



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:** Behavioral Wellness  
**Department No.:** 043  
**For Agenda Of:** June 15, 2021  
**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 Pam Fisher, PSY.D., Acting Director  
Director(s) Department of Behavioral Wellness, (805) 681-5220  
Contact Info: Dr. Ole Behrendtsen, Medical Director  
Behavioral Wellness, (805) 681-5220  
**SUBJECT:** Behavioral Wellness Healthcare Recruitment and Staffing Contract - Barton & Associates, Inc. for FY 2021-2022

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**County Counsel Concurrence:**

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence:**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence:** Risk Management

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- A. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with **Barton & Associates, Inc.**, a Delaware corporation, **d.b.a. Barton Medical, Inc.** (not a local vendor), for the provision of locum tenens psychiatry, and physician assistant services, for a total contract maximum not to exceed **\$1,800,000** for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 (Attachment A);
- B. Delegate to the Director of the Department of Behavioral Wellness or designee, to suspend the agreement per Section 20 of the Agreement, the authority to make immaterial changes to the Agreements per Section 26 of the Agreements; amend Exhibit A-2 (Statement of Work) and Exhibit B-1 (Schedule of Fees) of the Agreement to add positions and/or approve rate changes not to exceed 10% of the rate currently stated in Exhibit B-1, subject to the procedures set forth in Exhibit B, Section 2, without returning to the Board with a separate amendment, so long as the maximum contract amount is unchanged, subject to the Board's ability to rescind this delegation at any time; and
- C. Determine that the above actions are government fiscal activities or funding mechanisms, which do not involve any commitment to any specific project that may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment and are therefore not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to section 15378(b)(4) of the CEQA Guidelines.

**Summary Text:**

The above-referenced item is on the agenda to request the Board of Supervisors (Board) to approve the Chair to execute the contract with Barton & Associates, Inc. (Barton) agreement through for FY 21-22 for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 for a total contract maximum not to exceed \$1,800,000. In addition, request delegation for the Director or designee of the Department of Behavioral Wellness (BWell) to amend Exhibit A-2 and Exhibit B-1 to add hourly positions and approve, as needed, rate changes not exceeding 10%, subject to the Board’s ability to rescind this delegation at any time and authorize for immaterial changes as needed. Approval of the recommended actions will allow BWell to task Barton to provide healthcare recruitment and staffing services for mandated and greatly needed psychiatry positions due to unanticipated and ongoing staffing shortage and needs.

**Background:**

BWell provides a continuum of mental health and substance use disorder services to Santa Barbara County residents, including psychiatric and nursing services at its County facilities. Across the nation there is an ongoing shortage of psychiatric and nursing services. BWell has experienced ongoing challenges that mirrors the national challenges of attracting and retaining qualified psychiatrists to work at our facilities. BWell currently uses locum tenens temporary physicians to fill ongoing needs for psychiatric staff at outpatient facilities. Locums provide mandated psychiatric services such as diagnostic evaluations; medication evaluations; prescriptions for psychiatric medications; review, revision, and approval of client assessments; and participation in the development, review, revision, and approval of client treatment plans.

Barton provides temporary physician assistants and nurse practitioners to BWell clinics and our other programs as needed.

**Performance Outcomes:** For FY 20-21, we are currently utilizing four (4) Barton professionals consisting of Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants who are providing services throughout the County with various programs ranging from adult to children’s services.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: Yes

**Fiscal Analysis:**

<b><u>Funding Sources</u></b>	<b><u>Cost FY 20-21</u></b>
General Fund	
State	\$ 900,000.00
Federal	\$ 900,000.00
Fees	
Other:	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,800,000.00</b>

Narrative: The above-referenced contract is funded by State and Federal funds. The funding sources are included in the FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget.

**Key Contract Risks:**

With any contractor providing temporary staffing services, there is a risk that temporary personnel will make errors, engage in misconduct, or be negligent in performance of assigned duties. BWell may terminate individual temporary staff without cause subject to a cancellation fee, or with cause. The agency is required to provide Professional Liability insurance for the Professionals. In addition, negotiations with Barton resulted in changes to the standard Exhibit C (Indemnification and Insurance Requirements). Risks associated with the negotiated changes have been mitigated with input from the appropriate departments.

**Special Instructions:**

Please return one (1) Minute Order and one (1) complete copy of each of the above contracts to [dmorales@co.santa-barbara.ca.us](mailto:dmorales@co.santa-barbara.ca.us) and one (1) to [bwellcontractsstaff@co.santa-barbara.ca.us](mailto:bwellcontractsstaff@co.santa-barbara.ca.us).

**Attachments:**

Attachment A: Barton FY 21-22 BC

**Authored by:**

D. Morales