



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Social Services  
Department No.: 044  
For Agenda Of: 8/14/18  
Placement: Administrative  
Estimated Time: N/A  
Continued Item: No  
If Yes, date from:  
Vote Required: Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department Daniel Nielson, Social Services Director  
Director(s) (805) 346-7101  
Contact Info: Rene Garcia, Operations Division Chief, Employment Services  
(805) 681-4540  
**SUBJECT:** Memorandum of Understanding between California Automated Consortium Eligibility System and the Welfare Client Data System Counties for Shared Services

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County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and execute the Memorandum of Understanding between the California Automated Consortium Eligibility System and Welfare Client Data System Counties for Shared Services; and
- b) Determine that the execution of the MOU is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to the CEQA Guidelines Section 15061 (b) (3), finding that the execution of the MOU is covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment, and where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity may have a significant effect on the environment, the activities are not subject to CEQA.

**Summary Text:**

This item is on the agenda to approve and execute the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the California Automated Consortium Eligibility System (CalACES) and Welfare Client Data System (WCDS) Counties. The MOU identifies areas of understanding and agreement between CalACES and WCDS Counties regarding matters related to the procurement, implementation, maintenance and operations of shared services for the benefit of the 58 Counties. Shared services include the Online

California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) Appraisal Tool (OCAT) Rebuild, the Foster Care Eligibility Determination and other services (collectively, “Shared Services”). Department of Social Services (DSS) recommends approval.

**Background:**

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and the Food and Nutrition Services agencies of the United States Department of Agriculture directed the State of California to migrate to a single Statewide Automated Welfare System (SAWS) -- commonly referred to as CalSAWS -- by 2023. SAWS provides a case management system for CalWORKs, Welfare to Work, CalFresh, Medi-Cal, Foster Care, Refugee Assistance, County Medical Services Program, and General Assistance/General Relief to children, families and individuals in all 58 counties. The purpose of SAWS is to provide eligibility determination, benefit calculation, benefit issuance, case management, and reporting. Migrating to a single SAWS will significantly reduce the financial cost of managing and maintaining three different systems currently used by counties. In addition, the migration will standardize the eligibility, benefit determination, enrollment, and case management functions of the State’s major health and human services programs.

The three social services computer systems used by the 58 California counties are:

- LEADER (Los Angeles Eligibility, Automated Determination, Evaluation and Reporting) – used only by Los Angeles County;
- Consortium IV (C-IV) – used by 39 counties; and
- Welfare Client Data Systems (WCDS) Consortium – used by 18 counties (including Santa Barbara County).

To prepare for the single system migration, representatives from CalACES, WCDS, and the California Welfare Directors Association formed the CalSAWS Leadership Team. The CalSAWS Leadership Team was formed to collaborate on a CalSAWS governance structure and to identify issues requiring the procurement and implementation of certain Shared Services necessary for all counties to integrate into a single CalSAWS. The CalSAWS Leadership Team recommended that CalACES assume the responsibility for the procurement and execution of contracts with vendors for these Shared Services on behalf of CalACES and WCDS.

As California is working towards the implementation of a single CalSAWS, there are several shared services that are needed prior to the formation of a 58-county governance structure. This includes the need for a rebuild of the OCAT to support the exchange of data with the SAWS to prevent duplicate data entry.

CalACES is a joint powers authority (JPA) comprised of 40 counties. CalACES was formed on September 1, 2017, pursuant to Assembly Bill 16 (ABX1 16 (2011)). ABX1 16 required the 39 Consortium IV (C-IV) JPA counties and Los Angeles County to form a 40 county consortium to replace the Los Angeles Eligibility, Automated, Determination, Evaluation and Reporting (LEADER) and C-IV systems with a single jointly designed system.

The WCDS Consortium is an association of 18 California counties (including Santa Barbara County) organized for the purpose of managing and maintaining the CalWORKs Information Network and related systems, used by the WCDS Counties in support of their social services programs.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: No

**Fiscal Analysis:**

There is no fiscal or facilities impact.

**Key Contract Risks:**

The MOU contains an indemnity provision. This requires each party to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the other parties to the extent the indemnifying party is at fault.

**Staffing Impacts:**

**Legal Positions:**  
0

**FTEs:**  
0

**Special Instructions:**

Please scan and send three (3) original copies of the MOU, and a copy of the minute order to:  
DSS Contracts Unit  
C/O Tricia Beebe  
2125 S. Centerpointe Parkway, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Santa Maria, CA 93455

**Attachments:**

1. Attachment 1 – MOU – CalACES and WCDS – Shared Services

**Authored by:**

Rene Garcia, Operations Division Chief, Employment Services  
Tricia Beebe, Contracts Coordinator