shore

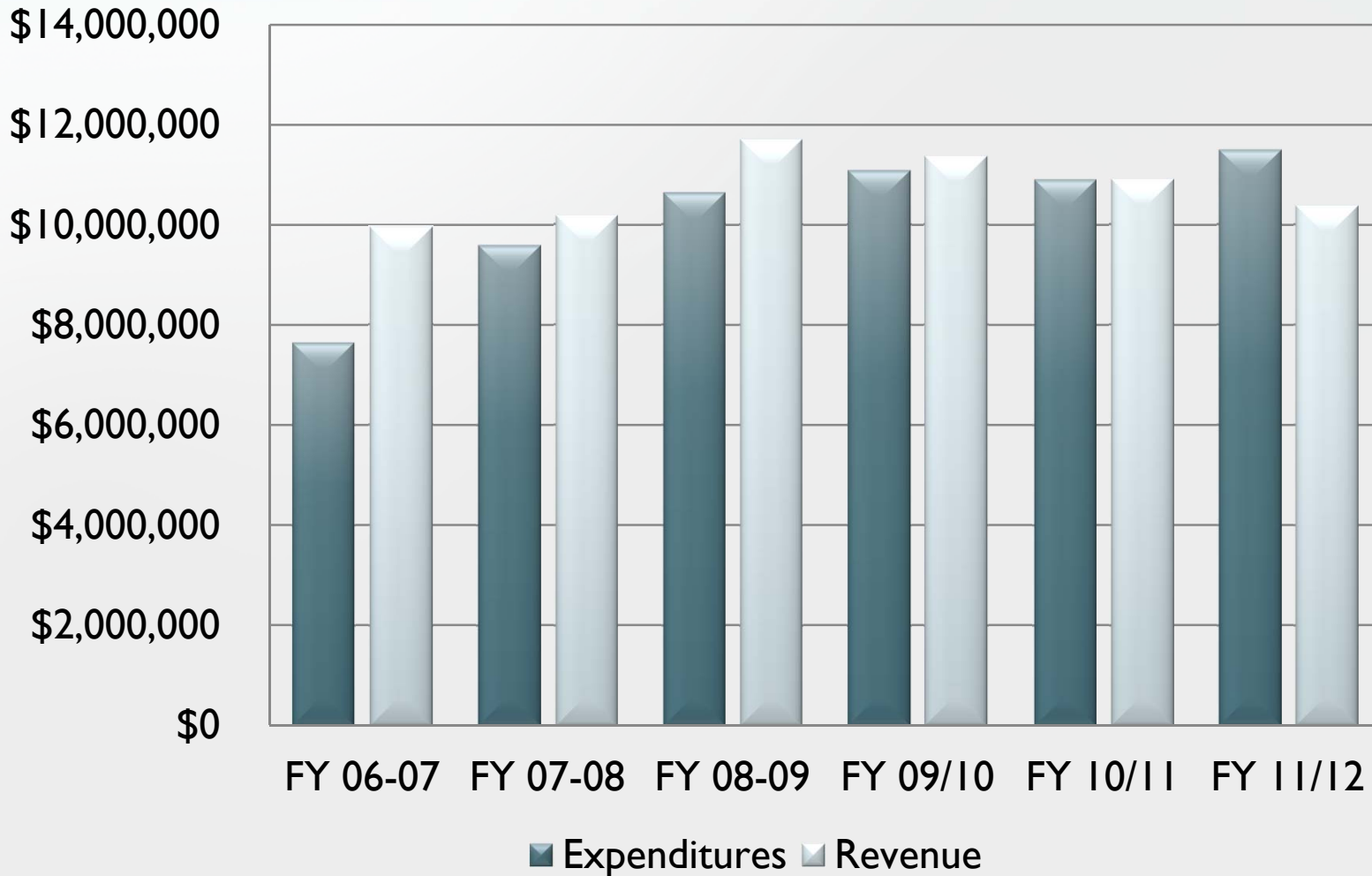
CSA 7 – Strengths & Weaknesses

- Strengths
 - Ability to maintain quality care within required response times with reduced staff
 - Collaborative partnership with the JPA
- Weaknesses
 - Ambulance Fee and Debt collection processes
 - Medic Training
 - Limited County staff resources and funding
 - JPA's electronic billing system
 - Budgetary Constraints

