

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**  
**INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION**

DATE: 11.16.2018

TO: Theodore Lipscomb, Sr., Chairman, County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Christine Westrich, Director, Office of Emergency Management

SUBJECT: The Director of the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) requests authorization to execute an agreement with the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) Department of Emergency Medicine for a five-year Medical Director Services Agreement ending December 31, 2023 in the amount of \$289,000 plus \$131,407 for Medical Support, the latter of which decreases annually by 25% until MCW takes full funding responsibility

**REQUEST**

The Director of the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) requests authorization to execute an agreement with the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) Department of Emergency Medicine for a five-year Medical Director Services Agreement ending December 31, 2023 in the amount of \$289,000 plus \$131,407 for Medical Support, the latter of which decreases annually by 25% until MCW takes full funding responsibility.

**BACKGROUND**

Milwaukee County began coordination of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) in 1973 with municipal and private EMS providers, area hospitals and the Medical College of Wisconsin. In 1995, the County hospital was closed and the need for external medical direction was established. In 1998, the County Board of Supervisors authorized an MOU between County, Froedtert Memorial Lutheran Hospital and the MCW for said medical direction.

OEM is requesting to continue this mutually advantageous, long-term relationship with the MCW in EMS operations. MCW is in the top one-third of all U.S. medical schools in research support by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and in the top 5% worldwide in publishing new knowledge, to include eight journal articles involving Milwaukee County EMS in recent years.

MCW's tradition of pioneering medical and scientific "firsts" in the field of EMS is single-handedly due to our relationship and access to the EMS system. Such firsts are evident in two recent clinical trials involving cardiac arrest and stroke patients which will advance future field treatments and result in greater survival of our citizens experiencing medical emergencies.

The MCW Medical Director is a licensed physician per State of Wisconsin Stats. 448, Board Certified in Emergency Medicine and Emergency Medical Services by the

American Board of Emergency Medicine (ABEM) and is appointed as a faculty member of MCW.

The MCW Medical Director and Associates are subject to the direction and supervision of the Director of the Office of Emergency Management and OEM maintains the right to reject any individual appointed by MCW to serve as Medical Director or Associate, revoking MCW's approval of any such individual.

The term of this agreement runs from January 1, 2018, until December 31, 2023, and allows for the provision of medical direction, consultation, and medical support to the OEM division of EMS. In keeping with the aforementioned mutually advantageous relationship, the financial responsibilities in this agreement are new and reflective of this partnership:

First, this agreement authorizes an annual payment of \$289,000 to MCW for costs associated with a full-time 24/7/365 emergency medicine physician(s) (the Medical Director) to provide medical direction and consultation. This annual cost is the same as the previous four-year agreement between County and MCW.

Secondly, a new addition in the contract is medical support to be provided by the MCW at an initial cost to the County of \$131,407 in 2019. However, beginning in 2020, the MCW will begin to assume financial responsibility for this service on a graduated scale of 25% each year until MCW has fully assumed the entire financial responsibilities for these services by 2023.

During the years of 2019-2022, OEM will offset this medical support with the salary savings of not filling the vacant EMS Division Director position (\$142,598), meaning this expenditure is absorbed within OEM's operating budget during these years.

#### RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended to approve the Director of the Office of Emergency Management's request to execute an agreement with the MCW Department of Emergency Medicine for a five-year Medical Director Services Agreement ending December 31, 2023.

#### FISCAL IMPACT

OEM has budgeted for the entire cost of the agreement in 2019. The initial cost of Medical Support will be funded by OEM through the vacant EMS Division Director position (\$142,598) until 2023, at which time MCW takes over full funding responsibility. The total savings to the County through the five-year agreement is \$374,469.

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Christine Westrich  
Director, Office of Emergency Management

Attachments: RESOLUTION  
FISCAL NOTE  
MCW AGREEMENT, FORM 1684 & TBE  
MCW ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

CC: Chris Abele, County Executive  
Supervisor James "Luigi" Schmitt, Chair, Committee on Finance & Audit  
Finance & Audit Committee Members  
Raisa Koltun, Chief of Staff, Office of the County Executive  
Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, County Board of Supervisors  
Joseph Lamers, Director, Department of Administrative Services-Performance,  
Strategy and Budget (DAS-PSB)  
Josh Scott, Fiscal and Management Analyst, Department of Administrative  
Services-Performance, Strategy and Budget (DAS-PSB)  
Steve Cady, Research & Policy Director, Office of the Comptroller  
Janelle Jensen, Committee Clerk, Finance & Audit Committee