



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: April 6, 2021
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Alice Gleghorn, PhD, Director
Director(s) Department of Behavioral Wellness, (805) 681-5220
Contact Info: Ole Behrendtsen, MD, Medical Director, (805) 681-5220
SUBJECT: Behavioral Wellness - Renewal Contractor on Payroll (COP) Agreements FY 21-22

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 Contractor on Payroll Agreement with **Fred Berge, M.D.**, for the provision of psychiatric services for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 in an amount not to exceed **\$130,832** (Attachment A);
- B. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute a Contractor On Payroll Agreement with **Edwin Feliciano, M.D.**, to provide psychiatric services for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 in an amount not to exceed **\$68,640** (Attachment B);
- C. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute a Contractor On Payroll Agreement with **Irwin Lunianski, M.D.**, to provide psychiatric services for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2021 in an amount not to exceed **\$109,478.40** (Attachment C);
- D. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute a Contractor on Payroll Agreement with **Mary Pat Sweeney, R.N.**, to provide "as needed" nursing services for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 in an amount not to exceed **\$21,008** (Attachment D); and
- E. Determine that the above actions are government fiscal activities, 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 Department of Behavioral Wellness (BWell) provides specialty mental health services to adults with mental illness and children with serious emotional disturbances, in part through contracted providers, including Contractors on Payroll (COP). The above-referenced contracts comply with the Santa Barbara County Contractor on Payroll Policy, approved by the Board of Supervisors on October 20, 2015. Approval of the above-referenced contracts will ensure the continued provision of critical mental health and related services during FY 21-22.

Background:

BWell has experienced continued difficulty recruiting and retaining psychiatrists, qualified Registered Nurses, and other individuals who are certified and licensed to provide specialty and ancillary mental health services to the area. Although the County maintains ongoing recruitment for psychiatrists, psychiatric nurses, and individuals certified and licensed to provide ancillary mental health services, it rarely produces enough qualified candidates to meet departmental needs. A COP helps to bridge the gap in mental health treatment capacity.

Fred Berge, M.D., provides psychiatric services to South County Crisis Services, Santa Barbara AB109 Clinic, pursuant to an MOU between the Departments of Behavioral Wellness and Probation and the De La Vina Clinic. Psychiatric services include development, review, revision, and approval of client assessments, evaluations, and treatment plans; prescription and administration of psychiatric medications, as needed; assistance to clients with symptom management and development of personal coping skills; medication education for clients and families; and training, education, and support for BWell staff and multi-disciplinary team members.

Edwin Feliciano, M.D. provides psychiatric services and support to both the Psychiatric Health Facility and the Crisis Stabilization Unit during the weekend and holiday hours when it is most challenging to staff these facilities.

Irwin Lunianski, M.D. provides psychiatrist services, assists with Quality Assurance and Utilization Management activities, including performing utilization review for hospital stays, and provides disposition for appeals of hospital denials.

Mary Pat Sweeney, R.N., provides psychiatric nursing services as needed at the PHF. Psychiatric nursing services, under the supervision of PHF administration, involve delivery of ongoing and comprehensive care to patients hospitalized at the PHF, including admission assessments, provision of medications, and comprehensive psychiatric nursing, in addition to functioning as a team leader for the shift. In addition, she is responsible for entering complete and detailed patient histories and nursing assessments into the patient's health record, as well as taking orders from physicians and implementing them. She also identifies chief complaints and develops the initial treatment plan, initiates patient education and emergency interventions with clients, and interacts with and counsels patients and their families regarding matters pertaining to patients' PHF stays.

The attached COP agreements meet the requirements of Government Code section 7522.56, limiting the maximum number of hours and the maximum allowable hourly rate payable for COPs who are retirees of the County and who perform work as a contractor for the County. They also meet the requirements of Government Code sections 53260 and 53243.2, limiting the amount of cash settlement in the event of termination of the agreements, and requiring reimbursement of any cash settlement related to the termination from the COP, if the COP is convicted of a crime involving an abuse of the COP's position with the County.

Performance Measure:

1. Clients maintaining safe and stable living environments;
2. Decrease hospitalizations;
3. Increase access to care; and
4. Decrease number of incarcerations.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Berge FY 20-21 Cost:</u>	<u>Feliciano FY 20-21 Cost:</u>	<u>Lunianski FY 20-21 Cost:</u>	<u>Sweeney FY 20-21 Cost:</u>	<u>COP FY 20-21 Cost:</u>
General Fund					
State	\$65,416.00	\$34,320.00	\$54,739.20	\$10,504.00	\$164,979.20
Federal	\$65,416.00	\$34,320.00	\$54,739.20	\$10,504.00	\$164,979.20
Fees					
Other:					
Total	\$130,832.00	\$68,640.00	\$109,478.40	\$21,008.00	\$329,958.40

Narrative: The above-referenced contracts are funded by a combination of State and Federal revenue. The funding sources have been included in the FY 21-22 Proposed Budget.

Key Contract Risks: As with any contract funded by State and Federal sources, there is a risk of future Medi-Cal audit disallowances. However, BWell provides training to the Contractor to minimize financial risks to the County.

Special Instructions:

Please return one (1) Minute Order and one (1) complete copy of the contract for each of the above to dmorales@sbcbwell.org, bwelcontractsstaff@co.santa-barbara.ca.us, and Stefan Brewer, Employment and Workforce Planning Division, Human Resources Department at SBrewer@SBcountyhr.org.

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Berge FY 21-22 COP BC
- Attachment B: Feliciano FY 21-22 COP BC
- Attachment C: Lunianski FY 21-22 COP BC
- Attachment D: Sweeney FY 21-22 COP BC

Authored by:

D. Morales & A. Bello