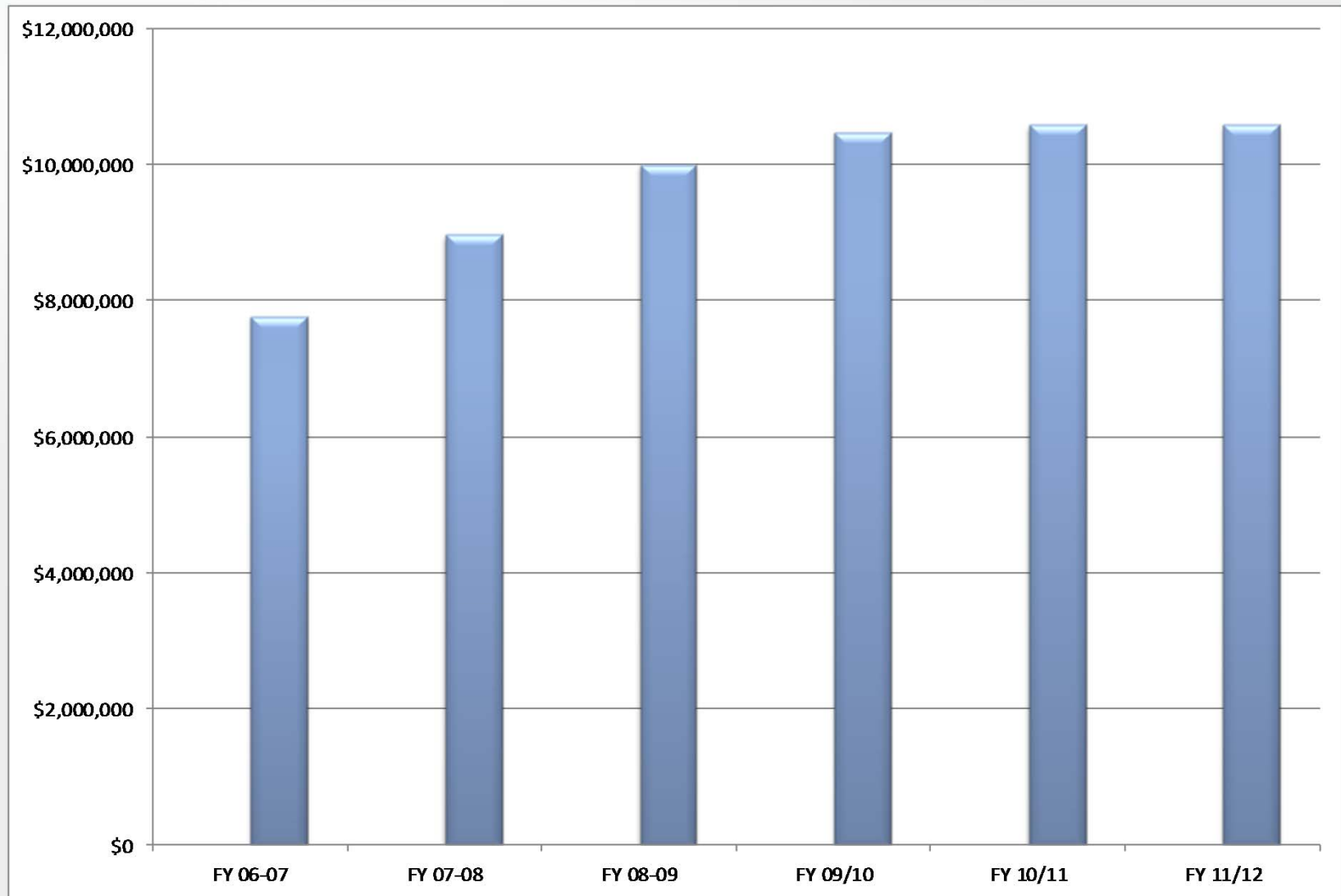
CSA 7 – Budgetary Constraints

- Ambulance fee billing process issues
- Bad debt collection process change
- Unanticipated staff cost changes
- EMSA professional services cost increases
- Fluctuating revenue sources
 - Decrease in property tax revenue
 - Fluctuating ambulance fee revenue based on call volume, payor mix, and documentation
 - Decrease Medi-Cal and Medicare reimbursement levels

