

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

DATE: November 21, 2014

TO: Marina Dimitrijevic, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Héctor Colón, Director, Department of Health and Human Services
Prepared by: Ken Sternig, Administrator – Emergency Medical Services

SUBJECT: **Report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, requesting authorization to enter into a building lease and exchange of services with Froedtert Memorial Lutheran Hospital**

Policy

The Director of the Department of Health and Human Services is seeking County Board approval to enter into a contract with Froedtert Memorial Lutheran Hospital (FMLH) for the exchange services and space related to the operation of the Communication Base for the Emergency Medical Services Program.

Background and Rationale

The 2015 Budget transfers the EMS Program from DHHS to a new Department of Emergency Management. However, given the critical nature of the contract to the operation of the EMS Program and to avoid disruption in service, the DHHS Director is bringing this contract forward for approval at this time.

Although the existing contract was approved with a term of January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2018, the Comptroller's Office has advised in a memo dated September 25, 2014, that funds from a future budget year cannot be obligated under a contract regardless of value without County Board approval. Therefore, the department is bringing this contract forward again for authorization.

For the past 30 years, Milwaukee County has been operating the Emergency Medical Services Program (EMS) in conjunction with area municipalities. Until the mid 1990s, the EMS program operated as part of John L. Doyne Hospital and utilized various functions and services of the hospital in addition to performing various services for the hospital. In addition to providing administrative oversight of the program, the other major functions provided by John L. Doyne Hospital included the provision of space for the communication center, associated utilities and facility expenses and procurement of medical supplies and equipment used in the EMS

program. The EMS program provided the hospital with paging and communication services for the emergency and trauma arena.

At the end of 1995, the County sold the assets of John L. Doyme Hospital to Froedtert Memorial Lutheran Hospital and the administrative and management oversight of the EMS program became the responsibility of DHHS under the former Division of County Health Programs (CHP).

In 1998, the County Board of Supervisors authorized the execution of a five-year contract between the County and FMLH, which provided the basis for the establishment of a long-term relationship between the parties. The proposed contract continues the mutually advantageous, long-term relationship between the County and FMLH regarding EMS operations.

The contract between the County and FMLH establishes firm and predictable costs associated with rent and expected services from FMLH related to the Communication Base, establishes authorization for equipment location within FMLH as well as access to that equipment, and provides for reimbursement to the County for services provided to FMLH by the Communication Base personnel. In addition, under the proposed contract, FMLH would continue to permit students involved in educational programs sponsored by the EMS program to have access to hospital programs and medical services for educational purposes, and the contract also would allow for the continued commitment of procurement for medical supplies and commodities for the EMS program from FMLH.

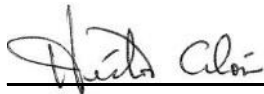
Under the terms of the contract for 2015, the County would make an annual payment to FMLH of \$80,000 for space, services and access, and actual costs plus a fixed percentage fee on medical supplies and commodities. FMLH will make an annual payment to the County of \$80,000 for paging and coordination of emergency medical services. The payments of both parties will increase to \$80,000 each year for the remainder of the contract term.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the County Board of Supervisors authorize the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, or his designee, to execute the second year of a five-year contract with Froedtert Memorial Lutheran Hospital for the exchange of services related to the operation of the EMS program and Communication Base located at FMLH.

Fiscal Impact

The 2015 Adopted Budget for the Department of Health and Human Services includes sufficient appropriations related to the provision of space and other services for the EMS Program to cover the expenditures provided for in the proposed contract. There is no tax levy impact. A fiscal note form is attached.



Héctor Colón, Director
Department of Health and Human Services

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