



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: May 24, 2022
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Antonette Navarro, LMFT, 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 Renewal -
Barton & Associates, Inc. for FY 2022-2024

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 a multiyear 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 nursing, psychiatry and physician assistant services, for a Maximum Contract Amount of **\$3,600,000**, for an annual contract amount of \$1,800,000 per fiscal year, for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024 (Attachment A);
- B. Delegate to the Director of the Department of Behavioral Wellness or designee, the authority to make immaterial changes to the Agreements per Section 26 of the Agreements; and 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, all 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 which 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 Board of Supervisors (Board) approval for the Chair to execute the multiyear Agreement with Barton & Associates, Inc. (Barton) for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024 (FY 22-24), for a Maximum Contract Amount of \$3,600,000 for an annual contract amount of \$1,800,000 per fiscal year maximum of \$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 immaterial changes as needed. Approval of the recommended actions will allow BWell to task Barton with providing healthcare recruitment and staffing services for mandated and greatly needed psychiatry positions due to ongoing, unanticipated staffing shortages.

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. The pandemic has only exacerbated this issue.

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 21-22, BWell has utilized four (4) professionals from Barton & Associates, consisting of Nurse Practitioners, Psychiatric Nurses, and Psychiatrists. They are providing services throughout the County at various programs for adults, children, and homeless individuals.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Cost FY 22-23:</u>	<u>Cost FY 23-24:</u>	<u>Total Cost FY 22-24</u>
General Fund			
State	\$ 900,000.00	\$ 900,000.00	\$ 1,800,000.00
Federal	\$ 900,000.00	\$ 900,000.00	\$ 1,800,000.00
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ 1,800,000.00	\$ 1,800,000.00	\$ 3,600,000.00

Narrative: The above-referenced contract is funded by State and Federal funds. The funding sources are included in the FY 2022-2023 Proposed Budget. Funding for FY 2023-2024 will be included in the FY 23-24 Proposed Budget and is contingent upon Board approval.

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@sbcbswell.org and bwellcontractsstaff@sbcbswell.org.

Attachments:

Attachment A: Barton FY 22-24 BC

Authored by:

D. Morales