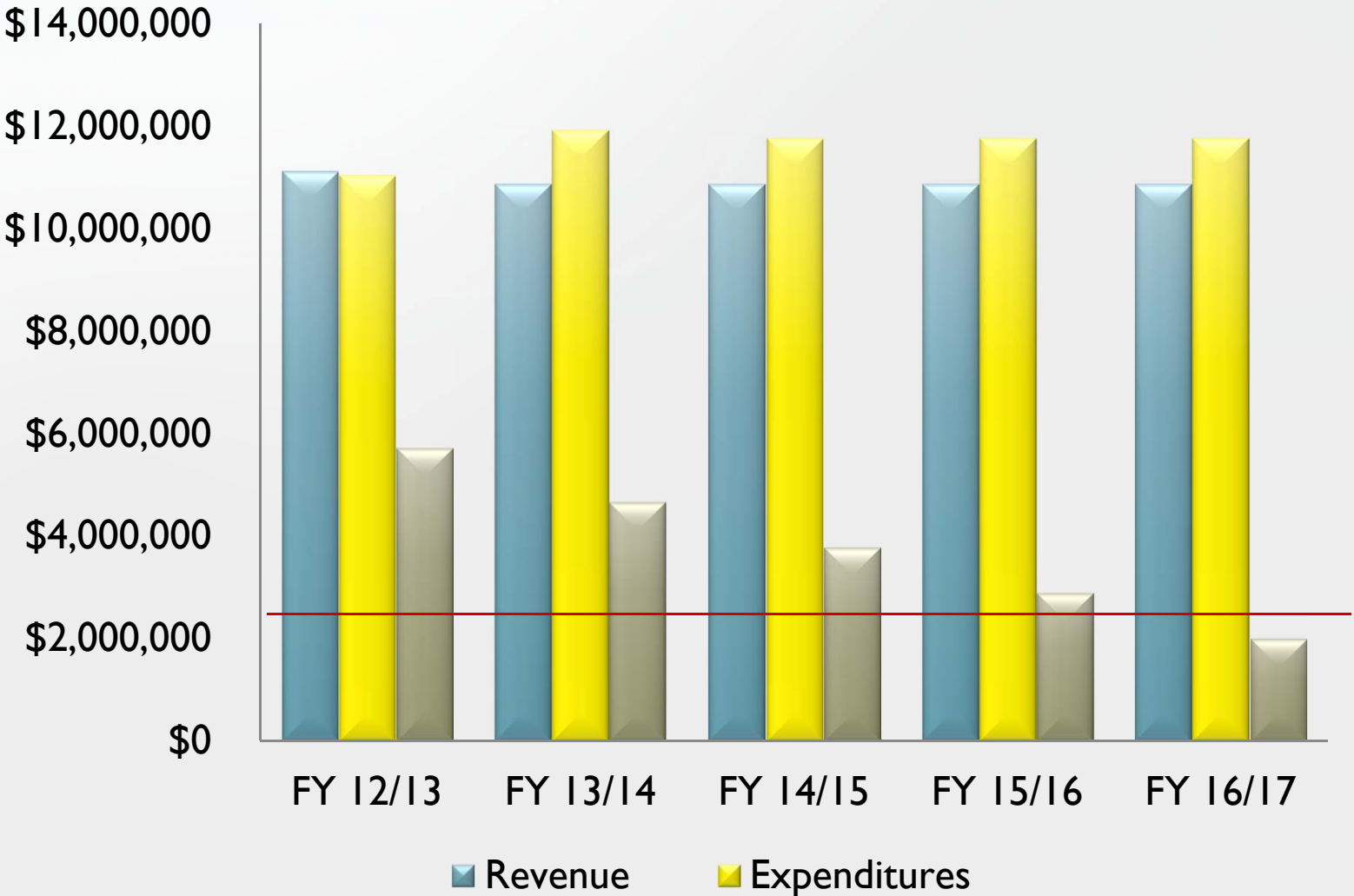
CSA 7 – Trend Review



West Slope JPA - Expenditure Trend



CSA 7 - Forecast



CSA 7 - Opportunities

- Pending implementation of Marshall's electronic patient record system which could improve documentation collection
- Medic Training: provide training to decrease lost billing tags and improve documentation
- Increased ambulance revenue potential with streamlined documentation policies and training
- Possible increased debt collection amounts due to change in collection provider

CSA 7 – Threats to our Success

- Unknown impact of the Affordable Care Act
- Stability of funding which is partially dependent upon fluctuating tax revenues
- Potential increased operating costs of the JPA
- Audit risks

CSA 7 – Goals and Next Steps

- Review ambulance service fees and rate structure
- Review JPA contract to examine the possibility of a fixed rate structure
- Re-examine performance measures in JPA contract to include quality of service and documentation mandates
- Continued negotiations with non-ambulance contract providers to CSA 7 to reduce costs and increase revenue potential
- Review possible legislative change to include AB678 (Ground Emergency Medical Transport funding)
- Community para-medicine options

Questions?

