



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

Agenda Date: 2/11/2020

Agenda Placement: 6B

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Shelli Brobst for Jennifer Yasumoto - Director
Health & Human Services Administration

REPORT BY: JoAnn Melgar, Staff Services Analyst II - 707-253-4722

SUBJECT: Amendment No. 5 to Agreement with James Richard Geisler, Ph.D.

RECOMMENDATION

Director of Health and Human Services requests approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign Amendment No. 5 to Agreement No. 170336B with James Richard Geisler, Ph.D., amending the Scope of Work and Compensation exhibits, increasing the amount by \$11,430 for a new maximum of \$25,120 per fiscal year commencing as of November 1, 2019 to provide conservatorship investigation services to clients of the Mental Health Program.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Dr. Geisler provides investigation services for temporary, Murphy or permanent conservatorships. The services provided under this Agreement include consultation, client interviews, medical and psychiatric review of records, report preparation and court appearances, as necessary. Approval of the requested amendment will:

1. Modify Section 1.3 - Contract Administration to list the Deputy Director/Mental Health Division as the Contract Administrator;
2. Modify Section 1.4 - Contract Administration to change the name of the program manager to the Deputy Director/Mental Health Division;
3. Increase the annual maximum amount commencing as of November 1, 2019 by \$11,430 for a new maximum of \$25,120;
4. Replace Exhibit A and all previous versions of Exhibit A with Exhibit A-3 (Scope of Work) to clarify services to be provided; and
5. Replace Exhibit B and all previous versions of Exhibit B with Exhibit B-3 (Compensation) to reflect a rate increase from \$125 per hour to \$160 per hour, and add language regarding mileage reimbursement, expectations for invoice submission (placing 60-day timeline on the submission of them), and a section that pertains to "Limitations of Payment".

This contract was last amended in 2012. Dr. Geisler is a local provider.

FISCAL & STRATEGIC PLAN IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact?	Yes
Is it currently budgeted?	Yes
Where is it budgeted?	Health & Human Services Mental Health
Is it Mandatory or Discretionary?	Mandatory
Is the general fund affected?	No
Future fiscal impact:	This agreement is included in the requested Fiscal Year 2019-2020 budget and will be included in future fiscal appropriations accordingly.
Consequences if not approved:	If this amendment is not approved, Napa County would not have psychological evaluation services for all the clients in need.
County Strategic Plan pillar addressed:	Healthy, Safe, and Welcoming Place to Live, Work, and Visit
Additional Information:	

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

There is no Environmental Impact for this item.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

Welfare and Institutions (W&I) Code Sections 5350 and 5352 requires the County to provide officers to investigate requests for temporary, permanent and Murphy conservatorships. Per W&I Code Sections 5350-5371, officers are needed to: 1) investigate requests for conservatorship of mentally ill persons thought by their caretaker to be gravely disabled; and 2) provide recommendations to the Court as to whether conservatorship is needed.

Conservatorship investigations are necessary to provide the Courts with the comprehensive information they require to make critical decisions regarding mentally ill persons' need for conservatorship. These investigations are also necessary to ensure individualized treatment, supervision, and placement for mentally ill persons unwilling or incapable of accepting treatment voluntarily.

Given the weight and sensitivity of these decisions, Napa County meets these obligations via two unique individuals who serve specific functions: an investigator and an evaluator. The investigator fulfills part 1 of the code above; the evaluator fulfills the function of part 2 above.

Dr. Geisler is utilized as an evaluator and is an Lanterman-Petris-Short (LPS) expert, who is separate from Napa County and does not provide any mental health treatment to an identified Napa County client. This individual performs an evaluation of the client suggested for conservatorship in order to assess for current grave disability. He then gives testimony in court as an identified expert. Duties may also include face-to-face evaluation for the Reapplication of Conservatorship as part of a process wherein two written declarations are required for

redetermination of the LPS conservatorship. In this process, two separate declarations are required in order to continue a conservatorship from year to year.

By law this declaration must be completed by a medical doctor or a psychologist within five years post-experience in identifying severely mentally ill and/or a grave disability due to a mental health condition. The declaration is presented as part of what is needed for the Court to determine to continue the conservatorship for another year. Dr. Geisler's credentials meet the aforementioned criteria for completing declarations.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Ben Guerrieri