DATE:

November 12, 2013

TO:

Marina Dimitrijevic, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

FROM:

Mike Hafemann, Superintendent, Milwaukee County House of Correction (HOC)

SUBJECT: Report from the Superintendent, House of Correction, requesting approval of a partial-year Electronic Monitoring Unit (EMU) contract with WCS, Inc. for SCRAM services. Annual contract costs estimated at \$94,000 for 2013.

## Issue

It has been noted that no inmates have been placed on EMU programming since October of 2012 by the Office of the Sheriff. Based on that decision, the funds were transferred into Appropriations for Contingency account. Amendment 1A062 was approved on 11/5/2012 which approved a transfer of the amounts budgeted for EMU to the HOC.

Earlier this year, the vendors that supply Electronic Monitoring Unit (EMU) equipment reported that the Office of the Sheriff had cancelled the contracts for equipment rental. Since amendment 1A062 provided a transfer of three-quarters of the year that was budgeted for the EMU, Superintendent Hafemann reinstated the EMU program for a partial year. This required new MOU contracts to replace those that were approved but terminated prematurely (i.e. before the contract was scheduled to expire).

It was recently determined that the Comptroller is denying payment since services were performed under this new contract prior to it being fully executed. Therefore, we are now bringing it to the Board to confirm approval.

## Discussion

As envisioned by the terms of the 2013 Adopted Budget and Amendment 1A062, the funds approved for EMU programming were to be transferred back to the House of Correction in order to enable the operation of the EMU program once the Superintendent was put into place. Since the Superintendent assumed control of the House of Correction in May of 2013, the funds were subsequently transferred to the HOC, and he reinstituted the program as expected.

We are seeking retroactive approval. The Superintendent thought he was authorized to initiate contracts under the amount of \$100,000, especially since Amendment 1A062 funded the program for three-quarters of the year, and the contract was initiated to replace the EMU contract that was approved but terminated by the Sheriff.

## Recommendation

It is recommended that the County Board of Supervisors confirm approval of this partialyear contract between the Superintendent of the House of Correction and WCS, Inc. for SCRAMx services. Approval of this request will more formally approve the HOC contract with WCS, Inc. for the period of May 28, 2013 to December 31, 2013.

The HOC is considering changes to the program for 2014, so a recommendation for next year will be submitted at a later date.

## Fiscal Effect

The costs for these services have already been identified in the 2013 and 2014 budget. The per diem revenues associated with the program were not fully incorporated into the 2013 budget, as more inmates are out in the program than originally anticipated. The net effect appears to be positive revenue of about \$94,000 for 2013. A fiscal note form is attached.

There can be additional costs associated with electronic monitoring which might be reflected elsewhere in the actual budget (e.g., additional Correction Officers to manage the program or participate in an Absconder unit). However, if this program is presented to the Board and re-approved in 2014, it should also be at a positive overall net savings with projected per diem revenues being greater than total operating expenditures. We are making that projection due to our 2013 estimates, and also because of the recent audit that was completed by the County's Audit Department which shows the cost benefits of maintaining a robust EM Program.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Hafemann, Superintendent

Milwaukee County House of Correction

cc: County Executive Chris Abele

Raisa Koltun, County Executive's Office

Kelly Bablitch, County Board

Don Tyler, Director, DAS

Josh Fudge, Fiscal & Budget Administrator, DAS

Steve Cady, Fiscal & Budget Analyst, County Board

Janelle Jensen, Committee Clerk-Finance, County Board Staff