



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:** Public Health  
**Department No.:** 041  
**For Agenda Of:** November 6, 2018  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Time:**  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** Majority

---

**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department Van Do-Reynoso, Director  
Director(s) Public Health Department  
Contact Info: Dana Gamble, Assistant Deputy Director. Ext. 5171  
**SUBJECT:** Barton & Associates, Inc. Professional Service Agreement

---

**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:** That the Board of Supervisors consider the following:

- a) Approve, ratify, and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement for professional services with Barton & Associates, Inc. to provide locum tenens coverage for the period of October 9, 2018 through June 30, 2019 for a total Agreement amount not to exceed \$350,000; and
- b) Find that the proposed actions do not constitute a "Project" within the meaning of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Section 15378(b)(4) of the CEQA Guidelines, because they consist of the creation of government funding mechanisms or other government fiscal activities, which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant impact on the environment.

**Summary Text:**

This item is on the agenda for approval to execute the Agreement with Barton & Associates, Inc. for medical provider services, including physicians, psychologists, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants, due to vacancies with extended recruitment periods and leaves of absence. The Santa Maria Health Care Center currently has a psychologist on leave and Barton & Associates has a psychologist locum ready to fill the vacancy preventing an interruption to patient access to behavioral health care in the Santa Maria area. The Public Health Department (PHD) is requesting the Board approve an Agreement for the period of October 16, 2018 through June 30, 2019 for a total not to exceed \$350,000 to cover expenditures through the term for locum tenens services. This Agreement will also ensure the PHD has adequate locum tenens resources in the event other staff provider positions are vacant for an extended period.

**Background:**

PHD operates five health care centers and three shelter-based clinics throughout Santa Barbara County to provide medical services to the uninsured and underinsured members of our communities. Responding to community need, in 2014 the PHD enhanced and integrated access to Behavioral Health Services for its health center patient population beginning gradually in Santa Barbara and expanding to all locations by 2018. PHD’s physicians, psychologists, licensed clinical social workers, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants who are regular County employees provide the greater part of the clinical services. The recruitment of qualified clinicians is a highly competitive and a difficult process, often taking months. In order to continue to provide services, PHD has contracted with firms who recruit and place physicians and other licensed clinicians on a temporarily basis. These clinicians are known as “locum tenens.”

The locum tenens rates include the cost of the physician/clinician services and local transportation. The contracted services do not replace physician employee positions, but serve as fill-ins on a temporary basis during the recruitment process. Using the services provided by a locum tenens service, assists PHD in minimizing patient wait times and assists in reducing the number of patients seeking care at local emergency departments.

This agreement is not the result of a competitive bidding process because PHD is open to negotiate and work with any vendor that is able to provide qualified professionals that meet the department’s needs.

**Performance Measure:**

N/A

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: Yes

**Fiscal Analysis:**

<b><u>Funding Sources</u></b>	<b><u>Current FY Cost:</u></b>	<b><u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u></b>	<b><u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u></b>
General Fund			
State	\$ 70,000.00		\$ 70,000.00
Federal	\$ 280,000.00		\$ 280,000.00
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ 350,000.00	\$ -	\$ 350,000.00

There is no use of general fund dollars associated with this request. The services of the locum tenens physicians generate patient service revenues from Medi-Cal, Medicare, and other public programs which pay for the cost of the contract.

**Key Contract Risks:**

The Department of Behavioral Wellness has a long standing relationship with Barton & Associates. Barton & Associates provides malpractice coverage for their physicians. The Agreement has a termination for convenience clause and authorizes the County to dismiss any Professional for any reason.

**Staffing Impacts:**

**Legal Positions:**

0

**FTEs:**

0

There are no staffing impacts.

**Special Instructions:**

Please execute two (2) original Agreements with Barton & Associates and retain one (1) original Agreement and one (1) Minute Order for pick up by the department. Please email the PHD Contracts Unit at [phdcu@sbcphd.org](mailto:phdcu@sbcphd.org).when available for pick up.

**Attachments:**

- A. Barton & Associates, Inc. Professional Service Agreement

**Authored by:**

Dana Gamble, Assistant Deputy Director, Public Health Department